Enhancing integrated sustainable management to safeguard Samoa's natural resources

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID
10410

Project Type
FSP

Type of Trust Fund
GET

CBIT/NGI
CBIT **No**
NGI **No**

Project Title
Enhancing integrated sustainable management to safeguard Samoa's natural resources

Countries
Samoa

Agency(ies)
UNDP

Other Executing Partner(s)
Ministry of Natural Resource & Environment

Executing Partner Type
Government

GEF Focal Area
Biodiversity

Taxonomy
Focal Areas, Influencing models, Stakeholders, Gender Equality, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Sustainable Development Goals, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Sustainable Agriculture,

Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Livelihoods, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Ecosystem Approach, Food Security, Biodiversity, Species, Invasive Alien Species, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Productive Landscapes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, Biomes, Tropical Rain Forests, Mangroves, Rivers, Demonstrate innovative approache, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Information Dissemination, Participation, Partnership, Indigenous Peoples, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Academia, Non-Governmental Organization, Local Communities, Communications, Awareness Raising, Education, Behavior change, Public Campaigns, Beneficiaries, Private Sector, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, SMEs, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Access and control over natural resources, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation, Learning, Adaptive management, Indicators to measure change, Theory of change, Innovation, Knowledge Exchange

Sector

Rio Markers
Climate Change Mitigation
Climate Change Mitigation 1

Climate Change Adaptation
Climate Change Adaptation 0

Submission Date
5/11/2022

Expected Implementation Start
7/1/2022

Expected Completion Date
6/30/2028

Duration
72In Months

Agency Fee($)
332,782.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount($)	Co-Fin Amount($)
BD-1-1	Mainstreaming biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors	GET	1,751,484.00	9,424,500.00
BD-2-6	Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species and improve financial sustainability, effective management, and ecosystem coverage of the global protected area estate	GET	1,751,484.00	9,433,500.00
		Total Project Cost($)	**3,502,968.00**	**18,858,000.00**

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

To equip and empower local communities to safeguard Samoa?s indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from Invasive Alien Species (IAS) and unsustainable land use practices.

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 1: Enhancing institutional and technical capacity in safeguarding indigenous species, natural ecosystems and production systems from IAS	Technical Assistance	*Outcome 1: Strengthened institutional and technical capacity to monitor and address impacts of IAS on biodiversity and food production systems. This will be achieved through:*	Output 1.1: Multi-sectoral institutional framework strengthened to implement the National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP).	GET	1,091,257.00	6,017,286.00
		(i) Invasive Species Unit (ISU) fully resourced for cross-sector coordination, implementation and updating the National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP)	Output 1.2: Decision making tools aimed at informing cost effective management decisions to address IAS threats to biodiversity in globally significant ecosystems and key sectors developed and utilized.			
		(ii) Samoa National Invasive Species Task Team (SNITT) effectively functional as key technical advisory body to advise ISU on invasive species management response in Samoa	Output 1.3: Strengthened capacity to screen for, identify and control prioritized IAS.			
		(iii) The Samoa Invasive	Output 1.4: Sustainable Financing Strategy for safeguarding biodiversity, including natural ecosystems and production systems,			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 2: Demonstrating integrated management of catchments from ridge to reef to safeguard indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices	Investment	Outcome 2: Sustainable management of catchments as holistic, integrated entities established and demonstrated in respect to safeguarding indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices. This will be achieved through: (i) *At least 10,567 ha of terrestrial Protected Areas under improved management through integration of IAS prevention and management actions with at least 20-point increase in METT scores from baselines* (ii) *At least 6,449 ha of Marine Protected Areas (including Community*	Output 2.1 Identification and prioritization of Invasive Alien Species in community production areas Output 2.2 Community Integrated Management Plans interventions assessed and safeguards prioritized and implemented to enhance management of IAS risks in community areas Output 2.3: Biological conservation and ecological restoration of terrestrial and marine protected areas, community conservation areas and community fish reserves Output 2.4. Improving capacity of communities for management of IAS	GET	1,968,000.00	10,997,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 3: Gender mainstreaming and knowledge management	Technical Assistance	Outcome 3: Gender mainstreaming, knowledge management and monitoring and evaluation provide lessons and experiences for enhancing solutions for IAS prevention, control and management in Samoa. This will be achieved through: *(i) At least 75% of sampled project stakeholders (50:50 men and women) aware of potential conservation threats and adverse impacts of IAS and unsustainable land management practices* *(ii) At least 15 best practices for IAS prevention and management documented, disseminated, and being applied to agriculture, coastal*	Output 3.1. Gender mainstreaming plan implemented, and its results monitored and reported Output 3.2. A national IAS awareness and engagement strategy and action plan is developed and implemented, with steps to ensure that international good practice related to IAS and R2R is embedded in policy and practice Output 3.3. Experiences, best practices, and lessons learned about integrated IAS and environmental management of the target catchments are systematized and made available for use in other catchment areas	GET	277,320.00	952,580.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
				Sub Total ($)	**3,336,577.00**	**17,966,866.00**
Project Management Cost (PMC)						
				GET	166,391.00	891,134.00
				Sub Total($)	**166,391.00**	**891,134.00**
				Total Project Cost($)	**3,502,968.00**	**18,858,000.00**

Please provide justification

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($)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	118,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,700,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	11,740,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,350,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Finance	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	3,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Finance	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	300,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	200,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Scientific Research Organization of Samoa	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	50,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Customs and Revenue	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	50,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	50,000.00

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount($)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Prime Minister and Cabinet (including Disaster Management Office)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	50,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	50,000.00
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	Investment mobilized	50,000.00
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	150,000.00
			Total Co-Financing($)	**18,858,000.00**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment: BIOPAMA project to (i) Enhanced management and governance of priority protected areas, (ii) support for local communities to enhance livelihood and (iii) contribute to PA management and enable assessment of selected PAs.(USD 118,000) and in-kind, recurrent expenditure related to participation of staff from MAF agencies such as Quarantine, Crops, fisheries and Animal Protection and Health Division for project-related activities, including quarantine, crop and animal protection and surveillance activities as well as extension services at community level (USD 1,700,000). Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries: Improved Agriculture and fisheries development that supports; (i) capacity building in climate-smart agriculture, crop and livestock improvement; (ii) strengthened performance of value chains for improving farm productivity, agro-forestry and linkages with value chain actors; (iii) small grants for improving productivity of local subsistence farmers and fishers; and (iv) strengthening monitoring, control and surveillance to promote sustainable coastal fisheries (Public Investment of USD 11,740,000) and Annual budget of MAF for IAS management, including CRB removal/management (pheromone traps) etc., community capacity building and training, and awareness. As the budget for Financial Year 2021-22 is known, the amount has been estimated from this to cover the entire project lifetime of USD 240,000) and In-Kind contribution of USD 1,350,000 for participation of staff from MAF agencies such as Quarantine, Crops, fisheries and Animal Protection and Health Division for project-related activities, including quarantine, crop and animal protection and surveillance activities as well as extension services at community level. Ministry of Finance: Integrated Flood Management to enhance Climate Resilience in Vaisagano catchment (GCF) provides capacity building and awareness in flood protection, watershed management and ecosystem-based adaptation for replication and lessons sharing for GEF project (Public Investment of USD 3,000,000) and in-kind contribution of staff time

related to providing financial oversight, budgeting, and reporting in relation to GEF funds and co-financing (USD 300,000). Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development: In-kind contribution of staff time related to ensuring participation of women and management of gender-related concerns in integration of IAS activities in CIMP plans (USD 200,000). Scientific Research Organization of Samoa: In-kind contribution of USD 50,000 staff time related to ensuring participation of women and management of gender-related concerns in integration of IAS activities in CIMP plans. Ministry of Customs and Revenue: In-kind contribution of USD 50,000 staff time related to ensuring surveillance and control of introduction of pests and diseases through passengers and goods. Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture: In-Kind contribution of USD 50,000 for staff time related to supporting creating awareness to natural resources and IAS related issues for school children. Ministry of Prime Minister and Cabinet: In-kind contribution of USD 50,000 for staff time in supporting policy and program coordination and monitoring across the whole of government, provision of immigration services, dissemination of government information, and rendering secretariat support services to the Executive Offices, and Ministry as a whole. Serving as a member of the project board. Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure: In-Kind contribution of USD 50,000 of staff time to provide policy and planning support and advice to ensure future infrastructure developments mitigate the risk of IAS related issues (i.e., entry/distribution into and within Samoa), particularly through the Civil Aviation Division, Maritime Division and Policy and Planning Division. UNDP: TRAC resources (Investment mobilized) of USD 50,000 and in-Kind contribution of staff time to value of UDSD 150,000.

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($)	Fee($)	Total($)
UNDP	GET	Samoa	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	3,502,968	332,782	3,835,750.00
			Total Grant Resources($)		**3,502,968.00**	**332,782.00**	**3,835,750.00**

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 **true**

PPG Amount ($)

150,000

PPG Agency Fee ($)

14,250

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount($)	Fee($)	Total($)
UNDP	GET	Samoa	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	150,000	14,250	**164,250.00**
				Total Project Costs($)	**150,000.00**	**14,250.00**	**164,250.00**

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)
5,618.00	10,567.00	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	0.00	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)

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)
5,618.00	10,567.22	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)

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)
Akula National Park Asau-Falelima NP	**125689** 555547675	**Select**National Park	2,496.00	2,286.00			32.00		
Akula National Park Fealaupo Community Conservation Area	**125689** 555547684	**Select**Protected Landscape/ Seascape	1,215.00	1,750.59			37.00		
Akula National Park Lake Lamot?oo	**125689** 28496	**Select**National Park	123.00	475.00			38.00		
Akula National Park Mauga Salafai NP	**125689** 555697605	**Select**National Park	1,784.00	5,973.00			35.00		
Akula National Park Sanapu-Satoa CCA	**125689** 28510	**Select**Protected Landscape/ Seascape		82.63			7.00		

Indicator 2 Marine 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)
6,152.00	6,549.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

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

Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
6,152.00	6,549.00	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)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Community Fish Reserves	**125689** N/A	**Select**Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	181.00	181.00					
Akula National Park Safata Marine Protected Area	**125689** 313371	**Select**Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	5,971.00	6,368.00			7.00		

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	20.00	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)

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)
	20.00		

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)

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)

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)
59804.00	48547.00	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)
59,804.00	48,547.00		

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)

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)

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

Title	Submitted

Indicator 5 Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	65,583.00		

Indicator 5.1 Number of fisheries that meet national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations

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

Type/name of the third-party certification

Indicator 5.2 Number of Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) with reduced pollutions and hypoxia

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (achieved at MTR)	Number (achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

LME at PIF	LME at CEO Endorsement	LME at MTR	LME at TE

Indicator 5.3 Amount of Marine Litter Avoided

Metric Tons (expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (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	13,096	12,222		
Male	13,514	12,874		
Total	26610	25096	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 Indicator 1: Includes the following terrestrial PAs: Asau -Falelima NP, Mauga Salafai NP, Lake Lanoto'o NP, Falealupo CCA and Saanapu-Sataoa CCA covering 10,567 hectares that will benefit from strengthened IAS prevention and management. Core Indicator 2: Includes Safata MPA , and Conglomerate of CFRs covering 6,449 hectares that will benefit from protection and management of risks from IAS. Core Indicator 3: Around 20 hectares of IAS infested forests within the catchments will be restored/rehabilitated through participatory restoration plans that entail removal of IAS infestations and replacement with native species and protected from IAS re-infestations. Core Indicator 4: This covers 48,547 hectares in the 9 pilot catchments that would benefit from improved IAS prevention and management through application of improved agricultural practice, SLM and SFM, soil and water conservation, IPM, mangrove and wetland conservation and conservation of critical catchment headwaters. The total area under improved management (i.e. total of CI 1,2, 3 and 4) is 65,583 hectares Core Indicator 11: 25,096 beneficiaries (assuming that all direct beneficiaries on Upolu, Savai'i and Apolima Island are reached by the end of the project) (12,874 men and 12,222 women), 100 staff trained in IAS prevention extension (80 men and 20 women) and 50 staff trained in IAS control and quarantine procedures (25% women) making a total of 25,246 beneficiaries (12,991 men and 12,255 women). The project will contribute to Aichi Targets 4, 5, 7, 9, 14, 15 and 19.

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

1A. Project Description

(Changes made since the PIF are marginal and are reflected in Annex H). These include, in particular (i) separation of PIF Output 2.1 into two Outputs, with the new Output 2.2 specifically focusing on integration of IAS prevention and management activities within the Community Integrated Management Plans (CIMPs) which is the main vehicle for planning and implementation of activities at the village level. (ii) Adding a new Output 2.4 that focuses on capacity building and training of local communities (as the key partners) in IAS prevention and management; (iii) adding a new Output 3.4 that focuses exclusively on monitoring and evaluation; and (iv) reduction in co-financing by 5.7% from PIF estimates that is attributed to shifting of government priorities to address implications of Covid-19, including in particular to direct government resources to address diseases prevention measures, support food security etc. This is also the direct result of the loss of tourism revenues due to Covid -19 that accounted previously for between 35-37% of the GDP earnings.

1) Development Challenges

Samoa is an island nation lying in the Polynesian Region of the South Pacific comprising two main islands of Upolu and Savai?i of 1,115 and 1,700 sq. km, respectively, and 8 smaller, peripheral islands (total land area is 2,935 sq. km), all of which are volcanic. Upolu?s ridge rises to 1,100 m and Mt Silisili (1,848 m) on Savaii Island is the highest peak. The central uplands of the main two islands are covered with primary and secondary forests; much of the coastal belt (below 1,000 m) comprises a mosaic of farms, plantations (e.g., palm, taro, cocoa and banana), woodlands, grasslands, wetlands, settlements and urban areas. The total population is estimated to be around 200,000[1][1], 80% of which is largely subsistent on the land and sea for food and income[2][2]. The country is part of the Polynesia-Micronesia Biodiversity Hotspot[3][3], one of 34 regions in the world where extraordinary levels of biodiversity and endemism are coupled with extremely high levels of threat.

The five-million-year history of the Samoan archipelago resulted in the evolution of a unique native flora and fauna. Today, this comprises 540 native plant species (and about 500 introduced species), 64 native land snail species (and 14 introduced species), 33 native birds species (and 4 introduced species), 4 native reptiles (and 11 introduced species) and 3 native land mammal species (and 13 introduced species)[4][4]. Thus, introduced species account for 48% of Samoa?s flora, 81% of land

mammals, 12% of reptiles, 18% of land snails and 11% of birds. (Refer Table 1). Marine diversity is also high with 890 coral reef fish, over 200 corals and several species of turtles, whales and dolphins[5][5]. Samoa coral reefs are in good condition overall, benthic cover and coral populations are doing well. In contrast, fish are moderately to very impacted. Sharks and other predators are considered depleted throughout the world and Samoa is no exception. In general terms, the territory is struggling against threats, such as pollution, overfishing, and global climate change[6][6].

Some of this diversity is threatened with extinction, including: 29 species of vertebrates (6 bird species, 16 fishes, 5 reptiles and 2 mammals), 62 invertebrates (including 52 coral species), and 2 flowering plant species ? representing 7% of the 1,441 species assessed to date. With respect to Samoa?s endemics, 4 of its 9 endemic bird species, none of 6 endemic insects, 1 of 2 endemic mollusks and both endemic flowering plants are threatened (i.e., critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable) ? representing 37% of endemic species assessed to date[7][7]. Invasive Alien Species (IAS), of which 386 are currently listed on the Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species for Samoa[8][8]are an additional component of biodiversity but in small islands they are often considered to be among the greatest threats to native species, especially endemics.

Table 1: Recent survey results for number of established species within some taxon groups in Samoa

Taxon Group	Native Species	Non-Native Species	% Non-Native of Total Recorded Established Species
Flora	540	500	48%
Terrestrial Gastropods	64	14	18%
Birds	33	4	11%
Reptiles	14	2	12%
Terrestrial Mammals	3	13	81%

The biodiversity and natural resources of Samoa provide the ecological foundation upon which the country depends for its physical, cultural, social and economic well-being. It provides the food, fiber, fuel, freshwater, medicinal plants and building material. This is exemplified in that around 80% of the population, directly depend on the land and sea for food and income. Fish and shellfish are an important source of protein to Samoans and support income earnings and the main food source of around 25% of all households in the country. Around 86% of the fishing occurs in the reef and inshore

areas[9][9]. While agriculture, in the past was the backbone of Samoa?s economy, it has declined, in large part due to decimation of the taro export due to the Taro Leaf Blight, a deadly non-native fungus that almost caused the extinction of the Samoan taro varieties. There are a number of pressures on Samoa?s biodiversity, an important one of which is invasive species, the impacts of which have been extensive and costly, both financially, ecologically and culturally, including in particular effects on the productivity and economic output of primary industries such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries, as well as threatening the integrity and biodiversity of natural ecosystems and their processes.[10][10] The aquatic invasive species have been little researched, but an introduction from an invasive aquatic organism can have a serious impact on food security, given that a large proportion of Samoan households rely on the coastal inshore reefs for protein. With the increased movement of ships on account of trade and movement of people, opportunities for introduction of aquatic invasive species have likewise increased. This introduction of invasive species has enormous consequences for Samoa, given the ecological vulnerability of the island biodiversity, where species diversity is high, but the limited genetic diversity, has resulted in poor inherent defensive mechanisms against the highly adaptive introduced species and diseases. It is reported that 48% of flowering plants, 11% of land birds, 12% of reptiles and 18% of land snails found in Samoa are introduced.

While considerable efforts have been made to maintain Samoa?s rich biodiversity in reserves and protected areas, considerable efforts are being spent on managing invasive plants that are outcompeting native species. Impacts can also range from adverse impacts on productivity and subsequent economic output of primary industries, such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries, to impeding cultural practices and traditions, household food security and sustainable livelihoods, in addition to threatening the integrity of natural ecosystems and the survival of rare and vulnerable species.

2) Root Causes, Threat and Impacts

The key threats and impacts to Samoa?s natural resources are the following:

Invasive Alien Species: Samoa?s natural environment has been exposed to introduction of new species from the very beginning of its existence (refer Table 1 for status of introductions in Samoa). Some of these introductions were purposeful and others were accidental. Some introduced species have not caused problems that we are aware of or if they have presented issues, their negative impacts are outweighed by their benefits. For many introduced species, there simply is limited information on what if any impacts they may present. However, for some introduced species, there is clear evidence of their negative impacts and as discussed previously some native species may also express invasive characteristics. This group of organisms causing negative impacts are referred to as invasive species (including both alien and native species that are, or could be acting as pests) when possible, they should be managed and controlled to limit the extent of their impacts and when feasible reduced or even eliminated from their invasive settings preventing further impacts and potentially permitting

rehabilitation on natural and productive systems. In addition to those species already established within Samoa there is also significant concern and risk posed by additional species that might cause further impacts if they were permitted to arrive and establish in the country. A sub-set of these non-established potential pests should be of elevated concern due to the elevated risk they present based on their known invasive characteristics in areas similar to Samoa and their presence in one or more areas that are linked to Samoa though trade, tourism or other pathways. These are Samoa?s high risk, non-established IAS and a preliminary list of such high-risk IAS is documented in the 2019 National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP). Impacts from invasive species can range broadly and may impact any and all sectors of society. Impacts include those to natural resources, environment services, agriculture, reef productivity, forestry, human and animal health, water quality, water availability, infrastructure, culture, security, etc.

The potential for additional IAS to arrive and establish is significant and correlated with the movement of people and goods between countries and within Samoa between islands. High risk IAS such as tramp ants, crop pests and human disease vectors threaten Samoa and these threats are likely to increase as global trade and visitation increases. While new IAS may arrive to Samoa from almost anywhere given the existing global network of ship and air traffic, the most likely arrival locations for new IAS would include those locations with which Samoa has a relatively direct and sustained level of interchange such as is the case with key trade partners. Such locations include American Samoa, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, and Tokelau. Biosecurity is critical to protecting the country and reducing risks and ultimately impacts. Biosecurity can be addressed at pre-border, border and post border stages. While management of existing pests is also important where it can be implemented effectively, it is much less expensive and more effective at reducing overall risks and impacts to implement preventative measures through biosecurity. What is more, if there is only minimal biosecurity and therefore borders are more or less porous and organisms continues to invade the country, then efforts to control existing pests will be less effective or even ineffective if the same, similar or worse pest continues to arrive and establish. Ultimately for any eradication efforts undertaken to remove existing invasive species, one of the top criteria that should be in place prior to any such efforts is ensuring that effective biosecurity is in place prior to commencing eradication efforts. If adequate biosecurity is not in place and maintained, then the risk of re-invasion is likely high. Re-invasions have occurred in other locations where extensive efforts were undertaken to remove an IAS at significant financial costs only to have the same IAS re-invade, resulting in no positive gain regardless of the effort undertaken. Strengthened biosecurity ultimately means a better protected country with reduced risks to the economy, natural resources, the populace and improved trade capacity. Once border biosecurity is well engaged and in place then addressing existing pests will become easier and more effective.

Pollution: Land-based pollution from increased economic activities has resulted in eutrophication and hypoxia of marine life as has excess sediment as a result of soil erosion, Eutrophication and hypoxia affects all key functions of marine life, adding a very strong stressor to the lagoon environment, which directly depends on sunlight and oxygen. Excess sediment in lagoons is most severe around river mouths and can be seasonally critical (e.g., during the rainy season). Pollution exacerbates marine invasive infestations and can result in overabundant native species that can take advantage of

simplified ecosystems such as the crown-of-thorns starfish (*Acanthaster planci)* that as adults feed primarily on coral and is capable of reducing coral abundance by 90%. Such events may lead to overall reductions in system resilience, with long-term negative consequences to local communities. Another form of pollution is excessive or inappropriate use of pesticides, which can occur with terrestrial pest outbreaks, especially those impacting cropped species Chemical pollution for activities such as pesticide use can result in significant and long-term human and animal health and ecological impacts and consequences such as pesticide resistance and a loss of natural enemies causing increased vulnerability to further pest outbreaks and disruption of natural ecosystem services.

Land degradation and over-exploitation of natural resources: Pressures of development and population on land resources range from the demands for space to build buildings, public infrastructures and establish equipment, to the alteration of land resources and consumption of natural resources at rates that outpace their ability to be replenished. Examples of these pressures include the clearance and cultivation of lands for agriculture; the extraction of forest resources for forest products; the use of catchments for water supply and hydro power; the taking and alternation or landscaping of areas to build roads, infrastructures and lines of public utilities (water, electricity & phone); the alteration of lands mined for sand, rock and aggregate for construction; the contamination of agricultural lands long exposed to agro-chemical use; and the effects of severe natural events such as erosion, flooding and landslide on land areas that are vulnerable to these phenomena. The analysis of the local communities? responses to the questions on land degradation activities performed during the development of the Samoa's Aligned National Action Program (NAP) to Combat Land Degradation and Mitigate the Effects of Drought 2015 ? 2020 has identified deforestation in its various forms as the main land degradation activity. Next to it is the use of agrochemicals that has been raised as one of the most critical land degrading activities for priority consideration. Free ranging or roaming livestock and the mining of rock and aggregate or quarries were raised as emerging key threats to land resources that require due and urgent attention. Next to quarries are sand mining and the spread of invasive species, the former as a critical cause of coastline erosion and the latter as impacting on deforested and cultivated lands. Samoa's Environment Outlook 2012 and the State of the Environment 2013 report have assessed the quality and conditions of the country's terrestrial or land-based ecosystems as progressing from critical levels of degradation and vulnerability in the coastline and lowland areas to a better and hopeful outlook in the upland and ridge or cloud forests of both of its two large islands of Upolu and Savai'i. Concerns were particularly raised in these assessments with the decline in the quality of the ecosystems affected in the low-lying coastal areas and the developed lowlands that are progressing towards the mid-slope and upland ecosystems, which need urgent attention and action now, especially for the preservation of the remaining unique upland and cloud forest ecosystems. This trend is progressing both upwards into the mid-slopes and uplands and also outward along the coastline. Catchments are also affected as settlements have and are progressing close to and along riverbanks[11][11].

Climate change and its variability Projected climate change scenarios cited by the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) suggests that Samoa is expected to have: i) more frequent and extreme rainfall events; ii) more frequent and longer drought events; iii) increased air and water temperatures; iv) sea level rise; and v) more frequent extreme wind events. An extreme daily rainfall of 400 mm; currently a one-in-60-year event will likely become a one-in 40-year event by 2050. Similarly, an extreme six-hourly rainfall of 200 mm; that is, currently a one-in-30-year event will likely become a one-in-20-year event by 2050. Further, the CSIRO model projected an 8% increase in the wind speed for a 50-year storm by 2059. The increase in frequency and severity of cyclones expected from climate change can potentially set back Samoa by decades in terms of its development agenda and is expected to impact biodiversity (e.g. habitats damaged by intense and increasingly frequent storms, higher temperatures resulting in coral bleaching, prolonged droughts increasing risks of forest fires), agriculture and fisheries (increased frequency and intensity of tropical cyclones and damage to coral, all of which impact on food production systems and local livelihoods), and tourism (degradation or loss of beaches, pristine forests, coral reefs, infrastructure and scenic villages). In terms of climate, there is strong evidence that it will exacerbate IAS impacts because invasive species are often highly adaptable generalists that are able to take advantage or tolerate change and disturbance. For example, sea level rise may create gaps in low lying coastal and wetland vegetation, which can be occupied by IAS; increased forest fires may leave gaps in native vegetation; sea water temperature rise may cause coral die off and leave gaps in marine ecosystems; and climate change may change tolerance levels for pathogens[12][12].

3) Project Barriers That Need to be Addressed

In order to effectively and sustainably manage catchments in ways that conserve native biodiversity and safeguard food production systems and water supplies from unsustainable land use practices and the introduction, establishment and spread of IAS are:

Barrier 1: Limited capacity to mount a comprehensive and effective suite of biosecurity tools and mechanisms at both the national and island levels to reduce risks of invasions by non-native pest organisms or IAS.

A harmonized and effective biosecurity structure supported by appropriate legislation, national policy and well-established, long-term funding mechanisms is both essential to reducing risks and impacts from IAS and is also the single most effective and efficient suite of actions which can be undertaken to strengthen overall national security in regard to IAS. Strengthening prevention and reducing risks of invasion through appropriate biosecurity is not only the most effective route for addressing IAS impacts, it is also the most efficient in terms of both the use of resources and outcomes. While biosecurity mechanisms exist, they are currently not comprehensive, nor well-coordinated and are under-resourced. Currently the major guidance document for IAS management in Samoa is the National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP 2019-2024) developed based on Target 9 of the NBSAP which states: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment. Before the development of this new policy, much of the work in the past has been predominantly on pest control programs implemented by MNRE and MAF rather than on proactive approaches to prevention and management, and biosecurity measures. The previous NISSAP 2008-2011 had limited success in producing several outcomes that have contributed to advancing actions for the management of invasive species. The implementation of the NISSAP of 2008-2011 was constrained by the lack of a coordinated national system where data from all institutions/organizations converge in a standardized manner to facilitate decision-making. Additionally, there was a lack of a multi-sectoral institutional framework to oversee, coordinate and implement the NISSAP. The absence of a specific unit or a full time staff to coordinate and facilitate administrative and implementation of NISSAP, coupled with the lack of technical capabilities and the unavailability of sound data for decision making are some of the challenges facing the operationalization and implementation of the NISSAP. Similarly, there is no formalized advisory body that can guide and support the implementation of NISSAP. These challenges have prevented the coordinated and effective implementation of actions necessary to prevent and manage IAS in the country. Post border measures have been initiated such as the development and endorsement of the Samoa Invasive Species Emergency Response Plan (SISERP), which provides guidance on IAS incursion response and if implemented should be harmonized amongst key stakeholders, updated annually and be practiced so that all stakeholders know their roles and are ready in the advent of actual invasive species incursion. Further engagement with visitors and residents in regard to their role in observing and reporting novel organisms as well as establishing national reporting and decision-making tools are also essential elements that should be established with the Samoa?s Invasive Species Emergency Response Plan (SISERP), ensuring that effective responses can be mounted to new species detections.

Barrier 2: Limited experience to effectively address established invasive species and safeguard natural resources in both terrestrial and aquatic systems.

Much of the past invasive species work has been focused on pest and weed control programs implemented by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF). In the case of IAS, their identification, modes of introduction and

spread, biodiversity and socio-economic impacts (including loss of revenue) and their management in terms of reporting, monitoring and eradication/control measures need to be understood by those who manage ecosystems for their services, be it conservation, production or a range of purposes. IAS control and management efforts have rarely taken an integrated approach in which IAS considerations are addressed on an equal footing and as an essential component of the management of other anthropogenic pressures, such as land degradation, fragmentation and pollution. In fact, these other stressors generally make natural and production systems more vulnerable to invasive species impacts and like climate change, addressing invasive species in management planning in general is needed. What is more, IAS considerations are yet to be incorporated in the Environment Management and Conservation Bill drafting process but clearly should be an integral part of these efforts.

Administrative boundaries reflect human land tenure and political decisions, but seldom reflect true ecosystem boundaries, other than perhaps catchment(s) and margins between land and seascapes, of which they are a dynamic ever changing and evolving part. Because of this variance between administrative and ecological boundaries, management of natural resources, perhaps inevitably, becomes locked into administrative systems of governance and ownership, which often differ with on-the-ground reality, particularly if the administrative boundary becomes a fence or wall rather than simply a stake in the ground. Thus, a challenge is making the paradigm shift from the present community integrated planning and management that is bounded by existing district boundaries to a more holistic catchment perspective that is better aligned with the natural ecosystems and production systems. This requires a more strategic approach that is embraced in a vision of the catchment?s values and ecosystem services (including production systems) shared by its stakeholders. Aligned with this strategic framework are the Community Integrated Management (CIM) Plans, which reflect the aspirations of the communities and their respective districts. Significant experience has been gained in sustainable management at land/seascape scales and from ridge to reef, as for example with the ongoing Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Strengthening Multi-sectoral management of critical landscapes (SMSMCL) project. Moreover, the CIM Plan initiative[13][13] that has engaged with all 41 districts and communities throughout the entire country represents a wealth of knowledge and experience gained and lessons learned. These strengths, coupled with strong community engagement and support, provide a robust platform from which to launch this catchment-oriented enhancement to what has been achieved to date.

The most cost-effective approach to reducing impacts from IAS is prevention, often termed biosecurity. Currently, there is little to no on the ground biosecurity measures implemented beyond Samoa?s international ports of entry and even at the ports of entry it is limited in nature. Internal biosecurity should start at main ports of entry but also needs to focus on reducing the potential for pest movements between islands and into key production and conservation areas. What is more, biosecurity efforts should also include capacity and planning for early detection and response;

however, the necessary early response systems, technical capacities, and support and involvement of local communities are not yet in place to support such actions in high biodiversity areas.

Barrier 3: Limited awareness of IAS risk and of prevention, reduction and tools across sectors and amongst residents and visitors.

Awareness and understanding about IAS at all levels and sectors is still suboptimal. There is no coordinated national system where data from all institutions /organizations converge in a standardized manner; nor any web-based tools where decision makers, resource managers, and other stakeholders can access and download information on IAS. The absence of a specific unit or a full time staff to coordinate and facilitate administration and the implementation of policy across sectors, coupled with the lack of technical capabilities and the unavailability of sound data for decision making are some of the challenges facing the operationalization and implementation of the SISERP and the species and NISSAP is a significant gap in Samoa?s ability to strengthen comprehensive IAS prevention and management. Long-term funding is also needed to address critical gaps in biosecurity to effectively reduce both risk and impacts from IAS.

Despite recent MNRE and MAF led awareness-raising efforts, the general public lack awareness of IAS threats, species and the threats, impacts and damage that they can cause to ecosystems, agricultural landscapes, genetic diversity, economies and livelihoods. There is some awareness and understanding about IAS among general practitioners, but more focused outreach is needed across all sectors of the government, private enterprises and civil society. At the national level, for example, there is little or no sustained publicity regarding high risk IAS. A national awareness and engagement program for IAS should be established and could focus on various locations and sectors including preventing the importation of high risk organisms (in fact all proposed importations are expected to undergo risk assessments prior to determination), hotels and guest houses, and educational establishments, providing information on species identification, biodiversity and socio-economic impacts, modes of spread or transfer and contact details for reporting sightings and flouting of enforcement regulations.

A national reporting system for novel species encounters should be established and advertised to both residents and visitors. What is more is that this system at the user's interface is a reporting system but it needs to be developed well beyond that with consideration and planning developed for what will happen for every novel species encounter report received. Ideally, the reporting system is operational 24/7 by trained operators standing by to take unbiased reports in a standardized format and share reports immediately with a priori selected leadership capable of making immediate decisions on the commitment of resources for initial response to each report received with the understanding that the

standard IAS response situation should be fluid and capable of changing rapidly as more information is gathered and the understanding of the situation improve[14][14]. All novel species encounter reports and follow-up actions need to be well documented and recorded to serve as records and to assist with improving and further developing and fine-tuning response capacity. However, in order for even a well planned and developed response system to function, communities and visitors need to be engaged, understand IAS concerns and their role with reporting potential encounters with novel species. At present, outreach among schools and communities is almost non-existent and biosecurity does not feature in the school curriculum nor is there a concerted effort to educate visitors regarding the risk associated with IAS nor the need to report incidents.

Another potential tool for improving IAS prevention and management in Samoa are Environmental Impact Assessments **(**EIAs), but which do not at present systematically incorporate IAS risk, partly due to inadequate information on native and non-native alternatives to recommended (potentially invasive) plants to be used for purposes such as landscaping, agroforestry and erosion control. Invasive species distribution in Samoa has not been systematically assessed nor has the vulnerability of different climatic zones to different biological invaders; knowledge which is becoming increasingly important in the light of climate change.

Raising awareness and understanding about IAS will be crucial to securing public and political support for many of the interventions proposed for this project.

Barrier 4: Limited capacities to mainstream gender into IAS management and low participation of women in existing activities/programs related to IAS and sustainable land management .

The traditional village system in Samoa, including the local government councils, church leadership, school management and community-based organisations present significant barriers to women?s access and participation in decision-making. For one to participate in a parliamentary election, you must first be a Matai, which given that currently only 22% of registered Matai are women, limits access to participation in the political sphere[15][15]. As a result, only 11.3% (6/53) of Members of Parliament are women. Women also have limited access and control over resources; in most parts of the village woman?s status and her access to and control over resources are mostly determined by birth order and marital status in the family.

A commonality across SIDS is that women make up a substantial proportion of the agriculture sector, approximately 52% of the labour force, contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and are agents of change for climate-resilient food systems. However, inequalities exist in SIDS? labour markets, as women are more likely to be unemployed than men, considering men?s labour force participation stands at 72% men[16][16].

The MWCSD in 2016, highlighted the issue of limited skills among technical staff on gender mainstreaming and inadequate appreciation of gender equality and women?s empowerment. This is a key challenge in the realisation of leaving no one behind as per the SDGs. This will pose risk in the implementation of the proposed gender responsives activities for IAS and sustainable land management if activities do not incorporate building governmental and community capacity to mainstream gender across interventions, ensuring i) equal participation of women and men, and ii) equal access to benefits of the proposed interventions by all the targeted beneficiaries of the project with the principal of leaving no one behind.

Additionally, as women and girls in Samoa have limited access to and control of resources including access to sustainable resource management initiatives, given that only 22% participate in decision making positions at village levels, coupled with high burden of unpaid care work that keep many of the women in the domestic spheres, it is paramount that such disadvantages do not prevent women and girls benefiting from project initiatives due to limited participation. Affirmative action will be taken through deliberate involvement of women and girls in the project activities, as well as advocacy to men to appreciate the importance of women?s contribution in IAS and sustainable land management and their role as crucial agents of change for sustainable development.

A further constraint to effective IAS prevention and management is that though women have some awareness of the impact of IAS in the domestic food production systems, as mentioned above, women?s participation in decision-making at the political and local level is generally low. To overcome this, the project seeks to align its interventions with priorities identified in the CIM Plans at district and community levels, and will work closely with communities in the target catchments, thereby empowering women in the community and promoting gender equality in accordance with the community?s norms and traditions. The Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development (MWCSD) has a network of liaison officers that work between government and villages to enable the advancement of women in local development that would be a key partner in promoting gender participation and empowerment.

The long-term outcome of the project is to provide adequate incentives for local communities and administrators to conserve its native biodiversity, natural ecosystems and food security by reducing direct threats affecting the project target and their relationships with a range of indirect factors (root causes) are illustrated in **Figure 1**, with entry points for project intervention strategies indicated. The relationship between the barriers and the project intervention logic is further illustrated in the theory of change diagram in **Figure 2**.

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[1] A total population of 187,820 was recorded for the last census in 2011, distributed across 362 villages, which is now estimated at around 200,000. Average household size is 7.

[2] Samoa?s National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan, 2015-2020.

[3] Mittermeier, R.A., Robles Gil, P., Hoffmann, M., Pilgrim, J., Brooks, T., Mittermeier, C.G., Lamoreux, J. and Fonseca, G.A.B. 2004. *Hotspots Revisited.* Mexico City, Mexico: CEMEX.

[4] James Atherton, 2008. Impacts of Invasive Species in Samoa: World Biodiversity Day; Conservation International Pacific Islands, Samoa.

[5] Conservation International ? Pacific Islands Programme, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. 2010 *Priority Sites for Conservation in Samoa: Key Biodiversity Areas*. Apia, Samoa. 32pp.

[6] NOAA -Coral Reef Conservation Program. 2018 Coral reef condition: A status report for American Samoa.

[7] BirdLife International, IUCN and UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, 2019. IBAT Country Profile for Samoa, Version 2019/1. Available at: http://conservation.ibat-alliance.org.

[8] Source: https://www.gbif.org/species/search?dataset_key=e4942a44-e352-4113-8a49-f91a97281b1d&origin=SOURCE&advanced=1

[9] MNRE (2013). Samoa?s State of Environment Report.

[10] NISSAP (2019-2023)

[11] Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. 2015. *Samoa's Aligned National Action Program to Combat Land Degradation and Mitigate the Effects of Drought 2015 ? 2020*

[12] Ministry of Finance, MNRE, GCF. 2017. ProDoc *Integrated Flood Management to Enhance Climate Resilience of the Vaisigano River Catchment in Samoa*

[13] Refer to Section 1.a.5 for further details of the CIM Plan initiative, which was initiated by the World Bank in 2000-2007, and subsequently converted from what were originally Coastal Infrastructure Management Plans into Community Integrated Management Plans in 2016-2018 by

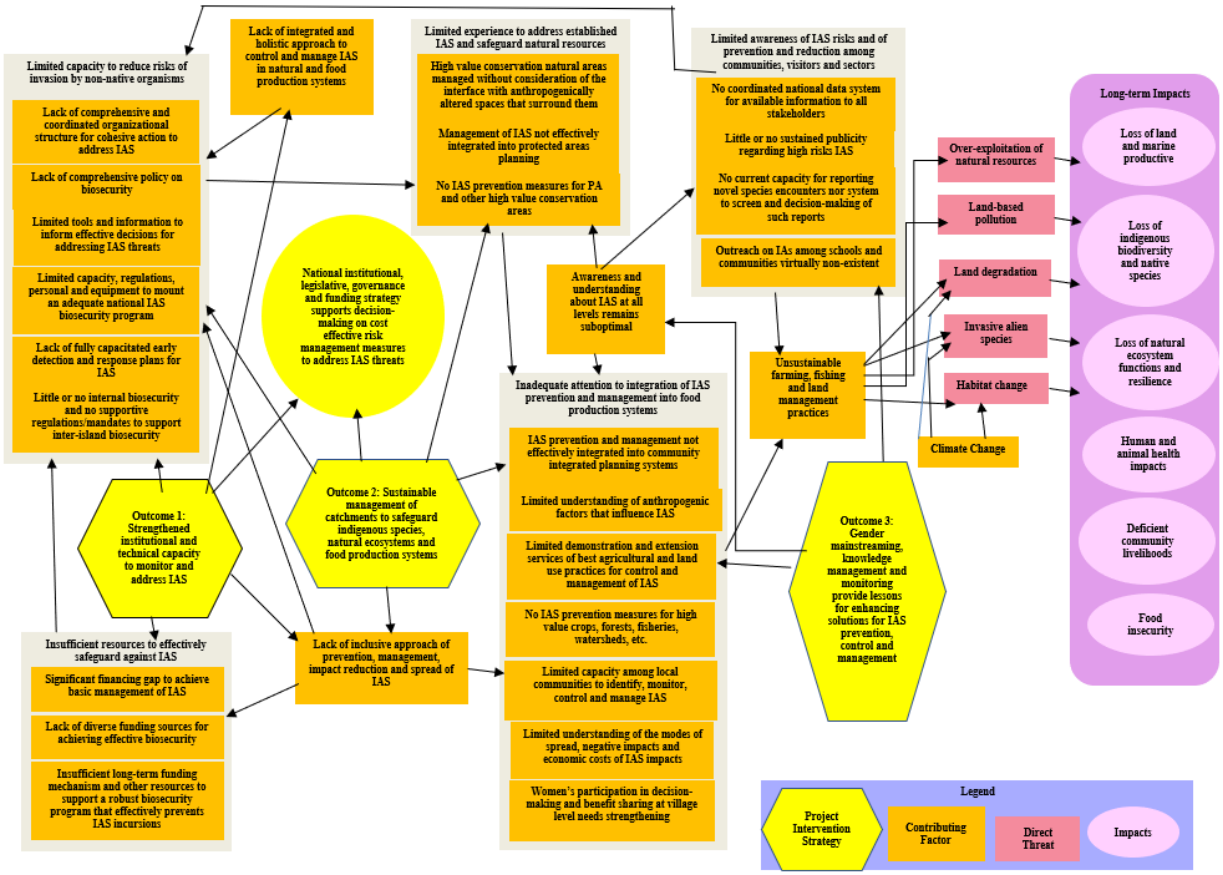
World Bank and AF-UNDP. A more detailed explanation of how CIM Plans evolved is provided in Section 6 (paragraphs 42-44).

[14] Stanford, J.W. and G.H. Rodda. 2007. The Brown Treesnake Rapid Response Team. In: G.W. Witmer, W.C. Pitt, and K.A. Fagerstone (eds.). Managing Vertebrate Invasive Species ? Proceedings of a Symposium, Fort Collins, Colorado, August 7-9, 2007. Fort Collins, CO: National Wildlife Research Center. p. 175-217.

[15] Samoa VNR 2020https://spccfpstore1.blob.core.windows.net/digitallibrary-docs/files/88/88697faa2e4c8ef0f27f023532e4f25c.pdf?sv=2015

[16] UNCTAD. https://unctad.org/news/small-island-developing-states-face-uphill-battle-covid-19-recovery

Figure 1: Problem Analysis for the project.



4) Baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects

The baseline projects which will form the foundation and partnerships on which the present project will build, include the following:

? The World Bank funded the ?Samoa Agriculture and Fisheries Productivity and Marketing Project? (SAFPROM). The project is intended to improve the management of targeted productive natural resources covering the period 2019-2025 with a total project cost of USD 23.55 million (including USD 3.60 million from IFAD). Of relevance is the project activities aimed at (i) strengthening national institutions to create an enabling environment for increased productivity and access to markets for target farming and fishing households and private sector along the targeted value chains; and (ii) increasing on-farm productivity in fruit and vegetable, and livestock farming households who wish to upgrade to semi-commercial status and promoting sustainable fisheries options for fishing households and organizations, and strengthening linkages between those farming/fishing households and other value-chain actors, including input suppliers, agro-processors and traders. The project provides small grants for individual farmers and fishers; and larger grants for producer?s organizations (registered groups and cooperatives) to establish or strengthen market linkages The project also focuses on integrated pest management that requires regular monitoring of insects and pests to assess bio-control measures and alert farmers about potential for pest outbreaks. It also supports pest monitoring and use of sticky traps, using IPM approach for fruit fly control and agro ecosystem approaches to enable farmers to make informed decisions on IPM.

? BIOPAMA ?Enhancing the Sustainable Management and Protection of Samoa?s Protected Area Network? working through MNRE is aimed at conducting protected area management effectiveness of Samoa?s protected areas and procurement of much needed resources to improve the effectiveness of services for current PA management efforts through surveys and maintenance work. It also supports the procurement of marine survey boats to support various marine undertakings for protected areas. The project is supported by the European Union amounting to around USD 118,000 for the period 2021-2022.

? GCF funded ?Integrated Flood Management to enhance Climate Resilience in Vaisagano Catchment? is aimed at capacity building and raising awareness in watershed management, ecosystem-based adaptation and flood control as a means to increase the adaptive capacity and reduce exposure to climate risks faced by vulnerable communities in the river catchment. The project covers the period from 2017-2023 and with funding amounting to USD 57,718 million from GCF.

? MNRE activities that are relevant include supporting the implementation of the Community Integrated Management Plans (CIMPs) in terms of strengthening governance of natural resources, pest eradication, planting of climate resilient native species, inventory of IAS, education and awareness on invasive species, drainage improvement for wetlands, rehabilitation of freshwater springs and mangroves, integrated pest management, etc. (USD 1,700,000 through the 6-year period of the project)

? MAF promotes a number of natural resources management activities through their own budgets for promoting agroforestry, soft coastal protection measures, removal of crown of thorns, establishing

giant clam farms, prevention of illegal and destructive fishing practices, supporting community fish reserves, community education and awareness programs on importance of marine ecosystems, coral gardening, restocking of reefs and lagoons and SLM programs (mixed cropping, soil conservation and organic farming) covering around USD 240,000 for IAS management and USD 1,350,000 for efforts at implementation of biosecurity measures (quarantine, crop and animal protection, surveillance and extension services

? The MWCSD is integrating gender dimensions into village and district development plans, promoting women led enterprises and income generation activities covering around USD 200,000.

Alignment with national and global priorities:

The project is aligned with the following national and global strategies and plans that link directly to global conventions and related initiatives:

(a) Alignment with national priorities

Samoa?s National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2020 (NBSAP) is aligned with the Global Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, with clear linkages to the National Environment Sector Plan (2013-2016) and Strategy for the Development of Samoa (2016/17-2019/20). The five Strategic Goals of the National Biodiversity Action Plan are largely embedded within the framework of this project: addressing the underlying causes of biodiversity loss; reduction of pressures on biodiversity and promotion of sustainable use; safeguarding ecosystems and their species and genes; enhancing the benefits of ecosystem services to all; and enhancing implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building.

The National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan 2019-2024 (NISSAP) to focuses on the following five key themes: strengthening the infrastructure and legal frameworks, up-scaling local knowledge on invasive species management, strengthening the coordination and collaboration with relevant agencies and institutions working on invasive species, building human and resource capacity of the institutions implementing invasive species-related programs and improving access to financial resources. In particular, the GEF project priorities on the following key thematic areas identified in the NISSAP, namely: (i) Strategy 1: Generate support by raising awareness of the impacts of invasive species to generate support for actions to manage and reduce them; (ii) Strategy 2: Building capacity through strengthening the institutional capacity and necessary skills for the technical support required to manage invasive species effectively (e.g. establish Invasive Species Unit, coordinate regular meetings and trainings for SNITT and relevant partners and coordinate with SPREP and PRISMSS for technical assistance that can be provided on NISSAP actions); (iii) Strategy 3: Legislation, Policy and

Protocols , in particular to support implementation of the SISERP: (iv) Strategy 4: Problem definition, prioritization and decision-making through improved knowledge on invasive species, prioritize management actions and monitoring programs to assess effectiveness of programs as well as for detecting trends and emerging threats; (v) Strategy 7: Biosecurity by strengthening risk assessment procedures for new species and genomes introduction, integrate risk assessment review as integral component of SNITT meetings and coordinate regional technical invasive species group when reviewing any new species introductions; (vi) Strategy 8: Management of established species; (vii) Strategy 9: Restoration of native biodiversity, particularly in national parks, conservation areas, key biodiversity areas, watershed areas, marine reserves and traditional managed marine reserves (community fisheries reserves).

The NISSAP recognizes that coordination and engagement of various agencies with different agencies is essential for implementation of the NISSAP, in particular working through the SNITT mechanism. It recognizes the different roles of MNRE (including as Secretariat to SNITT) and its Forestry, Water Resources, DEC, PUMA and Environment Sector Coordination Division; MAF and in particular SQS, Crops Division, Fisheries Division and APH Division; MWCSD; SNITT, NGOs, SPREP and PRISMSS.

National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) under UNCBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD: see Section 6. It recognizes that invasive species work in the country has mainly focused on agro-biodiversity with less priority on the protection and conservation needs of native biodiversity and habitats, which makes the GEF 7 project a priority. It also recognizes that while the use of chemicals may be effective against invasive species, it could affect the environment and people?s health and it notes the non-compliance of traveling public with quarantine measures.

National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA), 2005: The project will contribute directly to four of the nine priority climate change adaptation areas of activity, namely: securing community water resources (ranked as 1); reforestation, rehabilitation and community forestry fire prevention (2); agriculture and food security sustainability (5); and establishing conservation programs in highly vulnerable marine and terrestrial areas of communities. (8).

Samoa's Aligned National Action Program to Combat Land Degradation And Mitigate The Effects Of Drought 2015 ? 2020 is based on its 2006 NAP but many of the small-scale demonstrations have been up-scaled and it also compliments the NAPA program and NBSAP, while contributing uniquely to the three types of land ownership prevailing in Samoa (customary, freehold and state). It also brings into focus the importance of soil quality, with which this project resonates well (recycling of organic waste). The project aligns well with: Strategic Objective 2 ? to improve the conditions of priority

affected landscapes and ecosystems, including agricultural lands, catchments and key biodiversity areas; and SO3 ? to increase global benefits through improving the preservation of unique species and ecosystems. Particularly illuminating is the feedback from extensive nationwide consultations on existing SLM policies adopted by communities, of which six were ranked highest: bans on agrochemicals, forest logging, free-ranging livestock and illegal waste dumping; land protection/ conservation regulations; and enforcement of agrochemical use regulations. Included in the 13 SLM methodologies most practiced were: replanting forests, composting, nitrogen fixing species, waste management, organic farming, fencing in livestock, environmental compliance, agro-forestry and agrochemical controls, all of which align well with the sustainable catchment management approach to be adopted by this project.

The *Strategy for the Sustainable Development of Samoa 2016/17-2019/20* comprises four priority areas (economic, social, community and environmental) for improvement and 14 Key Outcomes, of which the following relate closely to the project: agriculture output increased (KO2); participation of private sector development enhanced (KO5); a healthy Samoa and well-being promoted (KO6); quality ? training improved (KO7); environmental resilience improved (KO13); climate and disaster resilience increased (KO14).

National Environment Sector Plan 2017-2021 for which the overarching goal is: environmental sustainability, climate and disaster resilience. End of Sector Plan Outcomes in which the project will invest are: sustainable management of freshwater resources (1.1), forests (1.2) and, including spatial information for their sustainable development, lands (1.3); sound management of chemicals (2.2); integration of climate change across all sectors (3.1); and sector governance and cross-sectoral coordination (4.1). Much of this investment arises from the project?s catchment approach that by default necessitates multi-sector coordination across all government levels of administration with the direct involvement of local communities.

Agriculture Sector Plan 2016-2020 for which the overarching goal is: to increase food, nutrition and income security. Of the four End of Sector Plan Outcomes, the project?s investments in the management of IAS and other environmental safeguards will contribute significantly to: sector coordination improved and investment in food security and inclusive commercial agriculture/fisheries production systems increased (ESPO1); and sustainable agricultural and fisheries resource management practices in place and climate resilience and disaster relief efforts strengthened (ESPO4).

(b) Alignment with International priorities

Within the global context, the project will contribute to achieving the UNCBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in particular:

? *Strategic Goal B* - Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use: *Target 5* By 2020 the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced; *Target 7* By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity; *Target 9* By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent introduction and establishment; *Target 10* By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.

? *Strategic Goal C* - To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity: *Target 12* by 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has improved and sustained.

? *Strategic Goal D* - Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services: *Target 15* By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 percent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.

In respect to the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), the project will contribute to the following targets:

? *Target 1: Ensure that all land and sea areas globally are under integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning addressing land-and sea-use change training existing intact and wilderness areas.* This will be achieved through a ridge to reef planning exercise in the nine pilot catchments that ensures that protected areas and community conservation areas and community fisheries reserves are integrated at the catchment planning level;

? *Target 2: Ensure that at least 20 percent of degraded freshwater, marine and terrestrial ecosystems are under restoration, ensuring connectivity among them and focusing on priority ecosystems.* The project will support the prevention and management of IAS in these natural areas as a means to maintain their ecological viability.

? *Target 3: Ensure that at least 30 per cent globally of land areas and of sea areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and its contributions to people, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.*

? *Target 6: Manage pathways for the introduction of invasive alien species, preventing, or reducing their rate of introduction and establishment by at least 50 per cent, and control or eradicate invasive alien species to eliminate or reduce their impacts, focusing on priority*

species and priority sites. The project primary focus would be on the prevention and management of IAS, focusing on priority species in natural and production areas as well as reducing possibility of further introductions into the country through active biosecurity measures;

? *Target 9: Ensure benefits, including nutrition, food security, medicines, and livelihoods for people especially for the most vulnerable through sustainable management of wild terrestrial, freshwater and marine species and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.* The project will specifically target unsustainable land and marine use practices that promote proliferation of IAS through sanitary measures, reducing land use practices that favor IAS transmittal and dispersal.

? *Target 10: Ensure all areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, in particular through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, increasing the productivity and resilience of these production systems* through improved land use and marine use practices.

? *Target 20: Ensure that relevant knowledge, including the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities with their free, prior, and informed consent, guides decision making for the effective management of biodiversity, enabling monitoring, and by promoting awareness, education and research.* The project will encourage the promotion of traditional practices of IAS prevention and control as well as current/traditional sustainable practices related to agriculture, fisheries and grazing

? *Target 21: Ensure equitable and effective participation in decision-making related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, and respect their rights over lands, territories and resources, as well as by women and girls, and youth.*

The project also contributes to the post-2015 development agenda, notably with respect to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

? *SDG 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture*, by enhancing food security in Samoa through managing risks from IAS and supporting sustainable agriculture;

? *SDG 14 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development* by testing and implementing fisheries management measures and enforcing compliance in Samoa?s seascapes;

? *SDG 15 Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss*, by supporting conservation and sustainable management of forests in Samoa to reduce land degradation.

5) Project Strategy:

The project objective is to equip and empower local communities to safeguard Samoa?s indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices (in particular those practices that promote and sustain invasive species). To achieve this objective, the GEF alternative aims to remove the barriers to the long-term solution of strengthened prevention and control of IAS through (1). Enhancing safeguarding capacity, (2). Effective management of selected catchments for biodiversity, soil and water conservation, and food security whilst ensuring that IAS risks are minimized and integrated across sectors, applied within a holistic framework that embraces the fundamental role of ecological integrity, and delivered primarily through the empowerment of local administrations and communities to maximize ownership and long-term sustainability, and (3). Knowledge management.

The project first off recognizes that strengthening efforts to reduce risk and impacts associated with IAS and enhancing safeguarding requires addressing gaps at the national level with a focus on both prevention and management efforts in a harmonized, cross sectorial structured manner that is supported by legislation, policy and long term funding, enabling the strengthening of safeguarding tools and mechanism and the implementation, maintenance and further developing of all safeguarding components to ensure full and adequate implementation of the NISSAP, related IAS national documents and policies, and further future endeavours that may be undertaken. The project endeavours to build on those components of this comprehensive system that are already in place, namely the SISERP, NBSAP, the NISSAP and the Samoa National Invasive Species Task Team (SNITT) and its key agencies such as MNRE and Samoa Quarantine.

The project also recognizes that the demonstration catchments underpin the lives and livelihoods of a large number of local communities and that implementation of a coherent strategy to promote effective and sustainable IAS prevention and management practices is an integral part of the solution. The project seeks to achieve this solution to improve prevention and management of IAS (complemented by management and conservation of forest, agricultural, coastal and marine ecosystems) using a Ridge to Reef approach for which the building blocks are already in place ? a comprehensive Community Integrated Management (CIM) planning process already exists for the entire country to which district authorities and communities have signed up. The CIMP planning approach emphasizes a whole of government approach for planning and management, taking into consideration an integrated ecosystem-based adaptation approach and the ridge to reef concept that involves all major sectors in the country. The CIM planning process is a Partnership between the Government of Samoa and the villages within the plan. The Plan area starts from the ridge extending to the reef broadly covering four thematic areas; Infrastructure; Environment and Biological Resources; Livelihood and Food security under a community governance system, where both partners have responsibilities for issues and solutions and the Plan gives an integrated approach to the provision of services and improvement of resilience now and in the future. The intent of the project is also to effectively reduce risks and impacts associated with IAS, that knowledge needs to be both built and shared effectively throughout the country and that residents and visitors need to be aware of IAS issues but even more importantly engaged and empowered to play the daily significant role of addressing existing pest and their issues as well as

taking steps to ensure that new pests do not spread or establish and alerting authorities to any suspected incursions of novel organisms.

The project will be implemented over a 5-year period based on the following principles:

? Ensuring that at harmonized cross sectoral national level policy, planning, coordination and capacity are in place to support implementation of the SISERP and NISSAP, this project, and other relevant drivers to ensure long term nationwide coordination of IAS prevention and management activities;

? Strengthening the safeguarding at both national and localized levels to minimize IAS risk and reduce IAS impacts through both biosecurity and management actions;

? Furthering a *holistic and integrated Ridge-to-Reef land and seascape approach* for safeguarding native biodiversity, natural ecosystems and food security rather than an exclusive sector- centric approach;

? Supporting and implementing a *participatory/consultative bottom-up project planning and implementation approach* that maximizes community ownership and long-term sustainability;

? Supporting *decentralized planning and management by communities, local district administration using the existing Community Integrated Management planning process* as the building blocks for integration of IAS protection, control and management commensurate with sustainable natural resources and climate risk management;

? *Strengthening capacities* of communities, district administration and other key stakeholders within a cross-sectoral and holistic planning framework to address IAS related concerns;

? Improving *coordination and collaboration* between district administration and national sector agencies to deliver technical expertise extension and best practices for control, management and eradication of IAS;

? Mainstreaming IAS control and management into key development sectors (forestry, agriculture, fisheries, etc.) and management of the interface between protected areas and surrounding community productive areas;

? Ensuring that in its development and implementation, gender is mainstreamed so that the project contributes to equality and equity, through the creation of equitable opportunities and benefits for both women and men;

? Creating *an effective knowledge base* that builds on successful lessons and experiences from previous and on-going programs and projects;

? Ensuring an *adaptive management approach* that considers ecological, demographic, market, technological and economic factors at IAS control, management and eradication; and

? *Selectivity* with respect to interventions and locations within the catchments to demonstrate cost-effective IAS control, management and eradication practices that can be replicated elsewhere.

The project objective will be achieved via three inter-related and complementary strategies (Project Components comprising Outcomes and Outputs) that focus on removing the three key barriers to accomplish the long-term solution (Figure 1) by means of intervention pathways shown in the theory of change diagram (Figure 2). Indicators and assumptions for the accomplishment of expected Outcomes under the respective Components are given in the Project Results Framework and in the Monitoring Plan in Section VI of UNDP Project Document. . The three planned Components of the project are:

Component 1: Enhancing institutional and technical capacity in safeguarding indigenous species, natural ecosystems and production systems from IAS;

Component 2: Demonstrating integrated management of catchments from ridge to reef to safeguard indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices; and

Component 3: Gender mainstreaming and knowledge management

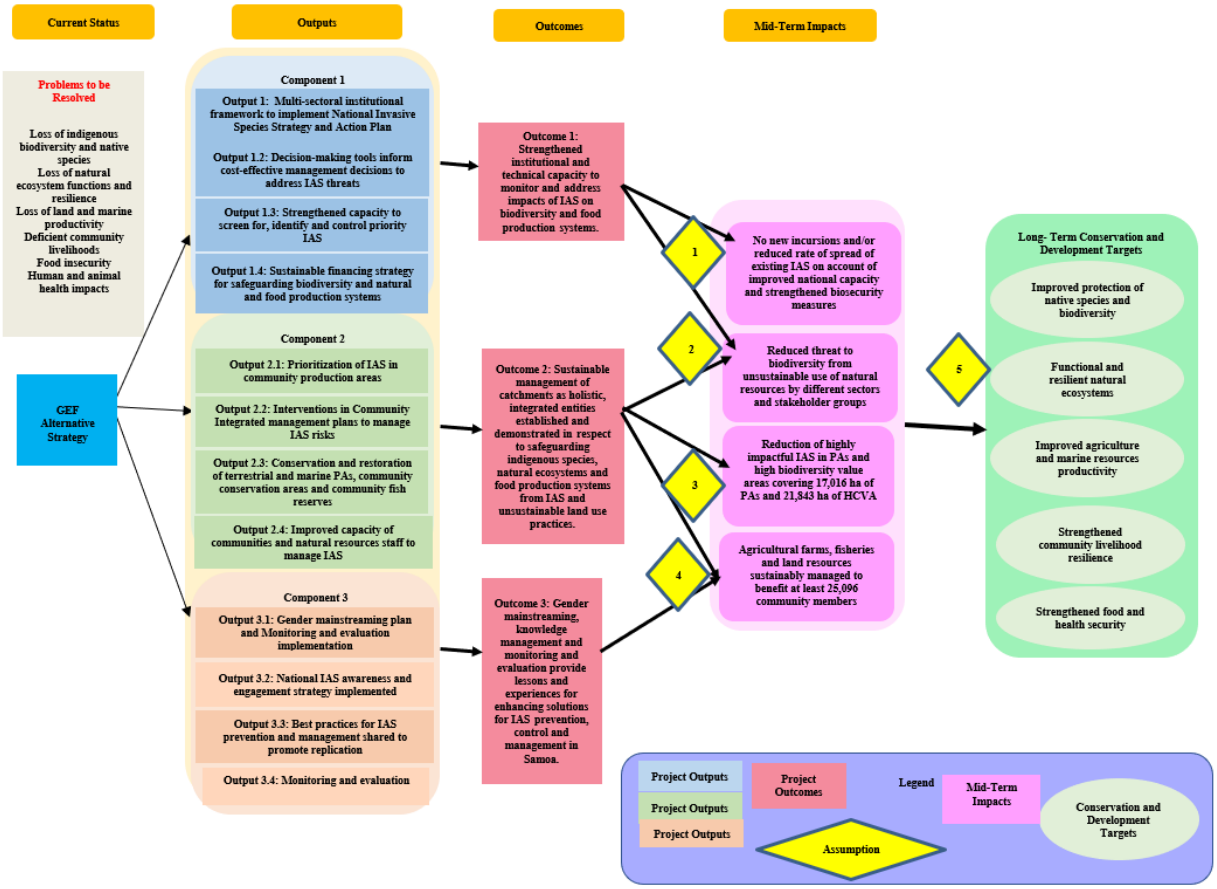
6) Project Objective:

The Project Objective is to equip and empower local communities to safeguard Samoa?s indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from Invasive Alien Species (IAS) and unsustainable land use practices. To achieve this objective, the project is designed to develop and test a holistic and well-integrated multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach to ensure that IAS risks are minimized and integrated across key natural and production sectors. This approach is underpinned by mechanism(s) that address current limitations in IAS prevention, management and coordination across sectors and stakeholders, including in particular recognizing the role of the local communities. The relationship between the barriers and the project intervention logic is further illustrated in the theory of change diagram in Figure 2.

The project?s incremental value lies in demonstrating the application of a ridge to reef approach to IAS prevention, management and control within selected catchments using the Community Integrated Management Plans that are developed at the district level to which there is already commitment of the district administration and local communities. This approach will concurrently help manage and control IAS within forests, protected areas, agricultural land, and coastal and marine ecosystems so as to help conserve native biodiversity, natural ecosystems and food production systems in these catchments.

An IAS information management and monitoring network would have a pest database which can be built, modified, maintained, regularly updated and utilized to support best use of resources across sectors that will also enable the incorporation of significant bodies of work from local levels including the work of localized government efforts such as those which may be done by agricultural, environmental and other government agencies within the country. The national information management and monitoring network will build on, complement and link/partner with the regional databases, so as to be able to share information. This will be initially set-up for the project catchments and later extended to cover the entire country which will provide the following: (i) that will provide detailed information on species taxonomy and biology, places and pathways of introduction into, and within the country, impacts on native species and natural ecosystems and dispersion and impacts under different climate scenarios; (ii) identification of priority IAS species and locations of severity so as to assess urgency of actions; (iii) decision making tools that would allow comprehensive diagnosis of IAS, projections of new or expanded invasions, improved priority setting for interventions and informed decision-making on sectoral policies and investments; and (iv) readily available data for decision makers, communities and others to respond to, and address the threats from IAS. The information system will allow for defining which habitats and ecosystems can be effectively managed and restored in order to retain critical biodiversity, habitat and ecosystem integrity and ensure productivity of agriculture, forestry, sustainable land and marine resource use and tourism in the long term. It will also help develop capacities and required enabling frameworks through "learning-by-doing" approaches in the selected target catchments. The project will be able to develop and demonstrate a matrix of best IAS management, control and restoration practices for protection of Samoa?s ecosystems and native biodiversity for scaling up and replication in other catchments in the country. A series of knowledge management publications and awareness events will support the achievement of these targets. This would be achieved through three inter-linked components.

Figure 2: Project Theory of Change



Symbol in Figure.	Assumption	Notes and References
	There is political support for strengthening the legal and institutional framework for the prevention, control, and management of IAS and for mainstreaming these into planning and management processes at national, district and community levels.	The Samoan government is placing a strong emphasis on preventing, controlling, and managing IAS, which is emphasized by NISSAP and SISERP, and underlying regulatory framework. The government's commitment towards combating IAS is also expressed in the Target 9 of the NBSAP where IAS Management is part of the strategic priorities and supported by specific actions. Since the adoption of the NBSAP, 4 pieces of biodiversity legislation have been enacted and 9 biodiversity-related policies and national strategies have been approved (e.g., Biodiversity Conservation Policy, Land Use Policy, National Water Resources Management Strategy, National Water Resources Policy, Forest Reserve Conservation Policy). At the sectoral level, biodiversity mainstreaming is advanced in legislation and policies related to forestry, water resources, fisheries, urban planning, as well as tourism and education (which both highlight the importance of biodiversity and environmental sustainability in their Master Plans). Samoa also has substantial annual investments into IAS prevention, control and management, as part of their many programs (i.e., National Environment Sector Plan and Agriculture Sector Plan), which also vouch for the political commitment. In addition, Ministry of Finance with its endorsement of the current project underscores that addressing the threats that IAS poses towards the ecology and economy is a national priority and the commitment, including co-financing, towards this project from MAF; MNRE; MOF, MWCSD; SROS; MCR; MESC; MPMC; and MWTI, also testifies to a political will within these ministries/administrations.
	The developed capacities of governmental institutions and supporting technologies are sufficient to create a viable and effective change in the national, district and community level prevention, control and management of IAS.	In line with the above, there is an increasing realization among the project partners that to have an effective and cost-effective IAS Management implementation there is a need for cross-sector coordination and collaboration. To support this, a baring element of the current project is to ensure such coordinating bodies are established and maintained. Through the work (and through that the building of capacity) of the coordinating bodies, IAS Management efforts at national, local levels towards more holistic responses to IAS infestations will be ensured. Also, countries in the Pacific have a long-standing experience in IAS Management gained through the implementation of its different IAS Management programs. Through these regional and national programs, a large body of capacity building experience has been accumulated from, which the current project will benefit. This will be further enhanced by the project's own engagement towards the development of guidelines and methodologies and building capacity of government staff to use them.
	The increased capacities of local extension services and local stakeholders, including farmers, improves the prevention, control and management of IAS and reduces the threat to local endemic species and traditional varieties.	The project will benefit from best practices of IAS management from global, regional and national experiences, in that suitable techniques will be tested and implemented in the project targeted agricultural landscapes. These approaches will be innovative, and they will serve as learning case studies for the farmers and government staff in the surrounding districts and communities. The lessons learned including the feedback on technology usage will be channeled back into the collective knowledge base and will be used in other areas in Samoa and the Pacific region.
	The raised awareness and increased knowledge management expand political understanding and actions supporting IAS prevention, control and management	The importance of actively addressing IAS Management is recognized by the government of Samoa and can be seen in for instance, the National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan and other planning documents. The requested establishment of an Invasive Species Unit (ISU) or coordination body which works across sectors and ministries at a high level in the national government structure will help in organizing, advancing and harmonizing policy and implementing a cohesive and cooperative top-down unified front towards addressing IAS issues.

	within and outside the country.	If this is achieved, it will provide Samoa with a single coordination unit to direct and support safeguarding efforts throughout the nation. As envisioned by stakeholders, this ISU would be supported by an effective SNITT which would service as the ISU's technical committee providing direct input from experts and practitioners from across sectors to the national coordination body or ISU in support of IAS policy implementation through the NISSAP and SISERP and likely also directly support decision making and further implementation through related strategies, plans and policies.
	There is stability in the economic and political global environment	The achievement of long-term impacts will likely be achieved if the assumptions from 1 through 4 are effective. However, this achievement is ensured based on the following assumption, namely that national and international macroeconomic conditions and other natural or man-induced factors remain stable and manageable, so that this does not shift government priorities.

Component 1: Enhancing institutional and technical capacity in safeguarding indigenous species, natural ecosystems and production systems from IAS.

Total Cost: US$ 7,108,543 ; GEF project grant requested: US$1,091,257; Co-financing: US$ 6,017,286

Outcome 1: ***Strengthened institutional and technical capacity to monitor and address impacts of IAS on biodiversity and food production systems***

The GEF project will help Samoa make significant strides in addressing existing gaps and deficiencies with safeguarding from IAS and reducing on-going impacts and through these actions will strengthen the country?s capacity and coordination towards improved resource conservation, agricultural production, etc. A strengthened Invasive Species Unit (ISU) or coordination body which works across sectors and ministries at a high level in the national government structure will help in organizing, advancing and harmonizing policy and implementing a cohesive and cooperative top-down unified front towards addressing IAS issues. This is an idealized scenario, and if achievable will provide Samoa with a single coordination unit to direct and support safeguarding efforts throughout the nation. As envisioned by stakeholders, this ISU would be supported by an effective SNITT which would service as the ISU?s technical committee providing direct input from experts and practitioners from across sectors to the national coordination body or ISU in support of IAS policy implementation through the NISSAP and SISERP and likely also directly support decision making and further implementation through related strategies, plans and policies. With these two elements in place and functioning appropriately, Samoa will have established what should be a highly functional structure for harmonizing and implementing coordinated multi-sectoral IAS actions, which in turn should greatly strengthen Samoa?s ability to effectively reduce both risks and impacts associated with IAS.

The coordination body once strengthened and with the support of the SNITT will be able to make progress on the implementation of the NISSAP, which has the stated goal ?*To reduce the negative impacts of Invasive species on Samoa?s fragile natural heritage, communities and livelihoods*?. With the strengthening of the Invasive Species Unit (ISU) and the formalization of the roles of both the ISU and the SNITT, Samoa also endeavours to finalize the Environmental Management and Conservation Bill with language supporting IAS management, another important step in Samoa?s pathway forward with reducing IAS impacts and improving protection of natural resources and production systems. With legislation in place at the national level policy and guidance can then be formalized to implement regulations and protocols developed under the national environmental law. What is more, Samoa anticipates conducting a cross-sectorial capacity needs assessment for IAS prevention and management that will (1) Highlight and ideally pinpoint remaining gaps in national policy and legislation regarding IAS, (2) Provide a suitable framework for addressing identified gaps, and (3) Support development of a comprehensive national structure for addressing IAS concerns.

Samoa also envisions development of a sustainable financial strategy to safeguard the country from IAS incursions at both national and internal levels through establishing cost recovery mechanisms to support pre-border, border and post-border biosecurity activities. This would be complemented by detailed risk assessments for any organisms proposed for entry to Samoa, strengthening national and internal border inspection, quarantine and treatment capacities, implementing comprehensive early detection and rapid response (EDRR) capacity, etc. If Samoa can achieve the above-mentioned financial security regarding both management and prevention of IAS under the previously mentioned nationally coordinated approach, they will be in a very good position to not only significantly reduce risks from new IAS incursions but also regarding addressing and improving management of impacts from established IAS.

Samoa through this GEF project will be providing essential and critical training for IAS prevention and management to enhance skills and strengthen capacities in key agencies and other stakeholder groups. Improving capacities and skills will enable Samoa to further efforts, utilize more strategies and tools and ultimately have an enhanced set of skills from a larger group of practitioners. This Component will help Samoa:

? Strengthen decision-making, improving cost effective management, furthering baseline information on the status and distribution of invasive species, establishing a national IAS information system, developing an invasive species monitoring network, and strengthening risk assessment processes.

? Strengthen capacity to detect, identify and safeguard against high priority established IAS and presumably prioritized high risk IAS that are not yet established through a developed SISERP. To do this effectively requires establishment or strengthening of pre-border, border and post border sanitation,

detection and removal actives for the nation as well as internally to enhance safeguarding of selected internal areas such as islands or areas of high conservation, cultural and/or production value. These activities can be accomplished through those mechanisms addressed earlier such as strengthening national policy and coordination and capacity training but also through improved tools and infrastructure (such as for fumigation and laboratory analysis), strengthened partnering amongst front line agencies and through cross-sectorial stakeholder education and buy-in at all levels, including the development and implementation of national early detection and response capacity through reporting mechanisms and well established, maintained and funded response structure. The outcome of this Component will be achieved through four Outputs:

Output 1.1: Multi-sectoral institutional framework strengthened to implement the National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP).

Under this output, the project will (i) formalize a national lead for IAS prevention and management activities, including the implementation of the NISSAP. This lead, the ISU with council and support from the SNITT, inclusive of strong cross-sectorial representation, will coordinate countrywide safeguarding for risk and impact reduction from IAS. In addition to the tasks of coordination, this body will contribute to the drafting of language to support IAS management and formalization of the SNITT for incorporation into the Environmental Management and Conservation Bill, the passage of which will ensure the long-term safeguarding of Samoa from IAS and specifically work towards the NISSAP goal of reducing the negative impacts of Invasive species on Samoa?s fragile natural heritage, communities and livelihoods. (ii) The ISU will take overall responsibility for provide oversight for implementation of the GEF 7 project. (iii) During the first year of the project the ISU will advise and support the drafting and adoption of standard operating protocols, regulations and guidelines to facilitate cross sectorial mainstreaming of IAS prevention and management policy and plans. As part of this process the existing SNITT will formalize its work to function as an advisory body to the government to support decision-making and efficient deployment of resources.

The project also proposes to (iv) conduct a detailed and in depth capacity needs assessment in regards to IAS safeguarding that will review both national and localized capacities in the demonstration sites (component-2), and which in turn will be used to assist with prioritizing needs and developing and implementing strengthening elements such as capacity development training courses housed within localized entities to ensure these modular courses are available over the long term and utilized both during this project and beyond to engage and strengthen safeguarding capacities throughout Samoa. With this in mind, it is proposed that during year one of the GEF project, key stakeholders conduct a workshop to prioritize training needs identified by the needs assessment and to develop a detailed strategy for addressing these needs. The project recommends that the following provisional concepts be considered to support these efforts, including following a two tiered structure for courses with some courses being community awareness and engagement based (covered in more detail in component-2),

with other courses being more professional learning based hands-on or even classroom structured. Specific needs and how these needs will be addressed will in turn best determine where modular courses fit within these tiers. Expectation is that various professional level capacity training courses may be warranted for agencies staffs and partners at the national level while broader community-based events will be warranted within demonstration sites and elsewhere and implemented within component-2. To ensure that courses developed are capacitated within the country for long term use, it is suggested that professional level training be developed within existing structures such as university or other tertiary training partners within the country, based on specific available resources and capacities, as well as needs. (v) Materials and curriculums for such courses can be developed through a host of options including utilization of existing in-country and regional materials and capacities such as those that may be available through partners such as SPREP for IAS management and SPC for biosecurity related topics but can and should certainly extend beyond these two partners to be inclusive of existing local capacity and other regional support or partnering entities. A train the trainer approach may well be warranted for some professional level topics and should strongly be considered for community based elements where it is anticipated that Samoa?s existing extension services staffs could be capacitated to lead training activities at the community level, ultimately enhancing the capacities of Samoa?s government agencies to conduct safeguarding training for IAS throughout the country and in turn strengthening community as well as Samoa?s overall capacity to reducing impacts and risk from IAS.

Based on an IAS capacity needs assessment, (vi) capacity strengthened in key agencies and organizations for IAS prevention and management through modular safeguards training on IAS and agro-environmental farming developed using existing and new materials as necessary, delivered primarily through learning-by- doing to target sectors comprising Quarantine Services staff (36), Agriculture Extension Officers (40), field- stationed Forest and PA staff (90), Port Authority security workers (15), Customs Officers (20), developed and delivered by MAF, MNRE and their partners.

Output 1.2: Decision making tools aimed at informing cost effective management decisions to address IAS threats to biodiversity in globally significant ecosystems and key sectors developed and utilized.

In order to effectively address on the ground IAS management needs, this output will support (i) a comprehensive baseline assessment of current IAS information management systems to identify gaps and needs to enable informed decision making for the control, management and monitoring of IAS. More importantly, this output will support the (ii) development of a national IAS information system structure by the end of Year 1 that will serve as a single source for IAS information relevant to Samoa (including detailed information on both established pests and pest with high risk of invasive probability). Additionally, this system will (iii) provide detailed baseline information on: (a) species taxonomy and biology, (b) high risk invasive alien species not yet known to be established and their current known locations, (c) high risk pathways and vectors for pest introductions, (d) current pest

impacts on natural resources and other sections, (e) climate scenarios and how these may affect future pest distribution, impacts and ability to address, (f) invasive species prevention including tools for groups and individuals, (g) pest management tools and activities for groups and individuals, and (h) contact information for key resource and support staff.

This information system structure once established will then be populated over the remainder of the project and should be fully operational by the end of the project, inclusive of the establishment of appropriate mechanisms for long-term updating and maintenance of this system beyond the life of the GEF project. Additionally, this information system will be regularly reviewed, and types and levels of information entered modified to best support the needs of end users of the system i.e. the relevant stakeholders within Samoa. The information system once established and populated should permit a detailed understanding of key established pests, projections for new or expanded invasions, improved priority setting for interventions, informed decision-making on sectoral policies and investments, and easy access to information for decision makers and other users.

What is more, this output will support (iv) establishment of an IAS monitoring network to be piloted within relevant sectors. The key role of the project, in this regard will be to catalyze and facilitate the development and institutionalization of this network by the responsible sectors and other authorities; and to ensure mechanisms are developed for collating monitoring results and making them readily accessible to all stakeholders, via the IAS information system and other platforms as needed.

This output also supports (v) strengthening of risk assessment procedures to be inclusive of economic, social, cultural, health, climate adaptation and environmental consequences. To complement the decision-making tools and information resources, the project will also develop and implement sectoral guidance and regulations to strengthen the safeguarding of main pathways and vectors that could be (or are) utilized by IAS to enter vulnerable areas (refer to Output 2.2).

Output 1.3: Strengthened capacity to screen for, identify and control prioritized IAS.

Output 1.3 provides for strengthened capacity in support of IAS prevention and safeguarding of Samoa, its resources, its peoples, its culture and its economy. This will require (i) review of existing measures of monitoring, screening, identification and control of prioritized IAS to identify gaps to better safeguard Samoa from the arrival and establishment of new pests or re-invasion by eradicated organisms. Frontline staff will have necessary tools, skills, and regulatory support to perform needed activities to ensure strengthened safeguarding efforts. This will include (ii) development of the aforementioned risk assessment, inspection services, protocols and quarantine and treatment capacity,

including such tools such as x-ray machines and fumigation equipment and protocols (the acquisition of tools and infrastructure could be undertaken in a staggered manner depending on the availability of financial resources and in concert with comprehensive planning). This output will also (iii) focus on training of relevant staff of front-line agencies for identification, screening, enforcement and response, in particular for biosecurity and IAS management and linked to training and capacity building at local levels throughout the country with initial focus on the demonstration sites as indicated in Component 2. Staff will have ready access to the IAS information system to better support their inspections, risk assessments and other actions.

Further a (iv) public interface will be developed as part of this output, utilizing the information from the IAS information system. The form of this interface will be determined in year one of the project and may include one or more of the following or other creative avenues as best determined by stakeholders in Samoa: mobile application, website, walk in reporting/information office and/or reporting/information hotlines. The specific nature of how this system will function and what its specific roles will include will also be determined through consensus building during year one of the project. Once the mechanisms for public interface has been determined and its specific utility determined, then in year two of the project the interface should be developed so that by year three it can be trialed and revised as needed with the intent of being fully functional by year four of the project.

This interface minimally will serve to enable members of the public, visitors, and key stakeholders to have ready access to relevant information to better inform themselves regarding pest organisms, their impacts and actions that can be undertaken to reduce both risks and impacts from IAS. What is more, if deemed appropriate, this system could also serve as a reporting system for Samoa for encounters with novel species. By novel species, it is inferred that these would be unfamiliar organisms that to the observer appear to be new or novel to an area and therefore should be reported to authorities as they might be harmful pest that have newly arrived and should be acted on.

In the overall picture of IAS there are three sub-components that can be considered: prevention, EDRR and management.

Output 1.4: Sustainable Financing Strategy for safeguarding biodiversity, including natural ecosystems and production systems, from IAS and climate-induced impacts scoped, developed and implemented.

Little information is available on the economic losses caused by IAS in Samoa but impacts of non-native pests and diseases on biodiversity, agriculture, forestry and marine/aquaculture production and

supply chains are known to be significant. As an example, Samoa underwent enormous impacts to food security and its agricultural systems with the establishment of the taro leaf-blight. The results of cost/benefit studies of priority IAS regarding their impacts versus interventions to reduce such impacts should be undertaken and if so, will support enhanced investment in IAS prevention and management. A good primary resource on financing in regard to IAS is the SPREP manager?s guide for IAS economic analysis that can be accessed at: **https://library.sprep.org/content/use-economic-analysis-battle-invasive-species.**

Key to financial sustainability of effective safeguarding against IAS in Samoa will be the development of a national green/environmental fund to support management and risk reduction. The input components of this fund need to be explored and will likely be unique to Samoa and may well depend at least in part on various elements such as users fees aligned to travel and trade, budgetary coordination between sectors, and investments. The makeup and structure of the IAS safeguarding financial system will be informed by an analysis of what it costs to operate safeguarding services deemed essential for the protection of the country and selected sub-components such as PAs and/or high production areas for agricultural, forestry and fisheries.

This ouput will (i) entail determining which sectors need to be considered in terms of being relevant for safeguarding biodiversity, although a comprehensive safeguarding of all elements will likely be the most cost effective, efficient and protective for Samoa including its biodiversity, but also its economy, its peoples (including health of which the current global pandemic is an great example and for which Samoa has undertaken well thought out biosecurity), it culture and way of life. On the basis of the above, this output (ii) will determine what actions the country would like to prioritize and fund in the short term and what additional actions will be the next focus (this exist in part in the NISSAP but perhaps needs to be more specifically detailed and enlarged on, to ensure that financial consideration are at the appropriate levels for all sectors which would be part of this process). Part of prioritization could include: (a) effectiveness of proposed actions (long and short term); (b) cost of proposed actions; and (c) anticipated cost if actions are not undertaken. Following the above (iii) the economic analysis will enable Samoa to determine a range of costs to implement priority actions. This should also include sub-sections for additional costs to address longer-range items and also what funding levels should be on hand for emerging/emergency issues such as implementing the ERP if an IAS incursion were to occur and be detected and reported. What level of funding is needed to implement specific activities that the country does and/or would like to effectively implement, some examples of potential specific activities follows: (a) Visual biosecurity inspections for visitors to protected areas; (b) Port of entry biosecurity inspection x-ray machines, their upkeep and training for staff to utilize and (c) Tools, staff time and other resources needed to control an individual species or suite of species such as weedy vines within a particular PA or agricultural area. The overall outcome would be to (vi) identify potential best financial options for Samoa from an available suite of mechanisms that are being practiced in the Pacific region, including those identified through UNDP BIOFIN (particularly for Fiji) that might be relevant to Samoa as long-term financial mechanism(s) which can be applied to engage funding to support these actions. Some examples of potential funding mechanisms that could be considered in the

feasibility assessment are: budgetary coordination between in-country sectors, green fee, investment, carbon banking/tax, user fees, visitor fees, Container fees, import fees, fines, etc. Reaching agreement on a long-term strategy for cost-recovery and income generation to support safeguarding in regard to IAS, ensure the strategy is endorsed by the government and the implementation of the sustainable financing strategy.

Component 2: Demonstrating integrated management of catchments from ridge to reef to safeguard indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices.

Total Cost: US$12,965,000; GEF project grant requested: US$1,968,000; Co-financing: US$10,997,000

Outcome 2: Sustainable management of catchments as holistic, integrated entities established and demonstrated in respect to safeguarding indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices

This component will demonstrate on-the-ground investment and trialling of IAS prevention and management approaches across nine water catchments within the country. These nine catchments are the project demonstration sites. A focus on the catchment level will, on the one hand, enable a paradigm shift from the present community integrated planning and management that is bounded by existing district boundaries to a more holistic catchment perspective that is aligned with the ridge to reef ecological continuum that better aligns with both natural and production systems. This shift entails a strategic approach that is embraced in a vision of the catchments? values and ecosystem services (including production systems) shared by its stakeholders (strongly inclusive of local communities). Aligned within this strategic framework are the Community Integrated Management Plans (CIMPs), which reflect the aspirations of the communities and their respective districts. Significant experience has been gained in sustainable management at land/seascape scales and from ridge to reef, as for example with the ongoing Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Strengthening Multi-sectoral management of critical landscapes (SMSMCL) project. Moreover, the CIMP initiative**[1]** that has engaged with all 41 of Samoa?s districts and the communities throughout the entire country represents a wealth of knowledge and experience gained and lessons learned. These strengths, coupled with strong community engagement and support, provide a robust platform from which to launch this catchment-oriented enhancement building on what Samoa has achieved to date. Given, the integrated nature of the project, efforts will also focus on improving IAS prevention and management in natural systems (that can be very vulnerable to invasions by pest organisms), mainly in protected areas and KBAs that abut the anthropogenic production areas (within the demonstration catchments) to ensure that risks and

further impacts are minimized. To achieve this strengthening, requires a strong correlation and coordination between activities within the community areas surroundings the PAs, including programs for biosecurity to reduce the use of known IAS (coupled with the use of native species when practical) by farmers, aquaculturists, mariculturalists, foresters, nurseries and other production systems, organize and the delivery of awareness programs for potential visitors to PAs to raise awareness of IAS threats, to explain biosecurity protocols and restrictions and share information on effective IAS management practices. Complementing these demonstration actions on-the-ground would be the implementation of a robust IAS awareness, prevention, and management training program, coupled with ?Green Livelihoods? training that builds capacity within communities, PAs and production systems as well as engaging local administration staff to safeguard resources from IAS. These efforts should be resources partly through GEF financing, but more importantly through existing resources available through the sector and local administrative budgets for implementation of CIMPs, District Development Plans (DDPs) and Village Development Plans (VDPs). This Component will be implemented through four inter-related Outputs that are described below.

Output 2.1 Identification and prioritization of Invasive Alien Species in community production areas

The CIMPs that currently exist for all 41 districts and communities through the entire country provide an ideal platform for addressing the prevention and management of IAS, given that these were developed through an integrated and participatory approach. The preparation of the CIMPs were undertaken through a whole of government approach that ensured coordination across the different sectoral agencies, was inclusive of community ownership and responsibility and provided mechanisms for financial resource mobilization. The CIMPs were originally focused on finding solutions to reduce climate risks, particularly on coastal communities, but more recently there has also been some focus on measures to improve livelihoods and food security. It included specific proposals regarding managing the impacts of IAS through education and awareness, replanting with climate resilient native species, implementing sustainable land management practices, strengthening governance of natural resources, promoting of agro-forestry, etc. However, there have been challenges with the incorporation of IAS related management activities, particularly regarding a more holistic and integrated manner due to limited technical and institutional capacity, little to any attempts at IAS prevention, limited knowledge and tools to identify and manage priority IAS, and limited coordination and resources. To help integrate IAS prevention and management at the catchment or local level, the project will (i) initially support the identification and community prioritization of IAS within the nine demonstration catchments that in turn will assist with prevention and management actions so as to improve biodiversity conservation, ecosystem resilience and food security. These efforts will focus on demonstration of IAS prevention and management actions in selected locations within the nine catchments, including application of best agricultural practices and other compatible land use practices by local communities, such activities as organic farming, fertilizer management practices, weed control, improved/reduced use of pesticides, integrated pest management, improved sanitation to reduce the potential for accidental movement of pest species, etc. (ii) Based on the above assessments identify key IAS in each CIMP area within the demonstration catchments (this can be either done at the

district or CIMPs level depending on the level of effort determined most appropriate). The species identified would be based on the priorities of the community, in particular those species that directly impact their food security (e.g., on productive systems related to agriculture, fisheries, waterways, etc.), would likely be the most important to them. However, in terms of management interventions, further prioritization would need to be also based on additional considerations, such as management feasibility (availability of existing management tools and management capacity), technical feasibility (low costs, availability of financing), social and environmental risks, etc. The prioritization of species would need extensive consultations in each CIMP area to listen to, and receive input from local communities on what they consider priority pest organisms and then build on additional consultations with national level experts to develop a priority IAS list for each CIMP in the demonstration catchments. It is worth pointing out, that the means of prioritizing pests may vary between CIMPs, and should be dependent on the community members interests which should align with what are the specific problematic pests in each area which are addressable (for example, some communities may want to focus on agricultural pests, while others may focus on marine or forest pests and still others may want to focus on animal and/or human health, culturally relevant elements, water quality, reef siltation or other elements). And while a holistic approach within each demonstration area is appropriate, each area will need to consider which pests are impactful, and which can likely be addressed given current information, tools and available resources; (iii) the identified priority species for each demonstration area would require further information on the pathways for movement (dispersal agents and accelerating factors) and spread of these pests to help later determine prevention and management options. In this regard it is also important to take into consideration the measures that can assist with preventing the spread of IAS into PAs, KBAs, MPAs, Fish Reserves, etc., that may be located adjacent and/or downstream from the CIMP areas; and (iv) determination and prioritizion of prevention and management actions that can be undertaken at the local level with support from the national level to minimize and reduce risk of spread and on-going impacts from these same organisms. It is important to note here that prevention and management actions that are applied to specific pest organisms may actually work for a broader array of pests and therefore actions undertaken for a specific pest may in fact reduce risk and impacts from numerous pests. As an example, actions may be undertaken in a specific demonstration area to address a particular ant species or reduce the potential for that species to arrive and establish and these efforts if effective would likely be effective for a variety of ant species as well as some other arthropods.

Output 2.2 Community Integrated Management Plans interventions assessed, and safeguards prioritized and implemented to enhance management of IAS risks in community areas.

This Output intends to demonstrate the sustainable management of catchments by community members in a holistic and integrated manner across the full spectrum of stakeholders, while focusing specifically on safeguarding the natural functioning of ecosystems within catchments and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices that exacerbate the threats and impacts. The outcome of Component 2 is sustainable management of catchments as holistic, integrated entities established and demonstrated in respect of safeguarding indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices. This Output utilizes the inputs generated in

output 1.2 and the IAS prioritization (Output 2.1) as a basis for prioritizing safeguard inputs to catchment management and further developing and implementing priority IAS action plans for each selected catchment via the CIMPs[2]. This will specifically entail partnering with extension staff of key sector agencies (agriculture, fisheries, livestock, women?s development and environment and natural resources) to support sustainable agricultural activities, sustainable land and sustainable forest management, integrated/mixed farming systems, soil and water conservation (including management of riparian belts) and waste management linked specifically to actions that can reduce proliferation and spread of IAS and where feasible their management. Regarding agricultural activities, it is important to further strengthen MAF?s efforts at working directly with local communities to adopt strengthened agricultural practices such as organic farming, including use of organic rather than chemical fertilizers and biological controls (the latter under specific conditions to avoid their won serious risks) rather than herbicides and pesticides, all of which is complementary to the safeguarding natural ecosystems and supporting fisheries, reef and marine biodiversity conservation efforts. The improved management and safeguard measures in the catchments are likely to benefit 5,292 hectares of coastal and marine KBAs, including, in particular Vautupua, Vaisigano and Apolima. This output will also incorporate a variety of programs to help reduce the contribution of the productive sector activities to the entry and spread of IAS into the neighboring PAs and HCVFs. Given the community-based nature of many of the potential interventions under this output, a low value grant programme will be established under this output to which community members/groups may apply.

Specifically this will entail: (i) **Review of CIMPs, DDPs and VDPs within the project catchments to assess gaps/overlaps** in sustainable agricultural, SLM, SFM and land and water conservation activities that can support IAS prevention and/or management; (ii**) development of IAS plans or annexes (building on existing IAS activities) that provide a comprehensive menu of community level best practices interventions** for preventing and managing IAS in community areas for integration into the individual CIMPs. While, some CIMPs already have IAS programs (although very limited in scope and with limited funding) and focused on specific IAS, the IAS management plans to be developed under the project will be integrated into the existing CIMPs in such a way as to incorporate planning and priority setting within a more systemic approach to IAS prevention and management. These IAS plans should be comprehensive and not just limited to what this specific GEF project can support. The intent being that these plans should reflect a longer-term perspective for the prevention and management of IAS that may well require longer term financing through regular government budgetary support, as well as future donor and/or NGO financing. Among the factors that shall be taken into account for determining best approaches at each catchment will be the issues of cost effectiveness of any actions taken, whether any proposed control and management efforts can be achieved and sustained, the utility of proposed management actions and ability to implement any proposed prevention actions. What is more, for considered management interventions, the following concerns should be taken into account, (a) eradication (although limited in scope) is only an option in situations where it is the most technically feasible and cost effective option to sustainably protect the island biodiversity from IAS threats and only where it can be effectively maintained (i.e. all eradication efforts must be inclusive of robust biosecurity to prevent re-invasion); (b) biological controls must be fully vetted and determination made that they will not impact non-target organisms; (c) high priority

should be given towards preventing non-established high impact IAS from establishing in areas of high conservation or production value; (d) use best practices based on tested methods for managing invasive species; and (e) assessment and management of environmental and social safeguard risks. While the project will support mainstreaming IAS prevention and management into the CIMPs, these plans will require regular updating beyond the life of the GEF project.

Specific focus will be on (iii) **Conservation of two critical catchments (Tafitoala on Upolo and Faleata on Savaii) that provide vital water supplies to villages, as a model for demonstration of catchment conservation practices**. Restoring these two catchments will meet a project goal to ?restore habitat in high biodiversity value forests and watersheds outside PAs, affected by IAS through IAS removal, planting of native species and the use of analogue species?. The restoration of these two catchments will demonstrate forest restoration approaches to local communities that can be applied elsewhere on village lands and will improve biodiversity, environmental and social values in village forests as well as resilience to further threats such as from climate change. The project will support the trialling of restoration of habitats in high biodiversity value forests and watersheds outside PAs, affected by IAS through IAS removal, planting of native species and the use of analogue species as a demonstration in 20 hectares to provide learning for replication. A critical aspect of this output will be (iv) **development and management of a low value grant (LVG) program as a means of financing the community level interventions** to ensure community buy-in, ownership and sustainability, either using an existing financial mechanism or a new mechanism. These grants should be able to support community programs in best agricultural practices, sustainable land and forest management, soil and water conservation, integrated pest management, riparian, mangrove and wetland conservation, community fish and forest reserves, management of social and environmental risks, etc., as well as training for all of these items. The support for community actions will require (v) provision of technical support and extension and field-based training to support community implementation of envisaged management practices and (vi) **development and implementation of a simple monitoring framework to measure the effectiveness of IAS prevention and management** investments in community areas to be implemented by local communities that extension staff can check on a regular basis.

Output 2.3: Biological conservation and ecological restoration of terrestrial and marine protected areas, community conservation areas and community fish reserves.

Under Output 2.3, activities will be undertaken to ensure that IAS considerations are systematically incorporated into the management of selected PAs, Community Conservation Areas (CCAs) and Community Fish Reserves (CFRs) into adjacent areas that function as buffer zones and locations with PA expansion potential, and into the selected catchments as a whole to ensure that the land is effectively managed for biodiversity, soil and water conservation whilst ensuring IAS risks and impacts are minimized to the extent possible. The focus of the project under this output will be to strengthen IAS prevention and management to reduce the likelihood of introductions from community managed productive sectors (agriculture, forestry, crop plantations, plant nurseries, fisheries, etc.) activities in the catchments surrounding the selected PAs. This will require identifying invasive species and associated pathways at, or adjacent to PA sites to provide baseline information that can support

determination of appropriate prevention and risk reduction strategies. In this regard working with communities to address IAS associated with their ongoing activities that may increase impacts on biodiversity (Output 2.2) is to an extent complementing efforts to conserving and protecting biodiversity in PAs from IAS invasion and subsequent negative impacts. This will require that PA staff are trained to be able to address IAS prevention and management concerns. This effort will focus on ensuring that IAS management and control is integrated into PA management planning, training of PA staff on prevention and management techniques (especially for priority species), measures for improve vigilance against spread from surrounding areas (e.g., through good sanitation measures) and some demonstration activities to build capacity to prevent future incursions and to manage established IAS. In terms of the community fisheries reserves, this might entail working with local communities to ensure improved management of the reserves to maintain healthy ecosystems, ensure appropriate sanitary measures and support for some demonstration activities for control and management of key IAS (e.g., crown of thorns). The following are indicate activities under this output: (i) **review of assessment completed under previous projects (SMSMCL and ICRRIFS) to validate key IAS species within the 3 PAs** (Asau-Falelima National Park, Mauga Salafai National Park and Lanoto?o National Park) and marine protected areas (Safata MPA and a conglomerate of community fish reserves) and community conservation areas (CCAs) including assessment of high risk species and pathways, extent of spread and modes of transmittal into the PAs and fish reserves, including identification of potential for new IAS, which are likely to invade if precautions are not taken in a timely manner; (ii) **identify a few priority IAS for management**. Selection of priority IAS would be based on level of impacts or potential impacts, availability of effective tools, availability of resources, potential for long term success with whatever action is considered (prevention, management or eradication) and the social and environmental risks posed by such species. These might include surveillance, restrictions and sanitary measures to prevent entry of IAS into the PAs, to control, contain and manage (including eradication where feasible with restoration of invested areas and where reinvasion can be prevented). These measures would feed into the respective PA and community reserves management planning processes; (iii) **Support a few targeted and coordinated demonstration actions for IAS prevention and management in the PAs.** Community conservation areas would be supported through identification of invasive species threats and development of a participatory plan to manage invasive species, including identification of areas that need to recover because of degradation from cyclones and/or invasion by invasive weeds that spread following cyclone damage or fire. In terms of PAs, the project will support on-going control and management for priority IAS of selected PA (particularly for species that are a threat to native organisms, and which can effectively be addressed in a cost effective and long-term manner with well-established and proven techniques. In terms of community fish reserves, the project will support the maintenance of existing traditional practices by strengthening community capacity to better understand the linkages between their practices of management and the health and productivity of these reserves and means to monitor such aspects. In particular, this will entail support and strengthening traditional community collective decision making relating to sustainable harvest limits and harvest techniques, protection of key species and their breeding and nursery grounds and temporary establishment of tabu areas to enhance the productivity of these reserves. The project will support their efforts to remove Crown of Thorns (CoT) and other IAS species, sanitary precautions to prevent invasive species (e.g., sanitation of boats, gear, etc.) and measures to prevent illegal harvest by outsiders. The maintenance of a healthy ecosystem can be a deterrent to the spread of IAS. Additionally, this output will support (iv) **MAF and MNRE staff**

with guidance from the ISU and SNITT will organize workshops and training of local communities in order to establish surveillance and reporting to enable early detection and reporting of spread of existing and new IAS in the surroundings of the PAs and (v) **implementation of a simple monitoring framework to measure the effectiveness of IAS control and management investments** to be undertaken by PA staff and communities (for the fish reserves).

Output 2.4. Improving capacity of communities for management of IAS.

Building on the development of the national capacity building training program in Output 1.3, this Output will support education and training to generate understanding and support for IAS management interventions in the nine catchments for communities and landowners, fishers and PA and sector staff and local administration. The training course and training materials should be developed in collaboration with partners in Samoa that conduct invasive species management including MNRE and MAF with the support of SPREP and local NGO partners as well as other members of the SNITT. Once developed the training course should be translated into Samoan and delivered in a ?train the trainers? format, where a group of trainers from various partner agencies are taught how to deliver the course to communities. The course can then be adapted and delivered to each local community based on the invasive species that are considered the main threats and coordinated with activities under outputs 2.1 and 2.3 such as critical catchment and CCA restoration. The training will be focused on building local strengths, leadership and ownership within existing systems and structures that operate at the village level. Be inclusive, promote relationships between government entities and communities, promote mutual trust and accountability, promote a programmatic and holistic approach to IAS management (rather than isolated activities) and be embedded in the community development planning process, promote women?s voice and participation and work towards delivery of visible impacts. The following are indicative activities under this output: (i) Based on the capacity needs assessment and training programs defined in Output 1.3 design a focused training to communities to help communities (a) understand what invasive alien species and how to identify them; (b) recognize possible factors that enable the rapid spread (seeds, vegetative parts, livestock and birds, recreational activities, human movement; (c) understanding the negative impacts of invasive species on their environment (loss of native vegetation, replace useful species, reduce growth of grass for grazing, etc.), livelihood and social aspects and economy (cost of removal labor intensive and expensive, reduces productivity of farm lands, wetlands and coral reefs) and health (threaten health of humans and animals; and (d) taking action against invasive species, such as raising awareness about IAS is important for its management, removal of invasive species when they are first seen and before flowering, replacing with native species after removal of invasive species, other appropriate sanitary measures, etc. Thereafter the (ii) design and preparation of training curriculum, tools and materials for conduct of these training courses (using already available materials from the country or region) complemented by additional materials that might be catchment specific. (iii) Undertaking extensive training programs for community members, landowners and other stakeholders (including district administrative staff on targeted subjects defined in Activity 2.4.1. The training will be multi-disciplinary involving extension staff of the different

sectors covering IAS aspects related to agriculture, animal husbandry, forests, wetlands, marine areas, etc., and (iv) evaluation of the effectiveness of the training programs, its review and upgrade.

Component 3: Gender mainstreaming and knowledge management

Total Cost: US$1,229,900; GEF project grant requested: US$277,320; Co-financing: US$952,580

Outcome 3: Gender mainstreaming, knowledge management and monitoring and evaluation provide lessons and experiences for enhancing solutions for IAS prevention, control and management in Samoa

Component 3 will focus on supporting the development and implementation of a gender strategy and action plan to ensure that women and youth are empowered to become active agents, participants and beneficiaries of the project interventions. Another key aspect of this component is that it will put in place a system for collecting, packaging and sharing information and knowledge about the practices promoted by the project, the processes involved in these, and the short and medium-term results from implementation of the project activities. This knowledge and information will be shared with district and community level authorities to further guide future programming around similar issues and widely disseminated to the rest of the district and catchment. By the end of the project, it is expected that local land users and other key decision-making stakeholders within in the target catchments, will be better skilled and more knowledgeable on practical solutions to monitor and address impacts of IAS and unsustainable land use practices on biodiversity and food and water security challenges they are faced with, and how to tackle them at farm and landscape levels. The project will increase public understanding, particularly in nine catchments on how ecosystems are linked and how actions on land and sea impact people and places. This knowledge, combined with integrated CIMPs, should reduce negative impacts on biodiversity and increase the number of sustainable natural resource management (agriculture, fisheries, livelihood, etc.) activities in Samoa.

Output 3.1. Gender mainstreaming plan implemented, and its results monitored and reported.

The intent of the Gender Analysis and Mainstreaming Action Plan (Annex 9 of UNDP Project Document) is to enhance the role of women in decision-making, benefit sharing and involvement in management responses to safeguard against IAS and enhance conservation of native species and food security. It will also provide a voice for women in the local CIMP decision-making process related to

identifying appropriate solutions for IAS control and management, conservation and sustainable land and resource use. The indicative activities for the output include: (i) Implementation of a gender assessment and mainstreaming action plan so that: (a) a gender and socially inclusive perspective is applied to every set of activities; (b) awareness on gender and social roles in IAS control and management informs resulting policies, legislation and practices and ensures equitable distribution of project benefits; and (c) information is collected and shared across gender and social divides; (ii) Training of staff on application of gender mainstreaming in project communication and project activities and the conduct of awareness and outreach activities will enhance the role of women in local decision-making processes, particularly in relation to control and management of IAS and appropriate land and resource management activities; and (iii) Participation in workshops and meetings (via events organized by the national and provincial networks) to establish and facilitate access to information of IAS, its threats and its management and control by men and women, vulnerable and poor communities.

Output 3.2. A national IAS awareness and engagement strategy and action plan is developed and implemented, with steps to ensure that international good practice related to IAS and R2R is embedded in policy and practice.

The complementary Awareness and Engagement Strategy and Action Plan (AESAP) will be developed to create bridges between the stakeholders at national, district and local levels, and to create a bridge to future projects. The AESAP will be aimed at making gender/social equity and ?Ridge to Reef? concepts a national priority through a targeted program of outreach and awareness raising, consultations. The project will also support a broader IAS and biosecurity public awareness campaign and will support increased capacity building and efficiency within the government. This Output will support the following indicative activities: (i) Undertaking a Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) survey at the beginning of the project to assess the extent to which communities and other stakeholders have an awareness of IAS issues, its threats to biodiversity and food security and management measures that can be used to reduce such threats; (ii) and implementation of an AESAP, so that the project is well understood, accepted, and implemented effectively and equitably, promotes the active engagement and participation of local communities, knowledge and lessons are captured and used to improve current and future project practices; understanding and implementation of best practices is improved; and the public has an increased understanding of IAS and biosecurity; (ii) National awareness campaigns developed and implemented at national and district levels, focusing to a large extent to inform policy makers, public and private sector entities, and local communities, particularly on IAS and biosecurity. This will entail preparation and dissemination of communication and awareness materials and (iii) Use of public engagement pages on national and sub-national websites and social media platforms that link to information about the project and its products to increase awareness about IAS.

Output 3.3. Experiences, best practices, and lessons learned about integrated IAS and environmental management of the target catchments (e.g., tools, manuals to complement training courses and guidelines) are systematized and made available for use in other catchment areas in the country and shared regionally and internationally for replication

The promotion and replication of IAS control and management through an integrated catchment-based Ridge to Reef approach will require the establishment of a range of knowledge management tools to enhance its learning and application within the country, as means to promote the wise and sustainable use of natural resources for agriculture, fisheries and other production systems for the long-term benefit of the country and the local communities. This output will support the preparation of knowledge exchange events and materials, including documentation of IAS-related procedures and practices and measures to screen for, identify and control prioritized species from entering the country and spreading from island to island. It would also strengthen the country?s capacity to report on the overall achievement of the project?s objective to increase Samoa?s resilience to IAS and ensure the safeguard of its native species. This Output will entail: (i) Documentation and dissemination of knowledge management products to increase awareness and capacity related to control and management of IAS in the country, including screening and control of IAs into the country and integration of IAS management into activities in key natural resources sectors, including development of guiding documents, tools and manuals of best practices related to IAS control and management in production and protection areas; menu of SLM and SFM compatible farming practices to manage IAS;) tools and procedures for screening and control of entry of IAS through ports; and lessons from trialing of procedures for EDRR; etc.; (ii) Technical reports, publications and other knowledge management products (including in local languages and accessible to local communities); (iii) Sub-national workshops/meetings to facilitate dissemination of information of best IAS control and management practices; (iv) support the update of NISSAP so that it comprehensive and serves as a ?road map? for all sectors throughout the country and the SISERP is annually updated with key contacts, simulation trials are run every 2-3 years to ensure functionality, setting up a reporting system, ensuring chain of command is in place and funded; the need for financial sustainability of biosecurity is recognized as a priority and a variety of mechanisms of which cost recovery is likely a significant part are under active consideration and replication of IAS management plans through the CIMP process under progress for all districts in the country; (iv) Policy notes based on project tested approaches that could facilitate future replication and (v) End of project national seminar on outcomes of the project and options for the future.

Output 3.4. Monitoring and evaluation

A project-based M&E system will be implemented to support project impact and evaluation that will include: (i) Development and implementation of monitoring framework, based on the Results Framework Agreement to validate baselines and monitor progress in achieving project outcomes and impacts; (ii) **Review and regular update of M&E plan**, including results framework baselines, tracking tools, Theory of Change to subsequently adopt these findings to implement all aspects of the

project and undertake a climate projection assessment in relation to IAS and biodiversity; and (iii) **mid-term and terminal evaluation** in line with UNDP/GEF requirements and incorporate and adapt recommendations of MTR to revised project plans and monitor their implementation.

Partnership Arrangements:

The success of a project of this nature hinges on dynamic, strategic and multi-sector partnerships across a number of government ministries, agencies, NGOs and local communities. Hence, at the core of the project?s strategy is to identify and engage all relevant actors who will play key roles of providing technical support and extension, undertake management interventions and ensure that adequate safeguards are in place to reduce the risk of the entry, establishment and spread of an additional IAS. The project will employ an approach of constant engagement and information sharing among the various partners, in particular local communities through the ISU. Government agencies at the national local levels (e.g. MNRE, MAF, MWCSD, MWTI, MCR and MPMC) are critical to the development and implementation of the practices for prevention, control and management of IAS. At the local level, district administrators, communities and forest, fisheries and agriculture staff are important to facilitate the infusion of IAS control and management considerations in the local sustainable development planning process. The work of academia is essential for research, technical advice and innovation. Private sector is critical as possible beneficiaries of IAS actions and can play salient roles in the success of the project. With its global knowledge networks and expertise, the technical guidance and advice from the wider UNDP (including UNDP Regional Center) will be essential. Regional and national institutions and experts will also be called upon when necessary to provide capacity strengthening and technical advice.

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In addition, the project will ensure close linkages with existing and past national and regional projects to build on experiences, learning and best practices and seek efforts for sharing of knowledge management products and expertise. These are reflected in the Table 3 below:

Table 3: Partnerships and Complementarity with Other Initiatives

Projects	**Complementarities with the new proposed project**

Samoa Agriculture and Fisheries Productivity and marketing Project (US$30.28m ? IDA, IFAD, GoS)	Support increasing agricultural production and incomes of 25,000 smallholder farmers and fishers against natural disasters. This is complementary to the GEF projects in that it can support climate smart crops and integrate production into commercial value chains that would benefit from IAS control and management. The project is managed by MAF, a key partner in the GEF 7 project.
Strengthening Multi Sectoral Management of Critical Landscapes in Samoa (SMSMCL)	The project is relevant as it aims at sustainable management of landscapes to mitigate land degradation that would benefit farmers and communities dependent on agriculture, fisheries and livestock production systems.
UNDP-GEF Integration of Climate Change Risks and Resilience into Forestry Management in Samoa (ICCRIFS)	The project is relevant as it is working towards increasing the resilience and adaptive capacity of forests and the communities that depend on them for their livelihoods. The project is managed by MNRE
UNDP-GCF Integrated Flood management to enhance climate resilience in the Vaisigano River catchment	The project is aimed at strengthening adaptive capacity and reducing exposure to climate risks faced by vulnerable communities, improving the information base and reducing flood-related risks by employing an integrated approach.
BIOPAMA project - $118,000 (2021-2022)	Enhanced management and governance of priority protected areas, support for local communities to enhance livelihood and contribute to PA management and enable assessment of selected PAs. This is relevant to the GEF 7 project in that it will also seek at improving PA management effectiveness in particular in relation to management of IAS

USAID?s Pacific Climate Ready project	This is a multi-faceted approach to support governments of 12 partner PICs. Through the USAID Climate Ready project, it works to support partner governments and stakeholders to: draft and implement policies to achieve national adaptation goals; access and manage international sources of financing for resilience projects; and, improve capacity and systems to better manage and monitor resilience projects. It supports governments and institutions to develop and implement environmental and disaster mitigation policies and strategies. The GEF project will benefit from support to help: (i) incorporate climate change adaptation goals and measures into national policy; (ii) improving access to international, multilateral climate change funds; and (iii) building professional capacity and management system to manage, monitor and report on adaptation aspects
Regional Initiatives	
Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS) - SPREP	PRISMSS is a coordination mechanism designed to facilitate the scaling up of operational management of IAS in the Pacific. The GEF project will seek advice of experts through PRISMSS to provide technical guidance and training support to strengthen national capacities to reduce impact on IAS and measures for protection of native biodiversity and ecosystem services
Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN)	PILN is a peer network of cross-sectoral invasive species practitioners in the Pacific with the aim to build cooperation between Pacific countries and territories on invasive species issues to empower effective invasive species management through a participant-driven network that meets priority needs, rapidly shares skills and resources, provides links to technical expertise, increases information exchange, and accelerates on-the-ground action" The project will coordinate and share lessons with PILN Teams of Pacific-island agencies responsible for invasive management, including agencies responsible for agriculture and natural resource management, international trade and border control, as well as environment and conservation.
Pacific Invasive Partnership (PIP)	PIP is the Invasive Species Working Group of the Roundtable for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Islands that serves as an umbrella regional coordinating body for agencies working on invasive species (pests, weeds, and diseases introduced from other places) in more than one country of the Pacific. The project will work closely with PIPs to share expertise on IAS prevention and management, biosecurity and related aspects

Pacific Small Island Development States (PSIDS)	PSIDS is a partnership with 14 Pacific Island countries, including Samoa for purpose of development renewable energy sources and adopting measures for adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change with funding from four donor sources (Italy, Austria, Luxemburg and Spain). As path of the SAMOA pathway, the Italy-PSIDES partnership has been extended until 2023 with an additional amount of USD15 million with particular reference to: (i) developing conservation measures for coastal and marine areas affected by the negative impacts of climate change, especially areas with significant biodiversity and for providing ecosystem services; (ii) developing protected areas; (iii) developing programs and projects to enhance ecosystem resilience and increase contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks through conservation and restoration measures and (iv) development measures to minimize and redress the impacts of ocean acidification. The GEF project can benefit from learning and experiences for improved management of marine and coastal areas, increase community resilience and restoration efforts
Pacific Community (SPC)	The GEF project will avail of the scientific and technical expertise available with SPC, in particular because of the multi-disciplinary approach in addressing complex regional challenges including climate change, disasters, gender equality, youth employment, food and water security, and biosecurity for trade.
Island Conservation	IC works closely with local communities, government institutions and conservation organizations in the Pacific islands and elsewhere for prevention of the extinction of threatened species through expertise in removal of invasive species and conduct of research to improve understanding on methods for removal of IAS to inform future conservation actions. The project will draw on experiences from IC in its plans to demonstrate IAS removal from natural areas.
BirdLife International	BirdLife International manages a database of bird species and locations critical for species conservation that will serve as a valuable tool for planning priority conservation actions in Samoa in terms of IAS prevention, management and eradication.

7) *alignment with GEF focal area and/or impact program strategies*

The project?s multi-sectoral, catchment approach to safeguarding biodiversity and food production systems from invasive species, and unsustainable land use practices aligns well with the goal of the GEF-7 Biodiversity Focal Area strategy: *to maintain globally significant biodiversity in landscapes and seascapes*; particularly to its objective 2: *Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species*. More specifically, the project will contribute to two programs within the Biodiversity focal area, namely: BD 1-1 ***Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors.*** In accordance with this program, they will provide an opportunity to demonstrate how catchments can be sustainably managed in a holistic and integrated manner across the full spectrum of stakeholders (i.e., agriculture, fisheries and tourism), while focusing specifically on safeguarding the natural functioning of terrestrial, aquatic and marine systems as well as food production systems. In terms of BD 2-6 ***Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species through the prevention, control and management of Invasive Alien Species.*** In respect to this program, the project will ensure that Quarantine Services will be properly equipped, and their technical

capacity enhanced to reduce the risks of IAS being introduced to Samoa; alongside accredited training and guidance provided to community members to empower them in safeguarding their productive and natural systems from IAS. Safeguard measures will be demonstrated in nine target catchments to protect and rehabilitate biodiversity and food production systems from IAS, as well as from unsustainable land use practices. Successful IAS control measures will also be extended to other priority sites.

In respect to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the project is particularly well aligned with Sustainable Development Goals 2, 14 and 15, while also contributing to Goal 5 by default of mainstreaming gender equality across its interventions:

? **Goal 2:** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture;

? **Goal 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls;

? **Goal 14**: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;

? **Goal 15:** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

8) ***incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing***

This GEF investment is very timely with respect to Samoa?s present state of development. As documented in Section 6 (Coordination), in 2016-2018, World Bank and AF-UNDP supported the review, updating and transformation of Coastal Infrastructure Management Plans for each of the country?s 41 districts into Community Integrated Management (CIM) Plans. These updated CIM Plans tick many boxes, such as community ownership of their own development planning, resilience, response to climate change (adaptation and mitigation) and to extreme weather events, and they include vulnerable ecosystems. Government is specifically interested in support from GEF-7 to help implement these CIM Plans, providing the GEF with a timely opportunity to invest in mainstreaming biodiversity considerations (including ecosystems) into the CIM Plans initiative to safeguard the functioning of ecosystems and, as appropriate, restore their ecological integrity and connectivity from ridge to reef.

The GEF investment will maximize this opportunity by introducing a catchment approach that will mainstream biodiversity considerations in the overall vision for CIM Plan implementation. It will also remove systemic and institutional barriers to mainstreaming IAS prevention, control and management at the national, and local levels, backed by incentives for community-based natural resource management to make sustainable land and forest management compatible with effective biodiversity and ecosystem management. The support of the operationalization of the NISSAP and in general terms,

the integration of IAS considerations into key sectors (i.e., agriculture, fisheries and tourism) will help to improve the management effectiveness of PAs, prevent species extinctions, sustainably conserve globally significant biodiversity, and protect and improve ecosystem function in Samoa; thereby strengthening the national economy and local livelihoods, and generating global environmental benefits. Specific priority IAS as well as target species, habitats and ecosystems that will benefit from project interventions within the catchments that will be further validated and confirmed based on consultation and of choices of local communities.

9) global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)

The GEF increment builds on the existing programs undertaken by the Government of Samoa for biodiversity conservation, maintaining ecosystem services, sustainable land and forest management. In the alternative scenario, the project will enable removal of systemic and institutional barriers for IAS prevention and management through (i) strengethened institutional, legislative and governance and complimentary funding strategy that is aimed at strengthening decision-making on informed cost-effective risk management measures to address IAS threats to biodiversity and globally significant ecosystems and key economic production sectors; (ii) Improved site-level planning, monitoring and implementation framework for demonstration of integrated management approaches to safeguard indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from IAS; (iii) Improved site-level sustainable management of forests, agriculture, fisheries and other production systems to reduce the risks of IAS, enhance measures for reducing and managing the IAS threat and implementation of cost-effective best practices for eradication and control of IAS; and (iv) Improved awareness and knowledge for identification, risk assessment, management, control and eradication of IAS. The proposed project also generates GEBs by contributing to Aichi Targets as 11 and 14 and Sustainable Development Goals of 2, 14 and 15.

The global benefits that will be delivered include improved management effectiveness of around 71,574 ha[3] or about 19% of Samoa?s total land area through implementation of a holistic, integrated sustainable management from ridge to reef that is characteristic of a catchment approach to safeguarding the integrity and functioning of ecosystems and food production systems. Refer Table 4 below for GEB benefits:

Table 4: Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing.

Baseline	**Alternative to be put in place**	**Project impact including GEBs**
Enabling framework and capacity to address IAs threats on biodiversity and food production systems		

Lack of comprehensive and coordinated organization structure for cohesive action to manage IAS Government lacks the information and tools to mainstream IAS prevention and management into its planning and activities.	Enhanced intersectoral governance mechanisms (committees, MOUs, ordinances) are in place at national level to mainstream IAS prevention and management across sectors and in the districts, resulting in more harmonized approaches and efficient use of resources.	Improved government capacity and coordination for conserving Samoa?s globally significant and endemic biodiversity, including at least 37% of endemic species are threatened.
There is a lack of capacity across government for IAS prevention and management that threaten native species, habitats and food security	Information on IAS and its pathways is enhanced and made available through modern information technology and targeted communications activities to aid government decision-making and M&E, and to raise public awareness.	Improved information, knowledge and awareness of the value of biodiversity and impacts of IAS on native biodiversity.
Significant financial gaps for achieving basic management of IAS, including biosecurity		Improved national capacity for safeguarding against IAS, including early response to IAS
	Capacity for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and safeguarding globally significant and endemic biodiversity is raised at all levels, with improved knowledge of best practices: in government, in the private sector and in communities across selected catchments.	Reduction of threats to biodiversity from unsustainable use of natural resources by different sectors through focus on sustainable resource use practices.
	Cost-recovery measures are in place to adequately fund biosecurity needs in the country	Targeted conservation measures for important protected areas and community managed areas
Invasive alien species		

Lack of comprehensive policy on biosecurity Little or no biosecurity measures to prevent IAS introductions into the country and between islands Under the baseline scenario, IAS risks will continue to increase across the terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems of the Samoa because: Priority lists of IAS are in need of updating, and there is poor information management. There is inadequate coordination between Ministries to address the scale of the threat posed by IAS. There is a lack of equipment at ports and other entry points for the detection and avoidance of incursions by IAS. Officials and private sector representatives require training in biosecurity. Communities are unaware of the threats and risks from IAS and are not engaged in their management. There is no guidance and there are no demonstrations of how IAS can be managed to protect ecosystems and biodiversity.	National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP) adopted and under implementation through coordinated action. Improved information, tools, guidance, knowledge sharing and capacity on IAS. Ports and other potential entry points are better equipped and capacitated to detect and control IAS incursions. Demonstrations of IAS management at ecosystem scale.	Comprehensive pathways approach (prevention, early detection, control and management) established. Improved management of priority invasive species and investment in an integrated catchment approach to IAS management and sustainable land and resource use. Stronger community participation in IAS prevention and management. Improved capacity to avoid new IAS incursions and to manage existing threats, with no new incursions and reduced spread of existing incursions.
Community participation and green livelihoods for land/seascape conservation		

Ecologically outstanding land/seascapes/catchments and their globally significant biodiversity continue to be degraded by unsustainable use of natural resources and IAS. Public awareness of the benefits provided by biodiversity and functioning ecosystems is low and hence participation in biodiversity conservation is limited. Indigenous knowledge is rarely considered in decision-making by the government. As a result, there are frequent conflicts between communities (and with government and the private sector) over access to natural resources. There are no incentives for communities to manage their natural resources wisely.	Integrated ecosystem-based community integrated management plans integrate IAS prevention and management measures agreed and implemented through inclusive approaches with all stakeholders. Communities participating in improved management of land/seascapes and conservation of globally threatened and endemic species using local indigenous knowledge and best practices.	Improved management of 48,547 ha of priority landscapes (including forested, coastal and marine ecosystems) to benefit biodiversity At least 10,567 ha of terrestrial protected areas under improved management (through integration of IAS prevention and management) in 3 national parks and 2 communities. Conservation areas) At least 6,449 ha of marine protected areas under improved management (through integration of IAS prevention and management) in 1 national park and a conglomerate of community fish reserves At least 20 hectares of IAS infested high conservation value forests restored as demonstration for potential replication Unsustainable livelihoods replaced by green alternatives through demonstration of community-led sustainable use of natural resources, providing a model for elsewhere in Samoa and regionally. Greater harmony between communities and with government and nature.

The project will contribute to safeguarding globally significant biodiversity and its ecosystem goods and services, including the security of food production systems. First and foremost is the fundamental

value of piloting a catchment management approach because once mainstreamed it could transform sustainable management of native biodiversity and production systems from ridge to reef ? a relatively contained system.

The nine target catchments, comprising approximately 71,574 ha[4] or about 19% of Samoa?s total land area, will benefit from holistic, integrated sustainable management from ridge to reef that is characteristic of a catchment approach to safeguarding the integrity and functioning of ecosystems and production systems; and, if successful, this should be sufficient incentive to mainstream such an approach across 100% of catchments. Direct global benefits from targeting these nine catchments include:

? 10,567 ha of terrestrial and 6,449 ha of marine protected areas will be under improved IAS management includes

? The investment will directly benefit an estimated 25,096 community members (48.7% female, 51.3% male), distributed across 60 villages and representing about 14% of Samoa's population.

? US$ 20 million of leveraged co-financing and invested in this catchment management approach to IAS management and SLM.

? Improved management of priority invasive species

? Raising awareness and understanding about safeguards, particularly IAS (equally biggest threat, with climate change, to biodiversity in PICTs), and increased technical capacity within relevant government sectors and communities to implement control measures. The latter will be based on community members becoming accredited as ?Practitioners? in IAS management, organic farming, biological control of pests and other applied technologies.

10) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Innovation: The project will build on and try to replicate proven ?best practices? from the country and Pacific region to prevent, control and manage IAS. It builds on two decades of engagement by the national government with communities: initially to address hazards in coastal areas and then 15 years later to widen the scope and cover entire districts under partnership agreements directly with the communities. Thus, the catchment approach will benefit greatly from existing high levels of ownership of the CIM Plans, which will be crucial as the project seeks to develop innovative catchment-level coordination mechanisms and platforms. Once an effective coordination mechanism has been established, it will then be possible to innovate an appropriate catchment level monitoring system as previously mentioned. This move from a village planning approach (CIMPs) to a more holistic catchment (R2R) approach is an innovative and modern approach to mainstreaming biodiversity and

biosecurity that is rarely seen in the developing world. It is also innovative in that it facilitates effective ecological linkages between production areas (community lands) and Protected Areas (terrestrial and marine), High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs) and wetlands and the implementation of conservation practices at a land/seascape scale, thereby guaranteeing the long-term conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services for the country, and not just the natural sites. The strengthening and improved functionality of the SNITT (Samoa National Invasive Task Team) will provide a national multi-stakeholder and multi-sector coordination mechanism for biodiversity conservation, IAS control and management and biosecurity activities will ensure that resources and capacity are being used as effectively as possible is Innovative for Samoa. Other opportunities for innovation include the establishment of a cadre of community-based practitioners trained in a variety of semi-technical topics to build capacity within communities. There may also be an opportunity to link the IAS management at the community level with the new biomass plant that is being constructed with GEF-6 funds for electricity generation. It is anticipated that the plant will be fed with a mixture of wood from IAS and it may prove feasible to add diseased coconut palm trees to the mix of wood supplies.

Sustainability: The long-term commitment of the Government of Samoa to protecting its natural endowments and biosecurity provides very positive signs for sustainability of project impact. This is further evidenced by the fact that the Government has established the SNITT that is composed of various government Ministries, regional organizations, NGOs and private sector mandated to coordinate matters related to IAS in the country. The task of the SNITT is to: (i) identify and prioritize national IAS issues within the context of sustainable development; (ii) support the implementation of the national invasive species strategy and action plan (NISSAP) in terms of implementing and overseeing actions required to reduce the impacts of invasive species; (iii) strengthen existing Import Risk Assessment procedures and associated import protocols for proposed new introductions; (iv) enhance Emergency Response Plans to ensure an immediate and effective response on detection of any potential invasive species; and (v) foster regional and international cooperation on invasive species. The project?s institutional arrangements will further build on the existing structures and the strengthening of the Invasive Species Unit (ISU) with MNRE to serve as the secretariat for the SNITT.

In addition, the GEF increment complements existing government activities by helping build the capacity of existing public institutions, particularly that of the MNRE, MAF (including its Quarantine Services ?SQS), Customs Services, Ministry for Customs and Revenue (MCR), Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development (MWCSD), Village Mayors and others to work in an integrated way to improve conservation outcomes and reduce the threat of IAS. The project will further strengthen existing alliances, and build new ones, for IAS exclusion, control and management and consequently the conservation of Samoa?s rich biodiversity.

To facilitate long-term sustainability of existing biosecurity activities in Samoa, the project will ensure the following:

? Tailored training and capacity-building to strengthen the functionality and capacities of SQS staff;

? Strengthened collaborations for comprehensive IAS management and control, including strengthening of the SNITT, ISU and SQS;

? Outreach and awareness programs delivered at national and district levels in parallel to build local community and stakeholder support for biosecurity and IAS control and management; and

? Identification of the best option for cost-recovery systems to support biosecurity.

Potential for up-scaling post-project is high given that the government has a significant challenge in technically and financially supporting communities with the implementation of their CIM Plans. Assuming that the catchment approach can be readily applied in practice, once it has been demonstrated to be effective there are likely to be calls for its mainstreaming before the project ends. This should be anticipated to ensure that policy gaps are filled, coordination mechanisms are institutionalized, and capacity is in place to support and enhance such mainstreaming.

The project is designed to provide demonstration models for up-scaling in Samoa. In particular, capacity building and the development of best practices to control and manage IAS will strongly support up-scaling. Ensuring that activities, impacts and lessons learnt from the demonstration sites are disseminated widely helps generate a bottom-up demand for similar activities throughout the country. The project?s investment component will seek to develop synergies among rural development actors and programs (e.g., CIMPs, District Development Plans and Village Development Plans) with an objective of raising additional emphasis on IAS will expand current models of sustainable resource use and alternative livelihood activities within and outside of the targeted landscapes.

Capacity building of local communities and other key stakeholders through extensive outreach programs will strongly support further up-scaling. The involvement of NGOs, private businesses and local communities is also expected to lead to further support and commitment to up-scaling of the project?s actions and successes. Improvement in capacity, awareness and regulatory frameworks will ensure post-project sustainability and encourage investments from public and private sector in biosecurity control and management, also contributing to up-scaling.

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[1] Refer to Section 1.a.5 for further details of the CIM Plan initiative, which was initiated by the World Bank in 2000-2007, and subsequently converted from what were originally Coastal Infrastructure Management Plans into Community Integrated Management Plans in 2016-2018 by

World Bank and AF-UNDP. A more detailed explanation of how CIM Plans evolved is provided in Section 6.

[2] Planning and Urban Management Agency (PUMA) was very closely involved in the development of the CIM Plans and their technical support will be invaluable in the elaboration of a vision for each catchment and in the application of that vision on the ground and in coastal waters, taking into account land tenure, planning, development and EIA constraints and procedures. MNRE?s Land Management Division, with its role in Land Use Policy, and MAF are also key stakeholders for these activities.

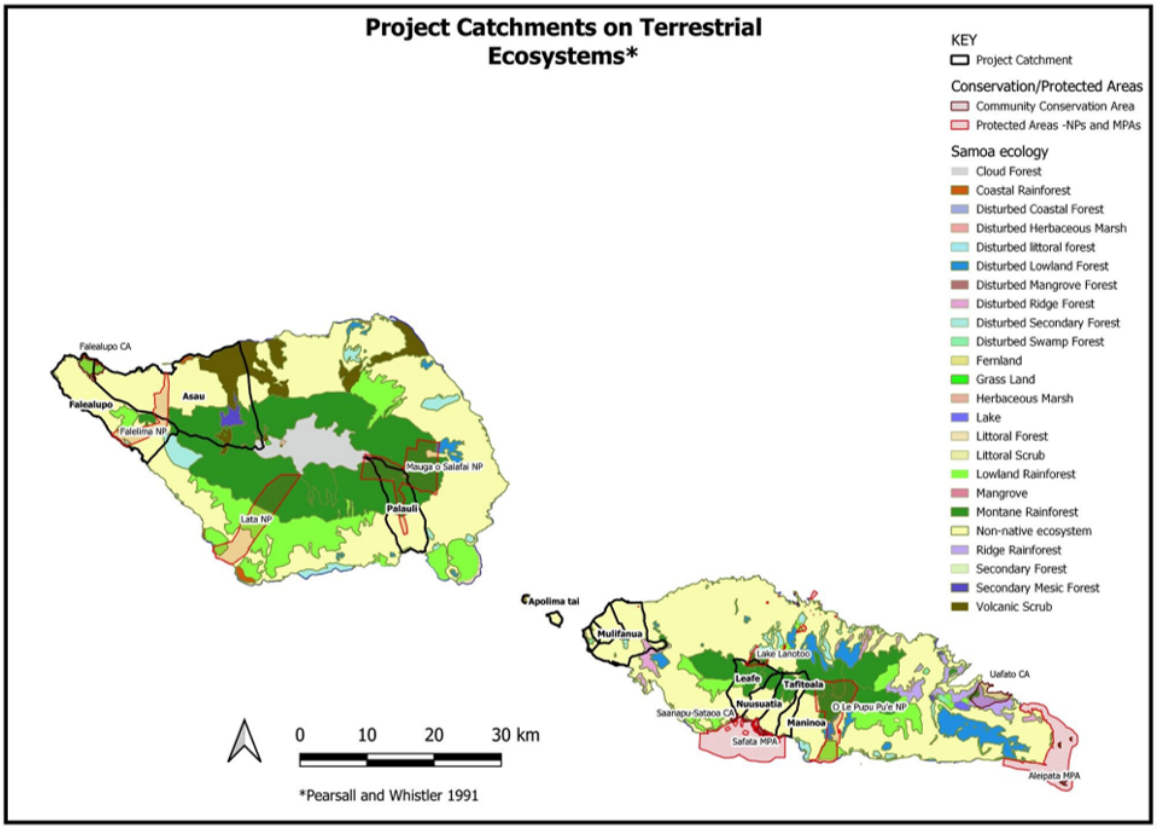
[3]

[4] These and other estimates of environmental benefits need to be checked during the PPG because some of the datasets used to generate them are incomplete or require further clarification. However, estimates err on being conservative and the extent of some benefits may be higher but currently cannot be quantified. This applies particularly to protected areas for which a comprehensive spatial layer of their boundaries is lacking.

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 see Annex E for additional maps and profiles of project sites.



1c. Child Project?

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

2. Stakeholders

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

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Yes

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none of the above, please explain why:

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

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

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only;

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes

Co-financier; Yes

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

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain)

As a national project and because Samoa is small, this project impacts all people in the country. The project included a wide range of consultations during the PPG. Initial stakeholder analysis during the PIF stage was followed up with consultation during the PPG. Two national stakeholder workshops were conducted: i) 04-05 February 2021 (Inception workshop); and ii) 08 September 2021 (Validation workshop). Both workshops included national discussions that involved a number of key sector agencies. Extensive consultations were undertaken with local communities in the nine project catchments to solicit their views on key IAS and problems associated with these pests. Stakeholders consulted during the PPG stage are listed in **Annex 7** of UNDP Project Document.

The project will develop a Communication and Knowledge Management Plan in the early part of project implementation. The objective of this plan is to: (a) to reach out to the project?s main stakeholders, including in particular local communities to inform them about the project and the expectation of their basic roles and responsibilities; (b) to take advantage of their experience and skills; and (c) to secure and safeguard their active participation in different project activities to reduce obstacles in its implementation and in its sustainability post-completion. The approach is based on the principles of fairness and transparency in selection of relevant stakeholders and, through consultation, engagement and empowerment, ensure: better coordination between them from planning to monitoring and assessment of project interventions; access to relevant information and results; accountability; application of grievance redress mechanism if necessary; and sustainability of project interventions after its completion.

Identification, Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders

Stakeholders are identified in **Annex 7** of **UNDP Project Document,** along with their potential roles and responsibilities. The Communication and Knowledge Management Plan will identify goals and guiding principles, target audiences, community needs, and tools and key messages. The following initiatives below will be taken to ensure participation of stakeholders in project activities.

Project inception workshop

Project stakeholders will participate in the multi-stakeholder inception workshop within three months of the start of the project. The purpose of this workshop will be to create awareness amongst stakeholders of the objectives of the project and to define their individual roles and responsibilities in project planning, implementation and monitoring. The workshop will be the first step in the process to build partnership with the range of project stakeholders and ensure that they have ownership of the project. It will also establish a basis for further consultation as project implementation commences. The inception workshop will address a number of key issues including: assisting all partners to fully understand and take ownership of the project; detail the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of project partners in terms of implementation of sustainable landscape and seascape planning and management; and discussion of the roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project structure, including reporting and communication lines, monitoring and conflict resolution mechanisms.

Awareness and Engagement Strategy and Action Plan

This Plan will facilitate improved awareness and engagement of stakeholders (in particular local communities) of the project and its contents; and it includes details on best practices to use with particular stakeholder groups. The project will regularly review and update the Plan to ensure that all stakeholders are informed on an ongoing basis about the project?s objectives, activities, progress, and opportunities for involvement. The project will develop and maintain public pages and other communication means (Output 3.2) for sharing and disseminating information on biodiversity conservation, catchment and R2R approaches, good agricultural and forest management practices, IAS prevention and management and biosecurity. Activities in the Communication and Knowledge Management Strategy to engage stakeholders and stakeholder groups include:

? **Quarterly meetings with key stakeholders.** On a quarterly basis, the Project Board will hold meetings that involve key stakeholders to discuss achievements, challenges faced, corrective steps taken, and future corrective actions needed for the implementation of planned activities. Results-based management and reporting will be informed by stakeholder inputs during such meetings.

? **Sharing progress reports and work-plans.** Copies of annual and quarterly progress reports and work plans will be circulated to stakeholders to inform them about project planning, implementation and outcomes, as well as through public forums, including web-based.

? **Participatory approach for involving local communities.** Such an approach will be adopted to facilitate the participation of local communities, either as a group or through their community organizations/groups, including men?s, women?s, and youth groups in the planning and implementation of the project activities. Facilitation training for state planning teams will be supported. To ensure participation of local communities, the project will develop Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with local communities before implementing key project activities.

? **Stakeholder consultation and participation in project implementation.** The national awareness and engagement plan will be developed and implemented immediately and reviewed at quarterly meetings with stakeholders to assess its effectiveness.

Table 5: Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Stakeholder	Roles and Responsibilities	Involvement in the Project

Executing Agency Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment (MNRE) ? Division of Environment & Conservation (DEC) ? Forestry Division ? Global Environment Facility/ Climate Change Division ? Land Management Division ? SPA/Technical Services Division ? Water Resources Division ? Disaster Management Office	**MNRE** is responsible for the effective management of natural landscapes. It is the executing agency for all United Nations Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs), including UNFCCC, UNCBD and UNCCD. All of the following Divisions are relevant to this project: ? **DEC** currently focuses its conservation mandate on national parks, waste, chemical and hazardous waste, terrestrial and marine conservation. It is the Focal point for CBD; and Synergy with UNCCD. ? **Forestry Division** comprises three sections: Management, Policy & Planning, and Research & Development Services. It is experienced in reforestation and watershed management activities. ? **Land Management** is responsible for policy development on sustainable development of land and land-based resources. Its Land Registry Section holds all records of land ownership in Samoa and administers public and customary land leases. It is also responsible for the issuing of sand mining and reclamation permits; and utilization of government lands in the central urban area. It is also the Focal Unit for UNCCD. ? **Technical Services** comprises Survey, Survey Quality Assurance and National Mapping sections. Digital satellite and aerial imagery are available from Mapping. ? **Water Resources** has Hydrology, Regulatory and Watershed Management sections. ? **GEF and Climate Change Division** provides oversight and quality assurance of GEF and Climate Change projects ? **The DMO** is the statutory body responsible for ensuring the ongoing coordination, development and implementation of disaster risk management programs and activities in Samoa.	MNRE ? **DEC** will take the lead for the control of invasive species in the target catchments where they plan to pilot some new techniques specific to the *Merremia* vine. (Note that CRB controls will be left to MAF?s Crops Division.) The Division will also support work on protected areas, waste and chemicals (including their registration and monitoring thereafter). ? **Forestry Division** will support restoration/rehabilitation work, for example the rehabilitation of at least 100 ha of mangrove. ? **Land Management** will contribute to analyses and spatial mapping of land tenure at catchment levels to enhance the understanding of stakeholders and inform planning options and decisions. ? **Technical Services**, their capacity providing, will play a major role in developing spatial maps for the target catchments and developing/providing a web-based GIS platform that is accessible to all stakeholders from the target catchments. Any gaps in staffing capacity will need to be filled by consultants. ? **Water Resources** and its **Watershed Management Division** will be key to supporting the development of a monitoring system for catchment conditions. ? GEF and Climate Change Division will host the project management unit and oversee the implementation of the project. ? The Disaster Management Office (DMO) will be key in events of emergency with IAS

Implementing Partner Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries (MAF) ? Crops Division ? Samoa Quarantine Services (SQS)	? The **Crops Division?s** role is to undertake research to improve food production and security and crops sustainability. Its three main sections cover Research, Development and Advisory (outreach, especially farmers). ? **SQS?s** mandate, as determined by the 2005 Biosecurity Act, is to prevent or control the introduction and spread of pests and diseases that could cause significant damage to human beings, animals, plants and other aspects of the environment or economy. It is also responsible for assisting exporters of primary produce with access to markets and government-to-government certification of such products. The Registrar of Pesticides ensures that only registered pesticides are available for use in Samoa, hence all imported pesticides must be registered. **SQS** operates a twenty-four-hour, seven-days-a-week service, maintaining a presence at key points of entry of biosecurity risk goods - airports, seaports, cargo depots and the mail center at Apia. SQS works in tandem with other border inspection agencies (Immigration, Customs and Health) for a holistic government approach to border security.	? The **Crops Division** will lead on the IAS and IS elements of the project relating to food production systems. Most of its work will focus on controlling CRB (an IAS) infestation under both Outcomes 3a and 3b, which focuses on the control of CRB. It may also be involved in IS-related agricultural activities under these Outcomes. The Crops Division will also contribute to the design and delivery of the training modules on environmental safeguards in agricultural production systems (Outcome 1). ? **SQS** is the agency responsible for the prevention of IAS from entering/leaving Samoa. It will lead on all aspects of biosecurity, collaborating closely with other border security agencies in enhancing their awareness and knowledge about IAS. It will also work closely with the Crops Division, notably with respect to expanding the monitoring of pesticides and herbicides from the current register to tracking the entire life cycle (i.e., use and disposal).
Ministry of Finance (MoF)	MoF is the lead governmental financial agency The mandated functions of the Ministry of Finance can be summarized as to provide policy and strategic advice, as well as financial services to the Government in order to achieve sustainable, long-term economic outcomes and fiscal viability towards the advancement of the national vision to 'achieve quality of life for all Samoan citizens'.	MoF role is to promote accountability and transparency in service delivery to the community through establishment and implementation of sound financial management systems, standards, policies and procedures.

Ministry of Works, Transport & Infrastructure (MWTI) ? Planning and Urban Management Agency (PUMA)	Established under the PUMA Act 2004, the Agency is responsible for ensuring sustainable use, development and management of land in Samoa. The PUMA Act provides the mandate for the approval and consent on all development activities in Samoa.	**PUMA** was closely involved in CIM Plan development. Their experience and technical assistance will be invaluable in applying a catchment approach to these implementing Plans. The Agency is keen to be involved in the project.
Customs Services, Ministry for Customs and Revenue (MCR) Samoa Immigration, Ministry of the Prime Minister & Cabinet (MPMC)	**Samoa Customs** works closely with other government and international enforcement agencies to detect and deter unlawful movement of goods and people across the border. The task of intercepting illegal drugs and firearms at all ports of entry has been greatly improved due to the enforcement and implementation of standard operating procedures and tools such as the mobile x-ray machine, detector dogs, and other technologies. The introduction of the Automated Systems for Customs Data World version also known as the ASYCUDA WORLD, capitalizes on the web technology to connect with its customers anywhere locally and abroad. Customs have now made available all external Standard Operating Procedures. **Samoa Immigration** is responsible for border security, which includes attending to any aircraft or vessel that arrives at or departs from any regulated port.	Both **Customs** and **Immigration** will have a vested interest in contributing to the design of parts of the training program, particularly the IAS modules, as their staff will benefit from such training modules.

Cabinet Development Committee (CDC), Ministry for Finance	**CDC** is the principal advisory body to the Cabinet. Part of its role is to ensure that Government ministries and agencies adopt a common approach to project planning and programming proposals, based on its *Manual on Project Planning and Programming*. The manual also identifies the roles and responsibilities of agencies involved in various stages of the project cycle and provides guidelines on how project planning is integrated into the budget cycle. Its ultimate aim is to promote an efficient use of scarce resources in achieving national development objectives presented in the Strategy for the Development of Samoa.	CDC can play a vital role in mainstreaming the project?s holistic, integrated catchment approach to the sustainable management of land and coastal waters from ridge to reef. The Committee comprises Cabinet Ministers and Government CEOs, as well as the Environment, Land and PUMA boards that play pivotal roles in facilitating the promotion and recognition of environmental issues, including SLM.
Ministry of Women, Community & Social Development (MWCSD)	The **Ministry of Women Communities and Social Development** (MWCSD) has the overall mandate to support local development through local government, and to provide vital links between GoS and communities. The MESC develops and implements education curricula in Samoa, including on issues of environmental management, conservation, and sustainable land management. The Local Government has the primary mandate to plan and implement local development activities. Government in Samoa is three tiered with the central government, eleven political districts or t?m?l?, 286 villages (fono) and 26 urban authorities. Districts are governed from the district capital villages according to their own constitutions based on traditional laws and regulations. The capital of Apia consists of 45 villages joined into the country's Capital District. The rural and urban village authorities operate as a single tier, with each village having its own committee.	It is anticipated that **MWCSD** will be invaluable at district and community levels, given their mission and experience in reaching out to communities and empowering them.

Ministry of Education, Sports & Culture (MESC)	The Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture (MESC) is mandated to carry out its duties and functions under the: Education Act 2009 Teachers Act 2016 Ministry of Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Act 1993 The Ministry has developed a vision that reflects all areas pertaining to its work: ?A quality holistic education system that recognizes and realizes the spiritual, cultural, Intellectual and physical potential of all participants, enabling them to make fulfilling life choices.? To achieve the Government and Ministry?s vision, a mission statement has been adopted that illustrates the importance of education, sports and culture to the individual, the nation and embraces the idea of personal development. ?Promote quality and sustainable development In all aspects of Education, Sports and Culture to provide choices for everyone?	MESC works closely with MNRE on awareness programs for schools and incorporating key environment topics into the national educational programs
University of South Pacific	**USP** has a small biological control laboratory and is researching indigenous bio-control agents for the likes of CRB and other IAS. Recently received a grant from the University to establish a molecular lab for identification purposes.	**USP** has a MoU with MAF and there are potential synergies for them to be collaborating on IAS. Keen to work with the project.
Village Mayors	**Village Mayors** have been closely involved in the development of CIM Plans, which contain both district and community actions.	Cooperation and support from Village Mayors will be pivotal to determining an effective coordination mechanism for realizing the catchment approach.

Local communities (farmers engaged in agriculture, fishers, plantation workers)	**Communities** are the primary stakeholders for most aspects of the project, as they will benefit directly from its investments.	It is particularly important that local **communities** own the project with regard to their respective catchments. It is anticipated that many interventions in the target catchments will be community-based.
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP)	**SPREP** is a regional organization established by Governments and Administrations of the Pacific, charged with protecting and managing the environment and natural resources of the Pacific. Its head office is in Apia, Samoa	SPREP is currently implementing a regional invasive species project: Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS), with which there are potential synergies, particularly with respect to capacity building.
National and international NGOs	These include **Samoa Umbrella for NGOs** (SUNGO) is a network of non-Government organizations (NGO?s) and Trusts established in 1997 to provide alternative development options and assistance to community groups in Samoa. It has also provided input for government policy and planning processes on issues impacting quality of life for the people of Samoa.	SUNGO will be valuable in terms of complementarity of projects and programs with the proposed project.
Civil Society Support Program (CSSP)	A program with the Ministry of Finance overseen as a steering committee composed of key development partners, government and Samoa Civil Society. Its primary mission is to deliver sustainable social and economic benefits to the people of Samoa through strengthened civil society organizations (CSOs) by granting project co-financing directed toward small, informal enterprises and NGOs.	CSSP will be valuable in terms of complementarity of projects and programs with the proposed project.
Scientific Research Organization in Samoa (SROS)	The inception of SROS in 2006 was based on the realization that adding value to the development of primary produce for export will overcome some of the trade challenges being experienced and contribute towards increased economic benefits.	SROS has international certification of technical services through International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ) that provide industry and public stakeholders local access to accredited tests. Accredited testing is needed to answer increasing demands to meet quality standards and obtain product specifications required for accessing overseas markets as in the case for this project test will be required

Samoa Conservation Society (SCS)	A local non-governmental organization dedicated to promoting the conservation of Samoa?s biological diversity and natural heritage. **SCS** works collaboratively with communities, the Government and partners to raise awareness on the state of Samoa?s environment and the species within. **SCS** further works with schools and youth groups to educate them on the natural heritage that we are blessed with, and actions that can help in species and habitat recovery.	Samoa?s biological diversity and natural heritage are constantly being threatened by invasive species, over harvesting and over exploitation, habitat degradation, pollution and climate change. SCS could work with proposed projects to assist with overcoming some of these challenges through undertaking research, projects and initiatives and partnering with the various organizations in Samoa and abroad.
<u>Private Sector</u> Samoa Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) Samoan Association of Manufacturers and Exporters (SAME)	SCCI - National private sector organization and the voice of the businesses of Samoa in promotion of development of the private sector. Provides advocacy, expert support, services to assist private sector growth and productivity, technology and innovation and training to support the private sector institutions SAME - representing the interests of private sector pertaining to trade and services	SCCI and SAME will support efforts to enhance capacity and awareness of private sector members to promote voluntary compliance and uptake of strengthened biosecurity protocols, and as contributors to biosecurity revenue through fees and charges
<u>Private Sector ?</u> Samoa Hotel and Hospitality Association (SHHA) Savaii Samoa Tourism Association (SSTA)	(SHHA) as a Non-Governmental Industry Association of members, who share common interests, goals and objectives for tourism and accommodation standards in Samoa SSTA) has links with hotel groups, tour operators and tourism promotion entities.	Through SNHA and SSTA the project will provide training, awareness and facilitate the ready access of information to enable its members and visitors to better inform themselves regarding

Private Sector Samoa Shipping Services Limited (SSSL) Samoa Tourism Development Authority (STDA) Samoa Shipping Corporation (SSC) Samoa Ports Authority (SPA)	These entities are public sector entities that support activities where is private sector engagement SSSL provides core business support to crew services, shipping agents, cargo handling for sea and air freight STDA promotes tourism development through its marketing and promotions division SSC that overseas ferries and charter services for passengers and cargo SPA has responsibility for ensuring compliance with relevant acts and legislation and in inspection and control of high risks associated with port operations	Through these institutions, the project will support extension of information of knowledge of practices for prevention and management of pests, including their introduction into the country and between islands to private operators in the shipping, cargo and passenger services.
Private Sector Small-scale private sector entities active in the demonstration catchments	These are small agrobusiness, tourism operators and businesses and fisher merchants, agricultural cooperatives and retailers	Provide technical support, business links and market facilities to improve on livelihoods and small community-based enterprises as an incentive to encourage more sustainable use of productive assets at the village level. Promote partnerships for the agriculture and livestock sector through engagement between local producers, agricultural cooperatives and retailers to build stronger markets for local, healthy foods from well-managed ecosystems. Agricultural Services Cooperatives can play an important role as input providers including seeds, fertilizers, irrigation services, commodities collectors at harvest seasons, pre-processors, transportation, products promotion marketing; products legal compliance ensures; technical services and trainings to farmers; and sharing of knowledge.
Private Sector Women in Business Development Inc (WBDI)	Promotion of local enterprise development	Provide support for improvement in organic farming enterprises, business development expertise from farm-based resources (oils, organic soap, sustainable coffee, etc.), business training and disaster risk management

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

Gender and Social inclusion considerations have been integrated into the project design (under Output 3.1) following the development of the Gender Analysis and Mainstreaming Action Plan (Annex 9). This is the first large-scale multi-stakeholder project that is dealing with IAS control and management in the country, so integration of gender concerns is critical to ensure equity and participation of both men and women. Rather than focus only on gender alone, the project adopts an approach that does not simply focus on women, but rather on overall inclusivity and multiple vulnerable populations. The R2R planning approach may have significant long-term impacts on both gender and social groups, and thus the Gender Analysis and Mainstreaming Action Plan includes specific actions for applying a gender and socially inclusive lens to every decision, expanding representation, filling in gender and social-based research gaps, and investing in approaches to gather and share information among more groups. It is the intent of this project for it to become a model for improving gender and social mainstreaming into government and planning processes.

Gender mainstreaming in the project will be addressed (refer **Annex 9 of UNDP Project Document**) through the following actions:

? Ensure that project materials, including meeting agendas, reporting templates, communications materials, and all written policies include gender and social mainstreaming.

? Create and require minimum standards for community planning teams, including representation from multiple gender and social groups and/or tasking of planning team members to speak for vulnerable peoples.

? Capacity building and training for project staff and planning team facilitators to include the input of multiple groups into resulting plans.

? Invest in staff to enable adequate connections with multiple groups. Instead of general community meetings, meetings with (i) women?s groups; (ii) men?s groups; (iii) youth groups; and (iv) individuals with access to or influence over vulnerable people (e.g., landowners or village leaders).

? Capacity building and training for project staff and planning team facilitators to better engage multiple gender and social groups.

? Apply a gender and socially inclusive lens to every meeting, report, plan, and activity.

? Apply gender disaggregated targets and baselines where appropriate, as part of project monitoring plan.

? Implement the Communications and KM plan, including: holding multiple, targeted meetings by disaggregated groups.

? Make better use of digital platforms in order to create oral/audio content, with less emphasis on writing to better communicate with women and youth.

Incorporate gender and socially sensitive indicators and collect gender-disaggregated data for monitoring and evaluating project results.

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.

As the project will focus on an integrated catchment management that includes land/seascape-scale approach and the focus on livelihoods, sustainable small-scale enterprises for engaging communities in actions to conserve biodiversity and manage IAS this project will require a focus on engagement with the private sector. Since the private sector are also potential sources of IAS introductions, Component 1, in particular the implementation of NISSAP and promotion of biosecurity measures will target awareness and capacity building for this sector, including promotion of voluntary compliance and uptake of strengthened biosecurity protocols, and as contributors to biosecurity revenue through fees and charges. The Samoa Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) as the national private sector organization and the voice of the businesses of Samoa in promotion of development of the private sector. The SCCI provides advocacy, expert support, services to assist private sector growth and productivity, technology and innovation and training to support the private sector institutions. The Samoan Association of Manufacturers and Exporters (SAME) is a key organization in Samoa representing the interests pertaining to trade and services. The project will work through the SCCI and SAME to enhance capacity and awareness of private sector members to promote voluntary compliance and uptake of strengthened biosecurity protocols, and as contributors to biosecurity revenue through fees and charges. In terms of the tourism sector, the key umbrella associations through which the project would work through are the Samoa Hotel and Hospitality Association (SHHA) as a Non-Governmental Industry Association of members, who share common interests, goals and objectives for tourism and accommodation standards in Samoa and the Savaii Samoa Tourism Association (SSTA), both of which have links with hotel groups, tour operators and tourism promotion entities. The project will provide training, awareness and facilitate the ready access of information to enable its members

and visitors to better inform themselves regarding pest organisms, their impacts and actions that can be undertaken to reduce both risks and impacts from IAS.

In terms of IAS prevention and management, the project will work through a number of key government entities to reach the private sector to enhance awareness and knowledge of pest control measures and enforcement. These will include the Samoa Shipping Services Limited (SSSL) that provides core business support to crew services, shipping agents, cargo handling for sea and air freight; the Samoa Tourism Development Authority (STDA) through its marketing and promotions division; the Samoa Shipping Corporation that overseas ferries and charter services for passengers and cargo and the Samoa Ports Authority (SPA) that has responsibility for ensuring compliance with relevant acts and legislation and in inspection and control of high risks associated with port operations. Through these institutions, the project will support extension of information of knowledge of practices for prevention and management of pests, including their introduction into the country and between islands to private operators in the shipping, cargo and passenger services.

In the demonstration catchments, the private sector, although small, including agrobusiness, tourism operators and businesses and fisher merchants will participate in project implementation to enable opportunities for management of IAS threats as well as provide technical support, business links and market facilities to improve on livelihoods and small community-based enterprises as an incentive to encourage more sustainable use of productive assets at the village level. There is also good potential to promote private sector partnerships for the agriculture and livestock sector through engagement between local producers, agricultural cooperatives and retailers to build stronger markets for local, healthy foods from well-managed ecosystems. .

Agricultural Services Cooperatives can play an important role as input providers including seeds, fertilizers, irrigation services, commodities collectors at harvest seasons, pre-processors, transportation, products promotion marketing; products legal compliance ensures; technical services and trainings to farmers; and sharing of knowledge. The Women in Business Development Inc (WBDI) that operate in 183 villages can support improvement in organic farming enterprises, business development expertise from farm-based resources (oils, organic soap, sustainable coffee, etc.), business training and disaster risk management

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):

The key project risks, including social and environmental risks and measures for management and mitigation of these risks are presented in Table 6 below:

Table 6: Project Risks and Risk Management and Mitigation Measures

Risk	Rating	Mitigation Strategy
Competing mandates and poor coordination between government agencies/line ministries may disrupt project activities	Moderate	Proper coordination between government agencies enhances and sustains project progress that is aligned with ministries priorities. The strengthening of the Invasive Species Unit (ISU) within MNRE within technical capacity and resources that will be supported by the multi-sectoral Samoa National Invasive Task Team (SNITT) will give the coordination of all IAS related activities in the country including the implementation of the National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP).
Limited human resources in government ministries and agencies delay project activities	Moderate	The project will provide technical support, capacity building across government sectors and communities to strengthen and enhance capacity of government to respond to IAS protection and management actions
One or more of the assumptions outlined in the project theory of change do not hold, potentially influencing the effectiveness and sustainability of the project.	Moderate	Benefits derived from IAS prevention and management and sustainable management of productive lands among villages can lead to enhanced recognition and public support for efforts to control and manage IAS that can help expand and replicate efforts to improve the management of native species and ecosystems and food security systems. In the alternative, if assumptions 1 through 4 in the ToC are not forthcoming during project implementation, such as the institutional framework for addressing IAS is not fully functional or that capacity of local communities is not upgraded to identify, prevent and manage IAS etc. there is a possibility that project outcomes may not be met. However, the UNDP CO will monitor and track progress to ensure that adaptive and timely actions are taken to correct any shortcomings or implementation problems.
Social and Environmental Risks		

Project activities and approaches might not fully incorporate or reflect views of women and girls and ensure equitable opportunities for their involvement and benefit. Prevailing gender biases could unintentionally discriminate against women, limiting or adversely impacting their opportunities to access and/or influence project activities	Moderate	A Gender Analysis has been undertaken to assess the wider position of women in Samoa, and the overall different roles of women and men in biodiversity conservation, natural resources management and food production. A Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan has been developed to actively promote the role of women and girls in the project. Measures are complementary to the CIMPs and the work of the Ministry of Women Community and Social Development whose mandate is to contribute to gender equality and women?s empowerment, including the reduction of gender-based violence, through the District Development Plans. The MWCSD is a key partner in the project, and sits on the IAS WG. MWCSD services will be used to guide and assist gender mainstreaming in the project. Gender disaggregated indicators provide the basis for monitoring and evaluation of the project?s impact on promoting gender equity and empowerment of women and youth. During both design and implementation, the project will ensure equal opportunities for women and men to participate in training, small grant applications and decision-making. Steps will be taken to ensure that women?s needs are addressed in management arrangements set up by the community, including women?s active participation in community meetings and platforms involving project activities. During project implementation, the role of women in decision-making will be documented and analyzed for greater understanding on the dynamics of gender and power as related to natural resources decisions in a specific community setting. Findings will inform guidance on catchment management. The gender analysis and gender action plan will be regularly reviewed and updated to account for gender differentiated impacts, e.g., regarding the impacts and response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan will also include identification of women?s engagement in project related activities.

Local communities, project workers, or community members taking part in IAS eradication efforts, might be exposed to hazards in their use of chemical inputs (pesticides, fertilizers etc.) without adequate PPE, training and safeguards, or which might be subject to international bans.	Moderate	As specific locations and activities are proposed they will be subject to targeted studies to ensure there are no public health risks resulting from chemical use. The targeted studies will include assessment of the risk that the project will lead to an increase of exposure to hazards, and appropriate safeguard procedures will be employed. Safety measures in connection with handling and use, such as storage and waste disposal, use of PPE and consideration of weather conditions suitable for spraying etc., will be a key part of the training provided. Site-specific Pesticide Management Plans will be developed for all relevant activities. The plans will be developed in accordance with good international practice, and will avoid supporting the manufacture, trade, and use of chemicals and hazardous materials subject to international bans, restrictions or phase-outs due to their high toxicity to living organisms, environmental persistence, or potential for bioaccumulation, unless for acceptable purposes as defined by the conventions or protocols (e.g., theMinamata Convention,Basel Convention,Rotterdam Convention,Stockholm Convention). Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Integrated Vector Management (IVM) approaches are to be utilized that entail coordinated use of pest and environmental information along with available pest/vector control methods, including cultural practices, biological, genetic and, as a last resort, chemical means to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage. If after having considered such approaches recourse to pesticide use is deemed necessary, the project will adopt safe, effective and environmentally sound pest management in accordance with the WHO/FAO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management for the safe labeling, packaging, handling, storage, application and disposal of pesticides. Hazards of pesticide use are to be carefully considered and the least toxic pesticides selected that are known to be effective, have minimal effects on non-target species and the environment, and minimize risks associated with development of resistance in pests and vectors.

Climate variability and change will increase frequency and intensity of natural disasters which may delay or damage project interventions	Moderate	The project will contribute to reducing the impact of IAS through its largely community-based safeguard measures applied to catchments. The PMU will maintain contact with Samoa Meteorology Service to ensure adequate warning of extreme weather events. Please refer to Annex 13 of the UNDP Project Document for a detailed assessment on Climate and Disaster Risk Management.
Low participation rates among farmers or land users who may be unwilling or unable to engage. This may include vulnerable or marginalized groups, or other stakeholders who might not be fully involved in project design and therefore not engaged in, supportive of, or benefit from, project activities.	Moderate	A Stakeholder Analysis and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan have been developed, together with a Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan. Consultation arrangements through the project will be structured specifically to include poor and marginalized groups. Stakeholder consultation conducted as part of the further assessment and the results of the consultations will inform further iterative project design including the development of key performance indicators (KPIs) specific to vulnerable/marginalized groups and be integrated into the already existing CIMPs. Stakeholder consultation will be central to the methodology of the additional targeted studies that will, in all its aspects, pay particular attention to the needs of the poorest sections of society, and mitigation/management strategies will be developed specifically targeted towards the needs and concerns of poor and vulnerable groups. The plans will ensure that islanders? rights (including customary rights, land tenure and traditional use rights) are considered and mainstreamed throughout.
Poorly designed or executed project activities could damage critical or sensitive habitats, including through the introduction of invasive alien species during forest restoration-rehabilitation activities.	Moderate	Restoration-rehabilitation will be carried out in accordance with management plans developed using participatory planning processes and informed by site-specific studies. No IASs will be used. The risk will be managed through the design of the project and will be further examined in the course of the targeted studies. The threat of IAS being introduced from overseas or from one Samoan island to another will be addressed by heightened public awareness and improvements in technical capacity of border security officials (Quarantine, Customs, Port Authority) and measures to prevent entry of IAS and inter-island movement through improved control and prevention measures. The project will develop ecological baselines to monitor outcomes of conservation activities. Indicators will be developed to reflect the health of species and ecosystems. The site-specific management plans will be adaptive in design, enabling revisions as required.

Risk imposed by COVID-19 pandemic or similar disease outbreak, having implications at international, national and sub-national levels. Local community members involved in project activities may be at a heightened risk of virus exposure, potentially affecting stakeholder meetings, workshops, community fieldwork, etc.	Moderate	The project will evaluate the vulnerability of project stakeholders to such crises, and management measures will be integrated into the management of environmental and social impacts. Each contract, MOU or other agreement with executing partners will include a contingency plan for adjusting to possible suspension or delays as a result of a public health or similar crisis. Agreements will have a force majeure clause to cover possible delays or shortcomings in delivery based on such unforeseen circumstances. Adaptive management measures will be implemented to reduce the risk of virus exposure during a prolonged or recurrent COVID-19 pandemic, or similar crisis. For example, virtual meetings will be held where feasible. Health hazard assessments will be required for activities involving gatherings of multiple people, and mitigation measures will be implemented accordingly, e.g., ensuring physical distancing, providing personal protective equipment, avoiding non-essential travel, delivering training on risks and recognition of symptoms, etc. See also Annex 14 of UNDP Project Document ?Summary Analysis and Project Implications /Opportunities of Covid-19?
Local inter-village conflicts related to land or marine area use could be exacerbated or reignited by the project.	Moderate	Comprehensive stakeholder engagement will be conducted at all stages of the project, and the activity-specific targeted studies will assess the likelihood and significance of this issue. The project will fully consider community views that will inform project outputs for each activity. Where necessary, inter-village stakeholder consultations will be held to resolve ?territorial? disputes relating to resource use. The project Grievance Redress Mechanism will be applied to address any specific grievances.
Indigenous People: Samoans make up 92% of Samoa?s indigenous community, and customary land represents 84% of all land in Samoa. It is important to acknowledge the traditional relationship that Samoans have with their customary lands.	Moderate	While Standard 6 requires the development of an Indigenous People?s Plan, in this case the indigenous people potentially affected by project activities mainstream society due to their being indigenous. As such, the requirements and elements of Standard 6 will be incorporated into the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, describing the elements/requirements of the Free, Prior, Informed, Consent process. Project activities under Outputs 2.2 and 2.3 may not commence until broad community consent is obtained through the FPIC process and a signed, formal MoU is agreed. The GRM is available to resolve any complaints/grievances resulting from any project activities.

IAS control or restoration activities may cause restrictions in availability and/or access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities.	Moderate	Interventions for managing IAS, or restoration in community production areas (Activity 2.2.2) will be selected giving high priority to avoiding restrictions on access to resources and economic displacement. Where such restrictions are unavoidable and there is no other feasible way to achieve the biodiversity protection objective, mitigation methods must be employed to minimize such displacement, and compensated in accordance with applicable law (national law, and obligations under international law) and Standard 5. In such cases, a Livelihood Action Plan will be developed, commensurate with Standard 5 and agreed with the displaced people. Activities which may cause economic displacement cannot begin until the LAP is agreed and in place. Note that Standard 5 does not apply in the case of activities in community conservation lands (activity 2.3.3) whereby a community decides to restrict its own access to natural resources based on an appropriate community-decision-making process that reflects voluntary, informed consensus.

During project development, the project was reviewed using UNDP?s social and environmental screening procedure (SESP). The analysis identified a range of potential social and environmental impacts associated with the project activities. The SESP report (Annex 4 of UNDP Project Document) details the specific environmental and social risks that apply. The significance of each risk, based on its probability of occurrence and extent of impact, has been estimated as being Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. Where a risk is identified and assessed as being of Moderate, Substantial or High risk, it triggers the relevant standard or principle. Risks that are assessed as ?Low? do not trigger the related principle or standard. Based on the significance of these individual risks, the project has been allocated an overall SESP risk categorization rating of ?Moderate?, the overall risk category being taken from the highest rating allocated to any individual risk.

A summary of the risk significance under each SES principle and standard, and the project-level safeguard standards triggered by each project is shown in Table 7 below.

Table 7: Summary of safeguards triggered based on screening conducted during project preparation.

Overarching Principle / Project-level Standard	Rating

Principle: Human Rights	**? Moderate**
Principle: Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment	**? Moderate**
Principle: Accountability	**? Moderate**
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	**? Moderate**
Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks	**? Moderate**
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security	**? Moderate**
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage	**n/a**
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement	**Moderate**
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples	**Moderate**
Standard 7: Labor and Working Conditions	**? Moderate**
Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	**? Moderate**
Number of risks in each risk rating category	
High	0
Moderate	10
Low	3
Total number of project risks	13
Overall Project Risk Categorization	**Moderate**

Number of safeguard standards triggered	**10**

The UNDP SESP has identified the project as being potentially of Moderate impact, as impacts are considered to be manageable through recognized good international practice, mitigation measures, and stakeholder engagement during project implementation, integrated into the Project Management System. The mitigation measures prescribe the following:

Targeted Studies:

? **Site- and activity-specific SESP screening.** At the current stage of project development, precise locations and on-the-ground activities are not finalized. The SESP has been conducted based on the broad scope of activities envisaged, and impacts listed are therefore generic rather than site-specific.

While catchment areas have been established, exact locations for on-the-ground activities (and hence the project?s direct beneficiaries and project-affected communities), have not been specified at the present stage of project development. Additionally, specific activities with a physical footprint are not currently defined and may in themselves present additional risks/impacts.

The relevance of the currently identified risks may vary across sites, and the significance or likelihood of the risks or impacts identified by the current SESP will not necessarily be uniform across at all locations. Further screening is required to identify risks? site-specific significance, and to effectively target any required further impact assessment or management.

Locations, and proposed project activities specific to those locations, will be defined during the first year of the project. Once the initial project activities are fully specified and exact locations selected, further screening using the SESP will be required to ground truth and update the SESP, and to determine whether additional social and environmental impacts may be present that will require further assessment and management.

Where required, further studies will take place, which where necessary will include:

? **Pesticide Management Plans.** All relevant activities involving pesticide application will require a site-specific Pesticide Management Plan, developed in accordance with good international practice. The project will avoid supporting the use, manufacture and trade of chemicals subject to international bans, restrictions or phase-outs The plans will be developed in accordance with good international practice, and will avoid supporting the manufacture, trade, and use of chemicals and hazardous materials subject to international bans, restrictions or phase-outs due to their high toxicity to living organisms, environmental persistence, or potential for bioaccumulation, unless for acceptable purposes as defined by the conventions or protocols (e.g. theMinamata Convention,Basel Convention,Rotterdam Convention,Stockholm Convention). Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Integrated Vector Management (IVM) approaches

are to be utilized that entail coordinated use of pest and environmental information along with available pest/vector control methods, including cultural practices, biological, genetic and, as a last resort, chemical means to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage. If after having considered such approaches recourse to pesticide use is deemed necessary, the project will adopt safe, effective and environmentally sound pest management in accordance with the WHO/FAO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management for the safe labeling, packaging, handling, storage, application and disposal of pesticides. Hazards of pesticide use are to be carefully considered and the least toxic pesticides selected that are known to be effective, have minimal effects on non-target species and the environment, and minimize risks associated with development of resistance in pests and vectors.

? **Climate Change and Disaster Risk.** The project has been assessed for climate change and disaster risk, as detailed in UNDP Project Document Annex 13 and summarized in table below. The World Bank Group's Climate and Disaster Risk Screening Project Level Tool has been employed, in conjunction with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. The tool has been employed to assess risks specific to the target catchments. These will be verified and if necessary adjusted, as site-specific project activities are identified.

Table 8: Climate Risks Management

Risk	Rating	Mitigation Measures
Project outcomes are at risk because of climate change.	Moderate	Project activities have been developed in line with national climate plans, frameworks, actions and agendas to ensure they are cognizant of and resilient against climate threats, thereby supporting Samoa?s efforts in enhancing the abilities to adapt to such risks. Project activities have been designed with a climate lens applied and will be conducted with readiness to adapt management should unforeseen impacts arise that affect project implementation. Project activities will be planned and executed efficiently to ensure that issues are mitigated, and experienced options remain for adaptive strategies.
Climate sensitivity has not been adequately addressed.	Low	Climate sensitivity is applied to all activities to varying degrees. This document has been developed in collaboration and consultation with key stakeholders who hold significant knowledge and experience relating to climate and disaster action and mitigation. Hence, climate sensitivity is believed to have been applied comprehensively. Furthermore, project activities aim to enhance the country?s ability to respond to climate risks and mitigate its vulnerability and sensitivity to climate threats.

Resilience practices and measures do not address projected climate risks and impacts adequately.	Moderate	Strong consultation and collaboration between various stakeholders, including Government agencies, CSOs and the general public will ensure that project activities adequately address national goals and interests, including mitigation against climate risks and impacts. This collaborative and inclusive approach is already underway with the inclusion of the key stakeholders contributing to the development of the project. This support will continue throughout project implementation.
There is inadequate technical and institutional capacity and information to address climate change impacts.	Moderate	Capacity building forms a core part of project activities, and it will include a climate lens throughout to ensure these considerations are sufficiently included. Strong collaboration with national and regional partners will also ensure the collective intellectual and technical capacities of Samoa and the Pacific region are harnessed and maximized in response to climate threats and impacts.

? **Covid-19 and Health Hazard Assessments.** The project will evaluate the vulnerability of project stakeholders to such crises, and appropriate measures will be integrated into project management. Each contract, MOU or other agreement with executing partners will include a contingency plan for adjusting to possible suspension or delays as a result of a public health or similar crisis. Agreements will have a force majeure clause to cover possible delays or shortcomings in delivery based on such unforeseen circumstances. Adaptive management measures will be implemented to reduce the risk of virus exposure during a prolonged or recurrent COVID-19 pandemic, or similar crisis. Virtual meetings will be held where feasible. Activities involving gatherings of people will require activity-specific Health hazard assessments, and mitigation measures will be implemented accordingly, e.g., ensuring physical distancing, providing personal protective equipment, avoiding non-essential travel, delivering training on risks and recognition of symptoms, etc. Please refer also to UNDP Project Document Annex 14 ?Summary Analysis and Project Implications/Opportunities of Covid-19?.

? **Gender Issue Management.** The SESP identified risks that project activities and approaches might not fully incorporate or reflect views of women and girls and ensure equitable opportunities for their involvement and benefit. Prevailing gender biases could unintentionally discriminate against women, limiting or adversely impacting their opportunities to access and/or influence project activities. A Gender Analysis has been completed and a Gender Action Plan has been developed and is in place and included as UNDP Project Document Annex 9 to the Project Document.

? **Stakeholder Consultation.** The project is built around consultation with stakeholders, and no on-the-ground activities will take place without community agreement. All activities will be developed in conjunction with local communities, through extensive stakeholder consultation, conducted in a culturally appropriate manner, in accordance with communities? traditional decision-making structures, and with a

proactive emphasis on the inclusion of women, the poor, and marginalized groups. It is important to acknowledge the traditional relationship that Samoans have with their customary land, hence Standard 6 is triggered. As no communities are marginalized from mainstream society due to their status as Indigenous People, an Indigenous Peoples? Plan is not required, but the requirements and elements of Standard 6 are incorporated into the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. There will be no compulsion for anyone to take part in project activities. Initial consultations have taken place on the project concept during PPG, and a plan for ongoing stakeholder engagement has been developed. Project activities under Outputs 2.2 and 2.3 which may adversely affect Indigenous People may not commence until broad community consent is obtained through a process of Free, Prior, Informed Consent, commensurate with Standard 6 requirements. A provisional list of such activities is included in the prodoc, and may be amended as locations for demonstration activities are finalized, when the plan will be updated and will specifically consider how to equitably and meaningfully engage marginalized and vulnerable populations including specific measures to include women within the project areas. The plans will ensure that islanders? rights (including customary rights, land tenure and traditional use rights) are considered and mainstreamed throughout. The plan will also provide terms of reference and modalities for managing stakeholder engagement in project activities at each site and with each community. This is included as Annex 7 in the UNDP Project Document .

Project-Level Grievance Redress Mechanism. The Project will establish and implement a transparent, fair and free-to-access project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), consistent with the requirements of UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, approved by stakeholders, which will be put in place at the start of implementation. Interested stakeholders may raise a grievance at any time to the Project Management Office, the Executing Agency, Implementing Agency (UNDP), or the GEF. Refer Annex 7 of UNDP Project Document.

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.

Implementing Partner: The Implementing Partner for this project is the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE)

The Implementing Partner is the entity to which the UNDP Administrator has entrusted the implementation of UNDP assistance specified in this signed project document along with the assumption of full responsibility and accountability for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in this document.

The Implementing Partner is responsible for executing this project. Specific tasks include:

? Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. This includes providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes and is aligned with national systems so that the data used and generated by the project supports national systems.

? Overseeing the management of project risks as included in this project document and new risks that may emerge during project implementation.

? Procurement of goods and services, including human resources.

? Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets.

? Approving and signing the multi year workplan.

? Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year; and,

? Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures

Responsible Parties: The Responsible Parties to the project are the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), the Ministry of Customs and Revenue (MCR) and United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

The MAF will support the project through its Crops Division in providing training, technical services and extension services on IAS management relating to food production systems in community lands within the 9 catchments. It will contribute to the design of the training modules on IAS safeguards in agricultural production systems. MAF?s Samoa Quarantine Services (SQS) will be overall responsible for activities relating to prevention of IAS entering the country, in particular relating to biosecurity and enhancing awareness and knowledge of mode of entry and measures to safeguard should entry. The Ministry of Customs and Revenue (MCR) including its customs and immigration divisions will support measures to detect and prevent unlawful movement of goods and people across the border.

UNOPS/SGP will be responsible for the execution of part of Component 2 through utilization of the GEF Small Grants Programme model, specifically related to Output 2.2 *Community Integrated Management Plans interventions assessed and safeguards prioritized and implemented to enhance management of IAS risks in community areas*. UNOPS will provide human resources management, budgeting, accounting, grant disbursement, auditing, and procurement management. A detailed grants management plan will be prepared by the Project Management Unit (PMU) covering a total period of 27 months in order to support a timely and effective implementation of the grant activities. This management plan will specify the grant management actions, timelines and responsibilities for implementation of the grant program. The

responsibility of this executing agency/responsible party for the project?s funds is to provide support to the project management and to assist the project staff in implementing the project?s objectives. Specifically, UNOPS will provide the following important services that include:

a. Coordinate with the MNRE and UNDP MCO on work plan activities, including timelines, disbursement cycles, oversight and monitoring of LVGs;

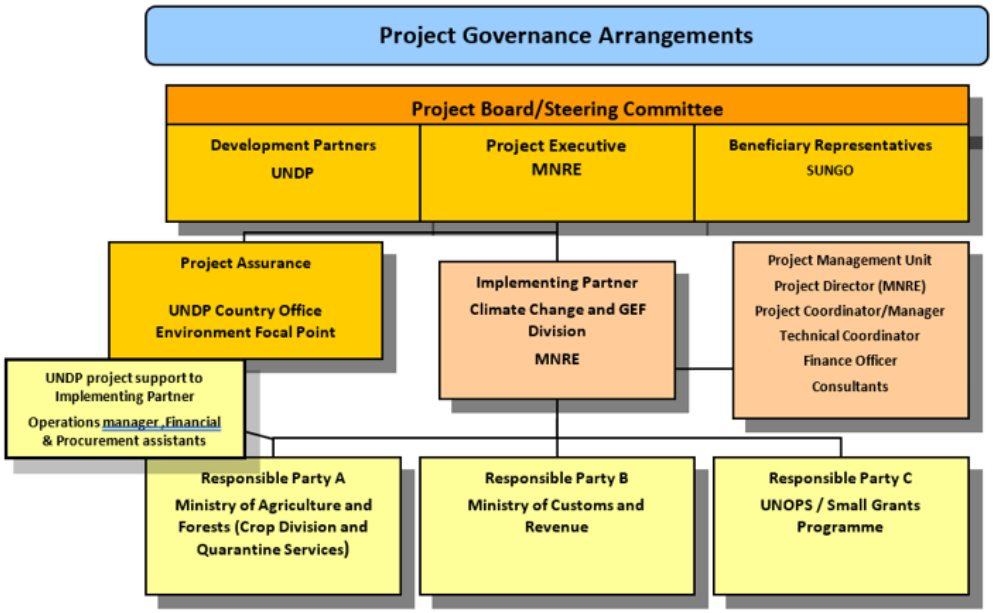
b. Project financial management: Review and authorize operating budgets; review and authorize disbursements, monitor, and oversee all financial transactions; prepare semi-annual and annual financial progress reports and prepare periodic status reports on grant allocations and expenditures;

c. Project procurement management: Undertake procurement activities management of grant contracts;

d. Grants management: Administer and manage all grants, financial grant monitoring and provide legal advice, as relevant

UNDP: UNDP is accountable to the GEF for the implementation of this project. This includes overseeing project execution undertaken by the Implementing Partner to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with UNDP and GEF policies and procedures and the standards and provisions outlined in the Delegation of Authority (DOA) letter for this project. **The UNDP GEF Executive Coordinator, in consultation with UNDP Bureaus and the Implementing Partner, retains the right to revoke the project DOA, suspend or cancel this GEF project.** UNDP is responsible for the Project Assurance function in the project governance structure and presents to the Project Board and attends Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

Project governance structure:



First line of defense: UNDP oversight of project support to IP cannot be UNDP staff providing project assurance or providing programmatic oversight support to the UNDP Deputy Regional Director.

Second line of defense: Regional Bureau oversees Deputy Regional Director and Regional staff compliance at portfolio level.

BPPS NCE RTA oversees technical quality assurance and GEF/GCF compliance. BBPS NCE PTA oversees RTA function.

UNDP NCE Executive Coordinator and Regional Bureau Deputy Director can revoke DOA/cancel/suspend project or provide enhanced oversight

The UNDP Deputy Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific or his delegate assumes full responsibility and accountability for oversight and quality assurance of this Project and ensures its timely implementation in compliance with the GEF-specific requirements and UNDP?s Program and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP), its Financial Regulations and Rules and Internal Control Framework. A representative of the UNDP Deputy Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific will assume the assurance role and will present assurance findings to the Project Board, and therefore attend Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

Project Assurance: Project assurance is the responsibility of each project board member; however, UNDP has a distinct assurance role for all UNDP projects in carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. UNDP performs quality assurance and supports the Project Board (and Project Management Unit) by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions, including compliance with the risk management and social and environmental standards of UNDP. The Project Board cannot delegate any of its quality assurance responsibilities to the Project Manager. Project assurance is totally independent of project execution.

Project Management ? Execution of the Project: The Project Director (PD) is the senior most representative of the Project Management Unit (PMU). The Project Manager (PM) also called the Project Coordinator (PC) is responsible for the overall day-to-day management of the project on behalf of the Implementing Partner, including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, responsible parties, consultants and sub-contractors. The project manager typically presents key deliverables and documents to the board for their review and approval, including progress reports, annual work plans, adjustments to tolerance levels and risk registers. The PMU will also include a Financial Officer. A Technical Coordinator will also report to the PMU. A designated representative of the PMU is expected to attend all board meetings and support board processes as a non-voting representative.

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.

The project is aligned with the following programs:

National Action Plan for Adaptation (NAPA), 2005. The project will contribute directly to four of the nine priority climate change adaptation areas of activity, namely: securing community water resources (ranked as 1); reforestation, rehabilitation and community forestry fire prevention (2); agriculture and food security sustainability (5); and establishing conservation programmes in highly vulnerable marine and terrestrial areas of communities. (8).

National Action Program (NAP) under UNCCD. *Samoa's Aligned National Action Programme To Combat Land Degradation And Mitigate The Effects Of Drought 2015 ? 2020* is based on its 2006 NAP

but many of the small-scale demonstrations have been up-scaled and it also compliments the NAPA programme and NBSAP, while contributing uniquely to the three types of land ownership prevailing in Samoa (customary, freehold and state). It also brings into focus the importance of soil quality, with which this project resonates well (recycling of organic waste). The project aligns well with: Strategic Objective 2 ? to improve the conditions of priority affected landscapes and ecosystems, including agricultural lands, catchments and key biodiversity areas; and SO3 ? to increase global benefits through improving the preservation of unique species and ecosystems. Particularly illuminating is the feedback from extensive nationwide consultations on existing SLM policies adopted by communities, of which six were ranked highest: bans on agrochemicals, forest logging, free-ranging livestock and illegal waste dumping; land protection/ conservation regulations; and enforcement of agrochemical use regulations. Included in the 13 SLM methodologies most practiced were: replanting forests, composting, nitrogen fixing species, waste management, organic farming, fencing in livestock, environmental compliance, agro-forestry and agrochemical controls, all of which align well with the sustainable catchment management approach to be adopted by this project.

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) under UNCBD. Samoa?s *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2020* (NBSAP) is aligned with the Global Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, with clear linkages to the National Environment Sector Plan (2013-2016) and Strategy for the Development of Samoa (2016/17-2019/20). The five Strategic Goals of the National Biodiversity Action Plan are largely embedded within the framework of this project: addressing the underlying causes of biodiversity loss; reduction of pressures on biodiversity and promotion of sustainable use; safeguarding ecosystems and their species and genes; enhancing the benefits of ecosystem services to all; and enhancing implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building. Broadly, the strategy recognizes the following national targets that are specifically relevant that the project would aim towards supporting, namely: Target 1: people are aware of the values of biodiversity, the threats its faces, and the steps that can be taken to conserve, protect and use it sustainably; Target 4: government agencies, private sector organizations, NGOs, civil society and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to implement plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources within safe ecological limits; Target 5: rate of loss of natural habitats and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced; Target 9: Invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment; Target 11: terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine areas of importance conserved through effective and equitably managed; Target 12: extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status improved or sustained; Target 15: Ecosystem health enhanced through conservation and restoration. Specific implementation indicators of NBSAP that the GEF project would contribute are the following: Indicator 1.1.2 targeted groups understand the value of biodiversity and implement conservation actions; Indicator 4.1.2 village fisheries management practices in place; Indicator 4.2.2 agricultural farmers practicing IPM and sustainable soil management practices; Indicator 5.1.1 natural habitats with baseline surveys of conditions completed; Indicator 5.4.1 community based initiatives protecting wetlands and mangrove regeneration and protection; Indicator 9.1.1 updated NISSAP; Indicator 9.1.2 invasive species list updated; Indicator 9.2.1. SISERP approved and implemented; Indicator 9.3.1

IAS database developed and maintained; Indicator 9.3.2 number of NISSAP targeted of priority species controlled and/or eradicated; Indicator 11.3.1 terrestrial and marine PAs with completed biodiversity surveys (in this case IAS surveys); Indicator 12.1.1 biological surveys conducted (in this particular case involves IAS surveys); Indicator 15.3.1 marine and terrestrial environment restored or enhanced using soft options; and Indicator 15.5.1 CIM plans updated

National Sustainable Development Strategy: The strategy recognizes the over-arching need to ensure that development is more participatory and equitable, involving all stakeholders in decision-making at all levels, particularly in natural resources management, improving incentives for people to manage resources sustainably, enhancing opportunities for low-income earners to enter the formal economy, promote a greater role for NGOs in development.

National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP) 2019-2024: The over-arching focus of NISSAP is (i) strengthening infrastructure and legal frameworks; (ii) up-scaling local knowledge in invasive species management; (iii) strengthening coordination and collaboration with relevant agencies and institutions working on invasive species; (iv) building human and resource capacity of institutions implementing invasive-species programs; and (v) improving access to financial resources. Broadly, the strategy recognizes the following (1), building capacity (2), biosecurity (7) and management of established invasives (8) as key areas of investment for this project with respect to: promoting greater responsibility among those who travel and trade across international borders and between islands, accredited training in IAS, strengthening biosecurity at ports of entry/exit, safeguarding nine target catchments from IAS.

National Environment Sector Plan 2017-2021 for which the overarching goal is: environmental sustainability, climate and disaster resilience. End of Sector Plan Outcomes in which the project will invest are: sustainable management of freshwater resources (1.1), forests (1.2) and, including spatial information for their sustainable development, lands (1.3); sound management of chemicals (2.2); integration of climate change across all sectors (3.1); and sector governance and cross-sectoral coordination (4.1). Much of this investment arises from the project?s catchment approach that by default necessitates multi-sector coordination across all government levels of administration with the direct involvement of local communities.

Agriculture Sector Plan 2016-2020 for which the overarching goal is: to increase food, nutrition and income security. Of the four End of Sector Plan Outcomes, the project?s investments in the management of IAS and other environmental safeguards will contribute significantly to: sector coordination improved and investment in food security and inclusive commercial agriculture/fisheries production systems increased (ESPO1); and sustainable agricultural and fisheries resource management practices in place and climate resilience and disaster relief efforts strengthened (ESPO4).

The National Waste Management Strategy 2019-2023 addresses Solid and Chemical & hazardous waste. Of the eight Priority Areas, this project will: promote the 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle) within target catchment communities (part of PA-A: *enhance environmental awareness of the public)*.

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.

Component 3 addresses knowledge and its management and is conceived as a key-crosscutting element of this project that will be addressed in all components. Key knowledge products will be identified in MNRE?s Environmental Communications Framework and the project?s IAS Communications Strategy, along with their means of access and sharing among key stakeholders. Knowledge will be distributed and shared using the new National IAS Information System as well as existing platforms to the extent possible. These will include national web-based platforms, for example MNRE and MAF, regional websites, for example SPREP and the Pacific Community (SPC) and thematic websites, for example the Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN) within SPREP and the Pacific Invasive Species Initiative (PII) in the case of IS.

Given the project?s catchments approach and their comprehensive coverage by CIM Plans (with implementation guidelines) that are readily accessible via MNRE?s website[1], as well as SPREP?s[2], the project proposes to use these platforms for hosting catchment management guidelines that will include spatial layers held in a linked web-based GIS. This will enable stakeholders to visually appreciate existing land use patterns, IAS distribution, protected areas and other spatial features relevant to sustainable management at catchment levels.

The project will connect with similar country projects based on similar approaches to share resources combined and collective knowledge management products, and to facilitate dissemination through global ongoing South-South and global platforms, the UN South-South Galaxy knowledge sharing platform and PANORAMA[3]

The costs for specific knowledge management activities for the project (excluding capacity building and awareness activities under Components 1 and 2) are around USD 163,000 as discussed in table below:

Table 9: Knowledge Management Products and Costs

Knowledge Management Products	**Costs USD**
KAP surveys	8,000
Website and Social Media Platforms	6,000
Documentation of best practises	20,000
Dissemination of best practises	6,000

Awareness and Communications Plan design and implementation	95,000
Awareness meetings	10,000
Launch and Terminal Workshops	8,000
Technical Coordinator (KM related)	10,000
TOTAL	**163,000**

[1] https://www.mnre.gov.ws/publications/#environmentweek (refer to drop down menu for Puma Publications)

[2] https://samoa-data.sprep.org/dataset/community-integrated-management-plans

[3] https://panorama.solutions/en

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

The project results, corresponding indicators and mid-term and end-of-project targets in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation. The Monitoring Plan (included in Section VI of the project document) details the roles, responsibilities, and frequency of monitoring project results. While project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements, additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Policy. In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed during the Project Inception Workshop and will be detailed in the Inception Report. The annual GEF PIR covering the reporting period July (previous year) to June (current year) will be completed for each year of project implementation. Any environmental and social risks and related management plans will be monitored regularly, and progress will be reported in the PIR. The GEF Core indicators included as Annex F will be used to monitor global environmental benefits and will be updated for reporting to the GEF prior to the TE. The updated monitoring data should be shared with TE consultants prior to required evaluation missions, so these can be used for subsequent ground truthing. The methodologies to be used in data collection have been defined by the GEF and are available on the GEF website.

An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and guidance for GEF-financed projects available on the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center. The evaluation will be independent, impartial and rigorous. The evaluators that will be hired to undertake

the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project being evaluated.

The total indicative costs of the project's M&E are USD 93,820 (2.68% of the total amount of requested GEF funds), with a break down in Table 10 as follows:

Table 10: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget: This M&E plan and budget provides a breakdown of costs for M&E activities to be led by the Project Management		
GEF M&E requirements	**Indicative costs (US$)**	**Time frame**
Inception Workshop & Report	7,320	Cost Covered under Output 3.3. Inception Workshop within 2 months of the First Disbursement .
M&E of GEF core indicators and project results framework	10,000	Oversight costs covered by technical coordinator costs in Components 1 and 2
GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)	-	Annually typically between June-August
Monitoring of [list safeguards management frameworks and/or plans here; delete row if none]	16,500	On-going.
Supervision missions	-	Annually
Independent Mid-term Review (MTR)	37,500	March 2025
Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE)	37,500	March 2028

TOTAL indicative COST USD	108,820	

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)?

The socio-economic benefits in the project will be observed at the individual (household level) as well as at the collective community level for economic groups like farmers, industrial plantation and forest concession groups as follows:

? At least 25,096 people in the target catchments will directly benefit through improved IAS prevention and management, SLM and SFM activities and improved livelihoods and incomes of which an estimated 12,222 (48.7%).

? As a result of initiatives on improved forest and riparian conservation activities and environmental practices in catchments lands, additional people living in and around the target catchment (adjacent) will indirectly benefit from improved and sustainable land management, reduced erosion and water flows.

? Implementation of strategies and mainstreaming of IAS prevention and management in CIMPs will result into sustainable practices on plantation, agriculture, water conservation, value chain products and services. This will collectively result in better conservation and livelihoods outcomes;

? Improved access to basic goods and technical services, technology and improved agricultural, forestry and fisheries practices, as well as diversification of livelihoods in agriculture, fisheries and non-farm sector including tourism and agri-based products will ensure more livelihood options and better prices and income.

? The focus on addressing gender inequality wherein various initiatives, such as promotion of alternative livelihood options, participation of women in various local conservation committees are proposed. The project envisages more gender equality in context of sex ratio, decision making powers, ownership and control on resources and women leadership as well as participation;

? A reduction in the IAS conflicts and increase in effective implementation of sustainable practices. The project expects a decrease in IAS infestation in the nine pilot catchment areas

? Incremental funding through new cost-recovery measures will improve biosecurity measures, protect critical biodiversity hotspots and provide for improved and diversified livelihoods and incomes and a sustainability of such investments beyond the life of the project;

? Advancement of multi-cropping systems (including agroforestry) in degraded plantation and small holder lands will enhance

Stable or improved populations of native species (by reduction of IAS threats) species and improved forest environments will greatly enhance visitor experiences for increasing potential for ecotourism and community financial benefit.

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
	Medium/Moderate		

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.

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	Enhancing integrated sustainable management to safeguard Samoa's natural resources
2. Project Number (i.e. Atlas project ID, PIMS+)	PIMS 6457
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Samoa

4. Project stage (Design or Implementation)	Design
5. Date	06 December 2021

Part A. Integrating Programming Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?
Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams the human rights-based approach

The strengthening of a Human Rights based approach to land use and resource management is central to the objective of the project which is focused on ensuring integrated approaches to prevention and management of invasive alien species and land use management that are sustainable, and thus in design must respect and support the human rights of those both on the land and those affected by its use. The project seeks to pilot a community-based catchment framework to safeguard indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from invasive alien species in Samoa. It will be designed to strengthen national capacities to address these negative impacts while improving biodiversity, food security and sustainable development. The long-term solution proposed by the project is to ensure that management is integrated and applied within a holistic framework. The project seeks to achieve this solution using a catchment approach, for which the building blocks are already in place ? a comprehensive set of Community Integrated Management (CIM) Plans, to which district authorities and communities have signed up. Interventions will use the CIM Plans platform at the community level to prevent and manage IAS through sustainable land management practices and biodiversity conservation in targeted catchments to ensure that targeted communities can fully enjoy their human rights, including their right to a healthy environment. The principles of human rights are also fully integrated including through:

Supporting meaningful stakeholder participation and inclusion (including local communities, marginalized/vulnerable groups, women, migrants, disabled persons and youth) in the implementation of the project activities. Multi-stakeholder dialogue and participation is a prerequisite throughout the project. Some of the following activities mention this process as part of:

? The development or strengthening of integrated landscape management frameworks/systems by ensuring that designated use of land is not changed without consultation.

? Consultations occur at both national and subnational levels through regular meetings, involving the relevant sector agencies (government institutions), private sector, civil society as well as local level district and provincial governments, land users and local communities.

? Engagement of local communities (including vulnerable/marginalized groups and women) as part of environmental management and governance activities is also provided.

? Full and effective stakeholder engagement is promoted through tailored farmer support programs and capacity building/training to ensure development is sustainable.

Promotes local accountability and rule of law.

? The project is built upon the principle of community governance and promotes social oversight. Stakeholder consultation is required throughout, and a transparent project-level grievance redress process is freely available.

Respect for national and international human rights laws and conventions:

? The project will work in line with international and national legislation, Samoa having ratified the CCPR - International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (2006), the CEDAW - Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1992), and the CRC - Convention on the Rights of the Child (1994), and having acceded to the CERD - International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1992). Where international or national legislation is not present the project will follow international best practice.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project is likely to improve gender equality and women?s empowerment

Samoa was the first Pacific Island Country (PIC) to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1992; and has since aligned its policies to the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration (PLGED) and Revised Pacific Platform for the Advancement of Women. In 2015, the Government of Samoa committed itself to the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 5: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. The National Policy for Gender Equality (2016-2020), which is closely aligned with the priority areas and strategies of the Community Sector Plan (2016-2021), provides a framework for delivering this commitment under the mandate of the Ministry of Women, Community & Social Development, a key stakeholder in this project.

Thus, the policies and governance structures for achieving gender equality, promoting the role of women in leadership and decision-making, providing equal opportunities for women in employment and including gender in resilience and disaster preparedness, are well established. This project, which seeks to align its interventions with priorities identified in the CIM Plans at district and community levels, will work closely with communities in the target catchments, empowering women in the community and promoting gender equality in accord with the community?s norms and traditions.

To better inform how gender can be mainstreamed across the full range of project interventions, a gender analysis has been undertaken during project preparation (PPG) to determine the different roles of women and men in biodiversity conservation, natural resources management, food production (i.e. farming including IAS and pesticide management), and have informed the Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan. Outputs 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 ensure implementation of the Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan, designed to ensure that a gender and socially inclusive perspective is applied to every set of activities; awareness on gender and social roles in IAS control and management informs policies, legislation and practices and ensures equitable distribution of project benefits and; information is collected and shared across gender and social divides. The outputs include provision of staff training on the application of gender mainstreaming in all project activities. The project ensures equal opportunities for women and men to participate in training, small grant applications and decision-making, including women?s active participation in community meetings and platforms involving project activities. Gender disaggregated indicators provide the basis for monitoring and evaluation of the project?s impact on promoting gender equity and empowerment of women and youth. The project will ensure equal opportunities for women and men to participate in training, small grant applications and decision-making. Steps will be taken to ensure that women?s needs are addressed in management arrangements set up by the community, including women?s active participation in community meetings and platforms involving project activities.

During project implementation, the role of women in decision-making relating to access to traditional knowledge will be carefully documented and analyzed for greater understanding on the dynamics of gender and power, as related to natural resources decisions in a specific community setting. Findings will inform guidance on catchment management, an output from the targeted catchments.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience

The project will support the implementation of environmental sustainability priorities for Samoa under Key outcomes 2 and 13 of the Strategy for the development of Samoa 2016/17 ? 2019/20 and the United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018-2022 ? multi country sustainable development framework in the pacific region, strategic areas 1: CC, disaster resilience and environmental protection and 3: sustainable and inclusive economic empowerment. The project aims to enhance institutional and technical capacities of partner agencies and targeted village communities to address invasive species, agrochemicals and biosecurity, as well as strengthen sustainable management of catchments to safeguard natural ecosystems and productions systems through targeted, site-specific assessments f CIM Plans and watershed management plans and implement/demonstrate safeguard measures in targeted communities and catchment areas.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders

The project is formulated in conjunction with a wide range of stakeholders, including the MNRE, MAF and members of the SNITT, but most principally the villagers living in the target catchment areas, who are actively involved in the identification, prioritization and management of IAS at all stages. The project requires extensive consultations in each CIMP area to listen to, and receive input from, local communities on what they consider priority pest organisms It is structured so as to enable active local community engagement and participation in decision-making, with special emphasis on the poor and marginalized. The Community Integrated Management Plans reflect the aspirations of communities on a per district basis, and communities' support will be strengthened by their involvement in the IAS identification and prioritization process, with species targeted according to community priorities and concerns, on a local basis. The project is structured to promote accountability to stakeholders by: (i) enabling active local community engagement and participation in decision-making; (ii) ensuring transparency of interventions through provision of information regarding activities, including on potential environmental and social risks and impacts and management measures; (iii) ensuring stakeholders can communicate their concerns and have access to a project-level complaints redress processes; and (iv) ensuring effective monitoring, where appropriate, participatory monitoring. A Stakeholder Engagement Plan, a Grievance Redress Mechanism, and a Gender Action Plan will put in place a mechanism that will ensure accountability to stakeholders. Stakeholder Engagement will emphasize the need to include women and vulnerable/marginalized groups. The monitoring process will involve stakeholders - such as affected communities, independent experts, and CBOs/NGOs - to complement or verify the monitoring activities.

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? *Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.*	**QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks?** *Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5below before proceeding to Question 5*			**QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High**
Risk Description ***(broken down by event, cause, impact)***	***Impact and Likelihood (1-5)***	***Significance*** ***(Low, Moderate Substantial, High)***	***Comments (optional)***	***Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High***

Risk 1: Project activities and approaches might not fully incorporate or reflect views of women and girls and ensure equitable opportunities for their involvement and benefit. Prevailing gender biases could unintentionally discriminate against women, limiting or adversely impacting their opportunities to access and/or influence project activities Principle: Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment : q9, q10	I = 3 L = 3	**Moderate**	A lack of specific inclusion of women within community activities that have the potential to help generate income, such as subsistence farming or market gardening, may ultimately impact women and girls disproportionately to the rest of the community. Lack of a proactive approach towards a participatory gender inclusive stakeholder engagement process may result in the limited incorporation of a gender perspective, which could adversely affect the successful planning and implementation of project activities and have a disproportionate impact on women who generally perform core labour in activities such as gardening, domestic work, and marketing of surplus produce.	The risk is managed through the project design, which incorporates a Gender Action Plan, based on a Gender Analysis undertaken during PPG, assessing the position of women in Samoa and the overall different roles of women and men in biodiversity conservation, natural resources management and food production. The Plan (included in Annex 11), actively promotes the role of women and girls in the project. Measures complement the CIMPs and the work of the Ministry of Women Community and Social Development, which is a key partner in the project, and sits on the IAS WG. MWCSD services will be used to guide and assist gender mainstreaming in the project, and stakeholder consultation arrangements emphasize the crucial nature of women?s perspectives and involvement in IASs selection and prioritization.

Risk 2: Local communities, project workers, or community members taking part in restoration and IAS eradication efforts, might be exposed to hazards arising from transport, storage and use of chemical inputs (pesticides, fertilizers etc.) without adequate PPE, training and safeguards, or which might be subject to international bans. Standard 3: .q5 Standard 7: q6; Standard 8: q1?5	I = 3 L = 4	**Moderate**	Misuse of agricultural chemicals occurs in Samoa, where pesticides, fungicide, herbicides, including organophosphates, and other Persistent Organic Pollutants are widely used. Farmers and workers are often ill-informed about the dangers of agricultural chemicals and correct safety procedures. Government is moving away from the use of chemical pesticides. Organic farming is promoted, and the project will contribute to this effort. It will also work to strengthen guidance and best practices in the chemical control of IAS, as well as review policy and regulations, monitor the use of insecticides and herbicides in the project over their full life cycle, from manufacture/import to retail, application and disposal. The project will not eliminate the use of chemicals, but compared to the business as usual scenario the project intervention will overall bring about a need for less usage of chemicals, thereby generally decreasing the risk of negative impact of chemicals on people and the environment.	Selection of sites and activities will be informed by site-specific screening to ensure that activities are fully compliant with social and environmental standards, including risks associated with chemical inputs, the use of which may be considered under Outputs 2.2 and 2.3. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Integrated Vector Management (IVM) approaches are to be utilized that entail coordinated use of pest and environmental information along with available pest/vector control methods, including cultural practices, biological, genetic and, only as a last resort, chemical means. If after having considered such approaches recourse to pesticide use is deemed necessary, the project will adopt safe, effective and environmentally sound pest management in accordance with the WHO/FAO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management for the safe labeling, packaging, handling, storage, application and disposal of pesticides. Hazards of pesticide use are to be carefully considered and the least toxic pesticides selected that are known to be effective, have minimal effects on non-target species and the environment, and minimize risks associated with development of resistance in pests and vectors. Site-specific Pesticide Management Plans consistent with Standards 7 and 8 will be developed wherever pesticides are used. The plans will be developed in accordance with good international practice, and will avoid supporting the manufacture, trade, and use of chemicals and hazardous materials subject to international bans, restrictions or phase-outs due to their high toxicity to living organisms, environmental persistence, or potential for bioaccumulation, unless for acceptable purposes as defined by the conventions or protocols (e.g. theMinamata Convention,Basel Convention,Rotterdam Convention,Stockholm Convention). Safety measures in connection with handling and use, such as storage and waste disposal, use of PPE and consideration of weather conditions etc., will be a

Risk 3: Climate variability and change will increase frequency and intensity of natural disasters which may delay or damage project interventions Standard 2: q1, 2.	I = 3 L = 3	**Moderate**	Climate change may increase the frequency/severity of fires, floods, etc., thereby decreasing ecosystem resilience and creating more favorable conditions for the establishment and spread of IAS. A rise in temperatures may attract formal or informal farming, and unsustainable land use practices, to higher altitudes, resulting in the upward migration of IAS into protected areas, threatening biodiversity.	A Climate Risk Screening has been carried out and is attached as Annex 21. The project will contribute to reducing the impacts of IAS through its largely community-based safeguard measures applied to catchments. The PMU will maintain contact with Samoa Meteorology Service to ensure adequate warning of extreme weather events.
Risk 4: Marginalized/ vulnerable groups could potentially be excluded from discussions on the project?s management and some potential benefits. Principle Human Rights: q3, q5 Principle: Accountability : q13, q14.	I = 3 L = 3	**Moderate**	This may include vulnerable or marginalized groups, or other stakeholders who might not be fully involved in project design and therefore not engaged in, supportive of, or benefit from project activities. Insufficient numbers may take part due to poor access, lack of information, perceived insufficient benefit, bureaucratic delay, additional labour requirements or different priorities.	A Stakeholder Analysis has been developed, and initial community consultations have taken place. Please refer to Annex 9. The results of the consultations will inform further iterative project design including the development of key performance indicators (KPIs) specific to vulnerable/ marginalized groups, and will be integrated into the already existing CIMPs. A Stakeholder Engagement Plan including a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) has been developed, together with a Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan. Consultation arrangements throughout the project will be structured specifically to include poor and marginalized groups, and women. Stakeholder consultation is central to Outputs 2.2.3 and 2.3.3, and consultations will pay particular attention to the needs of the poorest sections of society. Mitigation/management strategies will be developed specifically targeted towards the needs and concerns of poor and vulnerable groups. The plans will ensure that islanders? rights (including customary rights, land tenure and traditional use rights) are considered and mainstreamed at all throughout.

Risk 5: Poorly designed or executed project activities could damage critical or sensitive habitats, including through the introduction of invasive alien species during forest restoration-rehabilitation activities or other unintended adverse impacts to the environment, such as risks to endangered species or adverse impacts on soils. Standard 1: q1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8.	I = 3 L = 2	**Moderate**		The identification and prioritization of IAS under outputs 2.2.3 and 2.3.3 will use biological expertise to identify any endangered species, and identify the best and safest methods for restoration. IAS control and restoration plans and activities will be designed to ensure that that methods are not destructive, and will allow natural regeneration to occur. Non-indigenous or non-analogue species will not be used, and IAS eradication measures will be based wherever possible on simple removal rather than chemical inputs. Screening and assessment will take place as part of the site and activity selection process included in outputs 2.2.3 and 2.3.3. and management of any identified risk will be incorporated into Site Management Plans. The project will develop ecological baselines to monitor outcomes of conservation activities. Indicators will be developed to reflect the health of species and ecosystems. The site-specific management plans will be adaptive in design, enabling revisions as required., The risk of IAS being introduced from overseas or from one Samoan island to another is addressed under Component 1 which includes improvements in technical capacity of border security officials (Quarantine, Customs, Port Authority) heightened public awareness and measures to prevent entry of IAS and inter-island movement through improved control and prevention measures.

Risk 6: Risk imposed by COVID-19 pandemic or similar disease outbreak, having implications at international, national and sub-national levels. Local community members involved in project activities may be at a heightened risk of virus exposure, potentially affecting stakeholder meetings, workshops, community field work, etc. Standard 3: q4, 7.	I = 3 L = 3	**Moderate**	The project preparation phase coincided with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Project implementation activities could be suspended or delayed in case of continuation or recurrence of the COVID-19 pandemic or similar. A pandemic may also disrupt food supply chains, resulting in potential implications for food security if local food production is reduced as a result of increased emphasis on commodity production. The landscape approach promoted on the project is predicated on participatory processes, including multi-stakeholder meetings, community field work, learning exchanges, seminars, etc. Fears over exposure to Covid-19 may discourage vulnerable stakeholders from taking part in meetings.	The project has developed a summary analysis and project implications and opportunities of COVID-19 (See Annex 22). This document evaluates the vulnerability of project stakeholders to such crises, on an ongoing basis as the situation evolves, and suggests management measures that are integrated into the management of social and environmental impacts. Each contract, MOU or other agreement with executing partners will include a contingency plan for adjusting to possible suspension or delays as a result of a public health or similar crisis. Agreements will have a force majeure clause to cover possible delays or shortcomings in delivery based on such unforeseen circumstances. Adaptive management measures will be implemented to reduce the risk of virus exposure during a prolonged or recurrent COVID-19 pandemic, or similar crisis. For example, virtual meetings will be held where feasible. Health hazard assessments will be required for activities involving gatherings of multiple people, and mitigation measures will be implemented accordingly, e.g., ensuring physical distancing, providing personal protective equipment, avoiding non-essential travel, delivering training on risks and recognition of symptoms, etc.

Risk 7: Local inter-village conflicts related to land or marine area use could be exacerbated or reignited by project. Principle: Human Rights: q7	I = 3 L = 3	**Moderate**	Efforts to improve the management of village no-take zones, or to protect fisheries allocated to villages, may cause or exacerbate inter-village disputes.	Comprehensive stakeholder engagement was conducted during PPG and will continue to be conducted at all stages of the project in accordance with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan requires that the project will fully consider community views which will inform project outputs for each activity. Where necessary, inter-village stakeholder consultations will be held to resolve ?territorial? disputes relating to resource use. The project GRM -which is embedded in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan- will be applied to address any specific grievances. Bi-annually, the GRM will make available to the public, a report describing the work of the GRM, listing the number and nature of the grievances received and processed in the past six months, a date and description of the grievances received, resolutions, referrals and ongoing efforts at resolution, and status of implementation of ongoing resolutions.
Risk 8: Project implementing partners may not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project. Human Rights P2.	I = 3 L = 3	**Moderate**		The risk is managed through project design. Activities under Output 1 will review relevant sectoral laws and regulations, and include assessments of technical capacities within the relevant sectors. The Output is designed to assess, and where necessary to strengthen capacities of key agencies and organizations for IAS prevention and management. This includes specific Outputs 1.3.2 and 1.3.3, focused on updating protocols and regulations and the training of front-line agencies. Training is also included in Output 2.4, focused on building local strengths, leadership and ownership within existing systems and structures that operate at the village level at the local level.

Risk 9: IAS control or restoration activities may cause restrictions in availability and/or access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities. Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment : P11 Human Rights P6 Standard 5: q2.	I = 4 L = 2	**Moderate**	Note that Standard 5 does not apply in the case of activities in community conservation lands (activity 2.3.3) whereby a community decides to restrict its own access to natural resources based on an appropriate community-decision-making process that reflects voluntary, informed consensus.	Interventions for managing IAS, or restoration in community production areas (Output 2.2.2) will be selected giving high priority to avoiding restrictions on access to resources and direct or indirect economic displacement. Where such restrictions are unavoidable and there is no other feasible way to achieve the biodiversity protection objective, mitigation methods must be employed to minimize such displacement. A Livelihood Action Plan will be developed in accordance with applicable law (national law, and obligations under international law) and Standard 5, commensurate with the magnitude of the displacement and agreed with the displaced people. Activities which may cause economic displacement cannot begin until the LAP is agreed and in place.

Risk 10: Project activities (Outputs 2.2 and 2.3) may take place in areas adjacent to or within a Cultural Heritage site, or result in alterations to landscapes and natural features with cultural significance. Standard 4: .1, .4	I = 1 P = 1	**Low**	Cultural heritage issues will be considered during the participatory activity-selection processes. Restoration activities are designed to restore landscapes to their former, pre-IAS conditions, hence are unlikely to adversely impact cultural heritage.	
Risk 11: Additional time spent on IAS control activities could increase pressure on children to spend time maintaining family subsistence activities, or children might be pressured to work on IAS control activities. (Outputs 2.2 and 2.3) Standard 7: .3	I = 2 L = 1	**Low**	There is little evidence of child labour in agriculture in Samoa, and it is unlikely that the project might cause or lead to the worst forms of child labour as defined by ILO C182 - Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999. (https://www.ilo.org/ipec/Campaignandadvocacy/Youthinaction/C182-Youth-orientated/worstforms/lang--en/index.htm)	

Risk 12: Activities conducted under low value grants under Output 2.2 may not adequately address social and environmental risks. Human Rights: P2	I = 2 L = 2	**Low**	The GEF Small Grants Programme is managed by UNOPS, under a management plan prepared by the PMU. The management plan will specify grant management actions, timelines and responsibilities, including a requirement that social and environmental standards be met. Details of management arrangements are included in the ProDoc Section VII.	
Risk 13: Indigenous People: Samoans make up 92% of Samoa?s indigenous community, and customary land represents 84% of all land in Samoa. It is important to acknowledge the traditional relationship that Samoans have with their customary lands.	**I = 4** **L = 2**	**Mod erate**		While Standard 6 requires the development of an Indigenous People?s Plan, in this case the indigenous people potentially affected by risks 1 ? 12, are not in any way marginalized from mainstream society due to their being indigenous. As such, the requirements and elements of Standard 6 will be incorporated into the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, describing the elements/requirements of the Free, Prior, Informed, Consent process. Project activities which may have adverse impacts on Indigenous People?s land, may not commence until broad community consent is obtained through the FPIC process and an signed, formal MoU is agreed. A provisional list of activities is provided in the prodoc. The GRM is available to resolve any complaints/grievances resulting from any project activities.
	QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?			
	Low Risk	**?**		

	Moderate Risk	**?**		Overall, the risk rating for this project is moderate. To mitigate the identified risks, during project formulation a set of plans will be developed, including a comprehensive stakeholder engagement strategy (i.e. GRM), a Gender Mainstreaming action plan, and a checklist to manage other identified risks. An effective, transparent, free-to-access project-level grievance mechanism will be put in place to ensure that all issues and concerns will be reported, discussed and addressed.	
	Substantial Risk	**?**			
	High Risk	**?**			
	QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are triggered? (check all that apply)				
	Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk projects				
	Is assessment required? (check if ?yes?)	**?**			***Status ? (completed, planned)***

	if yes, indicate overall type and status		?	Targeted assessments: ? Gender Analysis ? Public Health - Pesticide, herbicide Risks ? Stakeholder Analysis ? Health Hazard Assessments ? Climate Change Screening ? Summary Analysis and Project Implications/Opportunities of Covid-19 ? Livelihood Action Plan	Completed Planned Completed Planned Completed Completed Planned
			?	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)	
			?	SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)	
	Are management plans required? (check if ?yes)	?			

	If yes, indicate overall type		?	Targeted management plans Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (i.e. GRM) Training: Use of PPE, Pesticide Management, Waste Management. Restoration Management Plan	Completed Completed Planned Planned
			?	ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan which may include range of targeted plans)	
			?	ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework)	
	Based on identified <u>risks</u>, which Principles/ Project-level Standards are triggered?		**Comments (not required)**		
	Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind				
	Human Rights	?			

	Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment	**?**	
	Accountability	**?**	
	1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	**?**	
	2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks	**?**	
	3. Community Health, Safety and Security	**?**	
	4. Cultural Heritage	**?**	
	5. Displacement and Resettlement	**?**	
	6. Indigenous Peoples	**?**	
	7. Labour and Working Conditions	**?**	

	8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	**?**	

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
PIMS 6457_Annex 04_SESP_7Feb22	**CEO Endorsement ESS**	
SESP Samoa GEF7 PIF 12Nov 2019 revised	**Project PIF 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).

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): 1 ? 5 ? 12- 13 ? 14 ? 15 ? 17

This project will contribute to the following country outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD):

Sub-Regional Program Document (SRPD) for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories:

Regional Priority: Pacific people, societies, economies, cultures and natural environments are resilient to changing conditions and extreme events resulting from climate change, climate variability and geological processes, to enhance the well-being of the people and to promote their sustainable development (Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP)

UN Outcome 1: People and ecosystems in the Pacific are more resilient to the impacts of climate change, climate variability and disasters; and environmental protection is strengthened.

Strategic Plan Outcome: Countries are able to reduce the likelihood of conflict and lower the risk of natural disasters, including climate change.

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Objective and Outcome Sub-Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target
Project Objective: ***To equip and empower local communities to safeguard Samoa?s indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from Invasive Alien Species (IAS) and unsustainable land use***	**Indicator 1:** GEF Core Indicator 11: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender	*20.2* Number of staff and local administrators, disaggregated by gender benefiting from project training and actively engaged in providing extension services (MAF, MNRE, MWCSD, etc.) to local communities for IAS control and management (Outputs 1.3 and 2.4).	**1.1** Current number not available, however, some IAS related training available, but no comprehensive cross-sectoral training program available for key technical extension staff.	**1.1** *At least 50 staff (of which at least 20% are women)*	**1.1** *At least 100 staff (of which at least 20% are women)*

practices		**1.2** Number of staff and local administrators, disaggregated by gender benefiting from project training and actively engaged in IAS screening, control, and quarantine (Quarantine, Port Authority and Custom Officers).	**1.2** Current number not available, however, some IAS related training available, but no comprehensive cross-sectoral training program available for key quarantine, ports and customs staff.	**1.2** At least 30 staff (of which at least 25% are women)	**1.2** At least 50 staff (of which at least 25% are women)
		1.3 Number of community members disaggregated by gender benefiting from awareness, outreach and solutions for the control and management of IAS and unsustainable land and marine use practices.	**1.3** Current number not available due to limited integration of IAS management into natural and food production systems in the 9 catchments with a total population of 25,096	**1.3** 10,000 (assuming that all direct beneficiaries on Upolu Island are reached by mid-term) (of which at least 4.870 are women and 5,130 are men)	**1.3** 25,096 (assuming that all direct beneficiaries on Upolu, Savai?i and Apolima Island are reached by the end of the project) (12,874 men; 12,222 women)

	Indicator 2: GEF Core Indicator 1.2**:** Terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use.	**2.1** Improved management effectiveness of priority conservation areas as measured by the METT Tool.	**2.1** METT baseline scores as follows: (1) Asau - Falelima NP = 32 (2) Mauga Salafai NP = 35 (3) Lake Lanto?o NP = 38 (4) Falealupo CCA = 37 (5) Saanapu-Sataoa CCA = 7	**2.1** At least 10 point average increase: (1) Asau - Falelima NP =43 (2) Mauga Salafai NP = 45 (3) Lake Lanto?o NP = 47 (4) Falealupo CCA = 47 (5) Saanapu-Sataoa CCA = 17	**2.1** At least 20 point average increase: (1) Asau - Falelima NP = 53 (2) Mauga Salafai NP = 55 (3) Lake Lanto?o NP = 57 (4) Falealupo CCA = 57 (5) Saanapu-Sataoa CCA = 27
		2.2 Total area of Terrestrial Protected Area under improved management through integration of IAS prevention and management actions into management plans.	**2.2** Currently 0 ha of terrestrial PAs are under improved management.	**2.2** *At least 2,286 ha under improved management through integration of IAS prevention and management actions.*	**2.2** *At least 10,567 ha under improved management through integration of IAS prevention and management actions.*

	Indicator 3: GEF Core Indicator 2.2. Marine protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use.	**3.1** Improved management effectiveness of priority conservation areas as measured by the METT Tool.	**3.1** METT baseline scores as follows: (1) Safata MPA = 7 (2) Conglomerate of CFRs = TBD	**3.1** *At least 10 point average increase:* (1) Safata MPA = 17 (2) Conglomerate of CFRs TBD	**3.1** *At least 20 point average increase:* (1) Safata MPA = 27 (2) Conglomerate of CFRs = TBD
		3.2 Total area of Marine Protected Area (including CFRs) under improved management through integration of IAS prevention and management actions into management plans.	**3.2** Currently 0 ha of MPAs (including CFRs) are under improved management.	**3.2** *At least 181 ha of MPA (including CFRs) under improved management through integration of IAS prevention and management actions.*	**3.2** *At least 6,449 ha of MPA (including CFRs) under improved management through integration of IAS prevention and management actions.*
	Indicator 4. GEF Core Indicator 4.1. Area of landscapes and seascapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas).	**4.1** Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (excluding PAs)	**4.1** 8,870 ha (including Palauli and Tafitoala catchments).	**4.1** *At least 16,448 ha of landscape under improved management to benefit biodiversity (Upolu/Apolima).*	**4.1** *At least 48,547 ha of landscape under improved management to benefit biodiversity (Upolu/Apolima and Savai?i).*
Component 1	***Enhancing institutional and technical capacity in safeguarding indigenous species, natural ecosystems and production systems from IAS***				

Outcome 1: ***Strengthened institutional and technical capacity to monitor and address impacts of IAS on biodiversity and food production systems.***	**Indicator 5.** National capacity for biosecurity increased to prevent incursions of new IAS organisms into the country as measured by UNDP Capacity Development Scorecard (modified for IAS) (Output 1.3)	Improved national capacity for biosecurity measured through the UNDP Capacity Development Scorecard.	UNDP Capacity Development Scorecard = 10 points	*At least 10 point increase of UNDP Capacity Development Scorecard.*	*At least 20 point increase of UNDP Capacity Development Scorecard.*
	Indicator 6: National coordination mechanisms for IAS prevention and management fully established and functional (Output 1.2).	**6.1** Invasive Species unit (ISU) in MNRE fully resourced for cross-sectoral coordination, implementation and updating of NISSAP.	**6.1** ISU (national coordination mechanism) exists in part, but is not working across sectors to ensure coordination.	**6.1** *ISU functional and serves as secretariat to the SNITT.*	**6.1** *ISU functional and operating as a unit under MNRE.*
		6.2 Samoa National Invasive Species Task Team (SNITT) is functioning as the coordinating body for the implementation of the NISSAP and adviser to the ISU.	**6.2** SNITT exists, but is not currently functioning.	**6.2** *SNITT is reconstituted and adopted with representation of key agencies and sectors and serves as the national cross-sectoral coordinating body, overseeing NISSAP implementation.*	**6.2** *SNITT is functioning effectively as the key technical body to advise the ISU on invasive species management response and management activities in Samoa***.**

	Indicator 7: The National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP) 2019-2024 and Samoa Invasive Species Emergency Response Plan (SISERP) 2019-2024 are reviewed, updated, strengthened and implemented (Output 1.1).	**7.1** The NISSAP is reviewed and updated.	**7.1** The existing NISSAP (2019-2024) is in need of review and updating.	**7.1** *NISSAP is reviewed and priorities identified.*	**7.1** *NISSAP is updated during life of the project and that update is comprehensive and serves as a ?road map? for all sectors throughout the country.*
		7.2 The SISERP is reviewed, updated and simulation training conducted on key IAS.	**7.2** The SISERP needs to be reviewed and maintained with annual updating, including of key contacts.	**7.2** *SISERP is reviewed and simulation training is conducted on key IAS.*	**7.2** *SISERP is updated based on lessons learned from its implementation.*
OUTCOME 1: OUTPUTS	**Output 1.1:** Multi-sectoral institutional framework strengthened to implement the National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP. **Output 1.2:** Decision making tools aimed at informing cost effective management decisions to address IAS threats to biodiversity in globally significant ecosystems and key sectors developed and utilized. **Output 1.3:** Strengthened national capacity to screen for, identify and control prioritized IAS. **Output 1.4:** Sustainable Financing Strategy for safeguarding biodiversity, including natural ecosystems and production systems, from IAS and climate-induced impacts scoped, developed and implemented.				
Component 2	***Demonstrating integrated management of catchments from Ridge to Reef to safeguard indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices***				

Outcome 2 ***Sustainable management of catchments as holistic, integrated entities established and demonstrated in respect to safeguarding natural ecosystems and food production systems for IAS and unsustainable land use practices***	**Indicator 8.** GEF Core Indicator 3.2: Are of forests and forest lands restored	**8.** 2 Management Plans exist for some KBAs and catchments, namely in Tafitoala and Palauli, but lack implementation frameworks and community engagement on land restoration and IAS in selected catchments.	**8.** *Participatory Restoration strategies and priority IAS action plans completed for an additional 3 catchments on Upolu and restoration initiated in 20 hectares*	**8.** *Participatory Restoration strategies and priority IAS action plans completed for an additional 6 pilot catchments, piloting IAS management activities in at least 20 ha of high biodiversity areas affected by IAS.*
	Indicator 9. Number of communities/villages involved in capacity-building and training for IAS management, SLM and SFM best practices in the pilot catchments.	**9.** Few communities in these pilot catchments have been involved in the SMSMCL and ICCRIFS projects (need to be checked if any)	**9.** *15 village communities (inclusive of sub-villages.*	**9.** *47 village communities (inclusive of sub-villages)***.**

	Indicator 10: Number of Protected Areas where conservation and IAS control and management initiatives are established and implemented.	**10.1** Number of Protected Areas where IAS management plans, systems and protocols are established (aligned to sub-indicators 2.2 and 3.2). a) Terrestrial b) Marine	**10.1** **a)** Terrestrial ? Only 2 management plans exist for the selected nine catchments, (Tafitoala and Palauli) yet these seldom integrate effective IAS prevention and management actions, systems or protocols. **B)** Marine ? 1 MPA (Safata) has a management plan however lacks inclusion of IAS management and prevention actions, systems and protocols, thus needs updating.	**10.1** *a) Terrestrial ? 1 NP and 1 CCA* *b) Marine ? 1 MPA*	**10.1** *a) Terrestrial ? 3 NPs and 2 CCAs* *b) Marine ? 1 MPA and Conglomerate of Fish Reserves* (CFRs)

		10.2 Number of Protected Areas where IAS management plans, systems and protocols are demonstrated. A) Terrestrial b) Marine	**10.2.** No IAS prevention protocols are applied nor are IAS managed in either: a) Terrestrial b) Marine	*10.2* *a) Terrestrial ? 1 NP and 1 CCA* *b) Marine ? 0*	**10.2** *a) Terrestrial ? 3 NP and 2 CCAs* *b) Marine ? 1 MPA and CFRs*
OUTCOME 2: OUTPUTS	**Output 2.1:** Identification and prioritization of IAS in community production areas. **Output 2.2:** Community Integrated Management Plans (CIMPs) interventions assessed, and safeguards prioritized and implemented to enhance management of IAS risks in community areas. **Output 2.3:** Biological conservation and ecological restoration of terrestrial and marine PAs and conglomerate of fish reserves. **Output 2.4:** Improving capacity of communities to manage IAS.				
Component 3	***Gender mainstreaming and knowledge management.***				
Outcome 3: ***Gender mainstreamed, awareness of environmental impacts of IAS and unsustainable land management practices increased, and lessons and best practices applied.***	**Indicator 11.** Percentage of sampled project stakeholders aware of potential conservation threats and adverse impacts of IAS and unsustainable land management practices increased, disaggregated by gender.	**11.** Coordinated outreach on conservation threats and biosecurity lacking. Limited awareness of impact IAS among the general public. Baseline Knowledge, Aptitudes and Practices (KAP) survey established to be undertaken in Year 1	**11.** *At least 25% of sampled project stakeholders (50:50 men and women) aware.*	**11.** *At least 75% of sampled project stakeholders (50:50 men and women) aware.*

	Indicator 12. Number of best practices for IAS prevention and management documented and disseminated nationally.	**12.** A few best practices and lessons available, but currently limited resources do not exist for their implementation.	**12.** *At least 2 Best Practices per sector documented, disseminated, and being implemented (agriculture, fisheries, forestry).*	**12.** *At least 15 best practices for IAS prevention and management are documented, disseminated, and being applied to agriculture, coastal ecosystems, fisheries and marine resource use by both genders and multiple social groups.*
OUTCOME 3: OUTPUTS	**Output 3.1:** Gender mainstreaming plan implemented. **Output 3.2:** A national IAS awareness and engagement strategy and action plan is developed and implemented, with steps to ensure that international good practice related to IAS and R2R is embedded in policy and practice. **Output 3.3:** Experiences, best practices, and lessons learned about integrated IAS and environmental management of the target catchments (e.g. tools, manuals to complement training courses and guidelines) are systematized and made available for use in other catchment areas in the country and shared regionally and internationally for replication. **Output 3.4:** Monitoring and evaluation			

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).

Comment	**Response**	**Relevant Section of UNDP Project Document and - GEF CEO ER.**
Comments from STAP		

STAP Overall Assessment and Rating **Minor issues to be considered during project design:** STAP comment: STAP welcomes this project from UNDP entitled ?Enhancing integrated sustainable management to safeguard Samoa's natural resources.? Overall, it is a clearly written and coherent proposal addressing an issue of critical importance for the biodiversity and livelihoods of Samoa. It could be strengthened through clarifying the theory of change (including articulating key assumptions), improving the climate risk screening, and explicitly articulating what lessons have been learnt (about what works and what doesn?t) from previous projects and initiatives.	Thank you for your comment. Detailed responses to specific questions are provided in the sections below:	NA

Part I: Project Information B. Indicative Project Description Summary Outputs STAP comment: Generally, yes, but it is not clear that outputs 2.2 add up to outcome 2(b). Restoration of ecosystem function would seem to require more than dealing with IAS and promoting local participation in conservation (e.g., addressing land degradation, deforestation, etc.)?	Agreed. There is now only a single Outcome under component 2, namely ?Sustainable management of catchments as holistic, integrated entities established and demonstrated in respect to safeguarding indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices? This is to be achieved through a holistic and integrated approach to management of the 9 catchments through 3 outputs, including prevention and management of IAS (and unsustainable resource use practices that encourage IAS infestation and spread), at the community level (through integration in CIMPs in Outputs 2.1 and 2.2) and at the broader landscape level (within PAs and community managed areas). In output 2.3, improved prevention of IAS establishment will support conservation of existing resource areas, that might also include some restoration by preventing new IAS stressors from establishing. Communities might be engaged in native plantings where IAS are removed to stabilize soils, reduce erosion and reef siltation, reduce potential re-invasions, provide habitat for native species and possibly also provide in some cases harvestable resources.	Refer GEFCEO ER Table B and Outputs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 and UNDP Project Document Outputs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3

Part II: Project justification STAP comment: There is a clear narrative explaining the project logic. There is no graphic TOC to clearly demonstrate how project elements are linked in a temporal/causal sequence, which is a pity. However, the project logic is fairly simple and is clearly explained	There is now, both a graphic conceptual (problem analysis) and ToC diagram for the project that looks at the pathways to reverse the impacts of IAS in natural and production systems in Samoa	Refer Figures 1 and 2 of GEFCEO ER

1. Project description. Is the baseline identified clearly? STAP comment: a) A baseline that provided a quantitative assessment of the current situation, against which the alternative scenario associated with the production of GEBs can be contrasted, would be preferable. Here is simply information given on the policy context of the intervention and an explanation of certain ongoing conservation/sustainable management interventions (it is not clear whether these are comprehensive). **b)** Is the baseline sufficiently robust to support the incremental (additional cost) reasoning for the project? STAP comment: Unclear **c)** are the lessons learned from similar or related past GEF and non-GEF interventions described STAP comment: Overall, the project is clearly building on lessons learned from previous (and ongoing) initiatives, although specific lessons from previous projects are not clearly drawn.	(a) This is now presented in tabular form that discusses the baseline situation (including enabling framework) and the alternate scenario that is being pursued by the project (b) This has been further discussed in the ToC and project design focused on manageable measures to build on the existing baseline of activities (NISSAP, SISERP, CIMPs, etc.) to move Samoa forward towards enhancing existing institutional and technical capacity at national, district and community level to systematically address IAs prevention and management through an integrated and holistic approach (c) The project draws on lessons from the past UNEP Regional GEF 4 project ?Prevention, control and management of IAS in the Pacific Islands? and a number of Ridge to Reef projects in the Pacific as well as the work done by SPREP, PRISMSS and other international NGOs and programs. The project builds on the work done by the World Bank in making use of the CIMPs as a vehicle for integration IAS prevention and management at the community level	(a) Refer GEF CEO ER Table 4 (b) Refer GEF CEO ER Figures 1 and 2 (c) Refer UNDP Project Document Table 4 for discussion of partnership arrangements with other initiatives (and Table 3 of GEFCEO ER)

3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project a) What is the theory of change? STAP comment: This is adequately explained in narrative, although see comments elsewhere re a graphic TOC. There is considerable overlap between outputs and outcomes across the different components, which could be easily conveyed in a graphic TOC. **b)** What is the set of linked activities, outputs, and outcomes to address the project?s objectives? STAP comment: These are clearly explained but see above. Re component 1, output 1.4, it is hard to understand how IAS prevention/detection could proceed on a cost-recovery basis ? how would income be generated? c) Are the mechanisms of change plausible, and is there a well-informed identification of the underlying assumptions? STAP comment: In general, the mechanisms of change are clear and plausible. Assumptions are not clearly spelt out ? note that a clear TOC would enable this to be done. The STAP Primer on TOCs would be very helpful in boosting the project?s TOC in future planning, particularly in identifying critical assumptions. d) Is there a recognition of what adaptations may be required during project implementation to respond to changing conditions in pursuit of the targeted outcomes?	Thank you for the comments (a) During project design, an effort was made to ensure that project outcomes, outputs and activities are complementary of each other, and ensure synergies rather than overlap. This is better articulated in the project design and ToC (b) Cost-recovery is an important measure to ensure that biosecurity measures are effective and sustained, for which cost-recovery is an important means to achieve this, as demonstrated in some Pacific Island countries. (Fiji ? those identified via UNDP BIOFIN program). The intent of Output 1.4 is to undertake an economic feasibility analysis by an international specialist in biosecurity and economics working with the country to develop a long-term strategy for safeguarding enhancements, costing out activities and determine specific mechanisms (likely a suite of mechanisms) that can/will be employed to finally support strengthened safeguarding activities on a long-term basis and subsequent reduction of risks and impacts from IAS. The Project document provides some examples of potential financial development concepts, including cost-recovery elements (e.g. budgetary coordination between in-country sectors to ensure sharing of costs and coordination of activities, green fees, investment, carbon banking/tax, user fees, visitor fees, container fees, import fees, fines, etc.). Given the importance of these efforts to be well thought out and developed, strongly urges for a key specialist to support planning and development of these efforts early in project implementation. (c) This is provided in the graphic ToC (d) The design of the project recognizes the need for ensuring an *adaptive management approach* that considers	(a) Refer Figure 2 of GEFCEO ER (b) Refer Output 1.4 of GEFCEO ER and UNDP Project Document (c) Refer Figure 2 of GEFCEO ER (d) Refer Section III of UNDP Project Document

6) global environmental benefits (GEF trust fund) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF) What activities will be implemented to increase the project?s resilience to climate change? STAP comment: These are not specified. It could be argued that the entire project is aimed at increasing resilience of social-ecological communities to climate change. However, it would be good to see specific examination of how the intervention and its durable benefits into the future can be made as resilient as possible to likely climate change impacts.	A separate annex has been specifically developed to assess the climate change risks based on the Climate and Disaster Screening Report of 2012. The annex also provides mitigation measures to address the climate risks to the project based on the limited climate projection data available for Samoa. To compensate for the lack of projection information, the project will support a climate projection assessment in relation to IAS and biodiversity. The entire project is aimed at increasing resilience to climate change, given its potential to increase IAS spread under climate change scenarios. The project aims to support the regular updating of the NISSAP that would entail comprehensive baseline assessments of pest organisms, pathways for spread and regular monitoring to better understand population structures, ranges, impacts and influences of climate factors so that adaptive measures can be instituted to address and adapt to change.	Refer Annex 13 and Output 3.4 of the UNDP Project Document. Refer Output 2.1 for specific details of planned assessment and monitoring measures

7) innovative, sustainability and potential for scaling-up a) Is the project innovative, for example, in its design, method of financing, technology, business model, policy, monitoring and evaluation, or learning? STAP comment: Yes, there are innovative elements here, such as the catchment scale approach (innovative in this context) and shifting fundamental aspects of policy toward IAS. b) Is there a clearly articulated vision of how the innovation will be scaled-up, for example, over time, across geographies, among institutional actors? STAP comment: Yes, there is (e.g., p35) but this is only sketched out in very broad terms, without any detailed consideration of what might promote or impede scaling up. c) Will incremental adaptation be required, or more fundamental transformational change to achieve long term sustainability? STAP comment: This project aims at transformational change, but shifting key elements of policy, capacity, practice etc. in relation to IASs and the scale of management.	(a) Thank you for the comment (b) The vision for scaling up is elaborated in both the Project Document and GEFCEO ER and includes (i) using the government-supported CIMPs as the means to integrate IAS prevention and management in local/village development planning approaches in the 9 pilot catchments and then supporting demonstration, capacity building, new tools and regulatory means and extensive outreach to scale this up in all catchments through the 43 CIMPs that cover all villages in Samoa (c) Thank you for the comment	(a) NA (b) Refer Section 10) of GEFCEO ER document (c) NA

2. Stakeholders. What are the stakeholders? roles, and how will their combined roles contribute to robust project design, to achieving global environmental outcomes, and to lessons learned and knowledge? Note the involvement of MNRE has been omitted in Table 1 (p38). Otherwise. these are clearly laid out.	Reference to MNRE is included in the Stakeholder section	Refer GEF CEO ER Table 5 and Annex 7 of UNDP Project Document
3. Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment. a) Have gender differentiated risks and opportunities been identified, and were preliminary response measures described that would address these differences? STAP comment: No, this is to be done at later stages of project development. b) Do gender considerations hinder full participation of an important stakeholder group (or groups)? If so, how will these obstacles be addressed? STAP comment: This is not clear at this stage.	(a) A gender analysis and action plan was completed during the PPG stage (b) This is now covered in the gender action plan as well as the UNDP SESP	(a) Refer Annex 9 of UNDP Project Document (b) Refer Annexes 4 (SESP) and 9 (Gender Action Plan) of UNDP Project Document

5. Risks. Are the identified risks valid and comprehensive? Are the risks specifically for things outside the project?s control? Are there social and environmental risks which could affect the project? For climate risk, and climate resilience measures: ? How will the project?s objectives or outputs be affected by climate risks over the period 2020 to 2050, and have the impact of these risks been addressed adequately? ? Has the sensitivity to climate change, and its impacts, been assessed? ? Have resilience practices and measures to address projected climate risks and impacts been considered? How will these be dealt with? ? What technical and institutional capacity, and information, will be needed to address climate risks and resilience enhancement measures? STAP comment: The climate risk screening is not robust or comprehensive. While the projected climate impacts for Samoa are set out, the implications of these for the project?s outputs/outcomes have not been unpacked in any detail. The sensitivity/vulnerability to CC impacts is only briefly referred to at various points, and no resilience practices/measures appear to be considered in project design at this stage. While the whole project can be considered as increasing resilience to climate change, it is still important to carefully consider how the project?s planned interventions and its planned long-term benefits will be affected by climate change scenarios out until 2050.	The risk matrix has been further developed along with additional matrices to cover climate change, Covid-19, gender and environmental and social risks	Refer UNDP Project Document (Pages 43-51 and Annexes 4, 9, 13 and 14

6. Coordination. a) Are the project proponents tapping into relevant knowledge and learning generated by other projects, including GEF projects? STAP comment: Yes, to some extent b) Is there adequate recognition of previous projects and the learning derived from them? STAP comment: Clear lessons from specific projects have not been articulated, although there is clearly considerable learning from/building on past experiences and projects embedded here. c) Have specific lessons learned from previous projects been cited? STAP comment: In some cases (e.g. the WB/AF-UNDP project that led to development of the CIMs). Overall this could be considerably strengthened, d) Is there an adequate mechanism to feed the lessons learned from earlier projects into this project, and to share lessons learned from it into future projects? STAP comment: At this point these elements are not strong in the project design. While coordination with other projects is clearly laid out (p50), there is little analysis of what has worked/what has not in previous projects to inform this one.	(a) Thank you for the comment (b) This is recognized, in particular lessons from UNEP GEF 4 project on IAS in the Pacific Region. In addition, the project builds on collaboration with a number of institutions and programs in the Pacific Region (c) Yes, refer response above (d) The CIMPs developed under the WB project will be used as the vehicle to integrate IAS prevention and management at the village level. Measures for sharing lessons and scaling up	(a) NA (b) Refer UNDP Project Document Table 4 (Table 3 of GEF CEO ER) for discussion of partnership arrangements with other projects (c) Refer response above (d) Refer Component 2 in INDP Project Document

8. Knowledge management. a) What overall approach will be taken, and what knowledge management indicators and metrics will be used? STAP comment: Knowledge management is clearly a high priority for the project, which is welcome, although the plans at this stage remain rather general and high-level. No indicators and metrics for KM are clear at this stage b) What plans are proposed for sharing, disseminating and scaling-up results, lessons and experience? STAP comment: See above ? no specific plans are proposed at this point.	(a) There is a specific Output (4.3) that deals with KM and indicators are presented in the Results Framework (b) Proposals for replication and scaling up are presented in Output 4.3 and includes (i) documentation and dissemination of best practices; (ii) technical publications and information sharing; (iii) national and regional workshops for dissemination; (iv) a long-term strategy and road map for scaling up, (v) policy related support; (vi) scaling up of IAS prevention and management in all 43 district/village level CIMPs that cover all catchments of the country;(v) communication and awareness raising etc.	(a) Refer Output 4.3 and RFA in UNDP Project Document (b) Refer Output 4,3 and Section on ?Innovativeness Sustainability, and Potential for Scaling up? in UNDP Project Document
GEF Council Comments ? Germany		

Germany would like to request that the project propels takes into account some of the existing local structures and organizations addressing invasive alien species. Firstly, the regional organization SPREP, located in Samoa, has one of the most comprehensive programs on Invasive Alien Species and should be closely involved in project implementation. The current proposal does not emphasize their role sufficiently. Secondly, the Pacific Invasives Partnership (PIP) is the overarching regional coordination body for authorities dealing with 30 invasive species. It is not mentioned in the proposal, and we would therefore like to recommend its close involvement. Thirdly, the "Invasive Species Specialist Group" of IUCNs which is active in the Pacific in the long term, is not mentioned is not mentioned in the proposal. We believe that project would benefit greatly from the involvement of an organization already specializing in the topic.	It will be at the determination of the country what particular entities provide support for this project. SPREP has extensive resources for IAS management and training, and it would be reasonable to consider partnering with SPREP for various elements within the project, and specifically with technical training aspects in terms of IAS management. As a long-term member of PIP, potential support that member countries may be able to avail of. SPREP is linked to the PIP and can likely be a further avenue for engagement as warranted. These entities and others regional and international resource groups which the country may want to consider engaging for various elements of the project implementation as warranted. These potential partnerships are reflected in the project document.	Refer Table 4 of UNDP project Document for partnership arrangements and Table 3 of GEF CEO ER

We would further like to point out that *Acanthaster planci* is a naturally occurring starfish species with cases of mass reproduction. It is not an "alien species" in the strict sense and the proposal should reflect this.	Agreed. There is a bit of misidentification of species which are or may be native being termed invasive alien species. Native species are not alien. Distinction should be maintained among various species groups. The term pest can be used to refer to both native and non-native organisms which cause impacts. IAS should be reserved for non-native species. In general, the project document attempts to minimize reliance on references or inferences to specific species and rather takes the approach of focusing on mechanisms for safeguarding and other elements from pest organisms but at the same time maintains the project focus on IAS.	This is captured in Section II of UNDP Project Document as a ?native species?

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

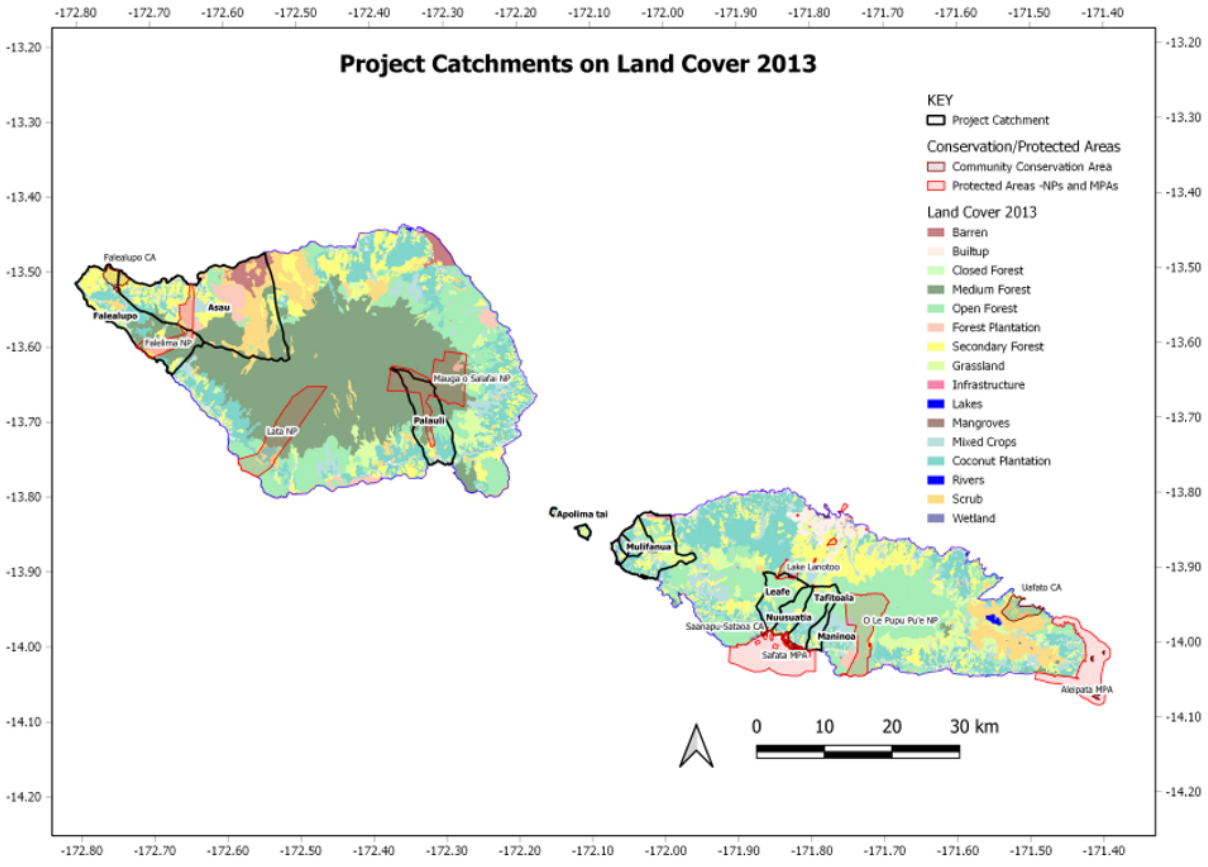
Project Preparation Activities Implemented	*GEF Amount (US$)*		
	Budgeted amount	*Amount spent to date*	*Amount committed*
Component A: Preparatory Technical Studies & Reviews	29,250	7,500	21,750
Component B: Formulation of the UNDP-GEF Project Document, CEO Endorsement Request, and Mandatory and Project Specific Annexes	91,750	72,360	19,390
Component C: Validation Workshop and Report	29,000	14,332	14,668
Total	**150,000**	**94,192**	**55,808**

ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

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

The current annex presents basic biophysical and demographic information on the project?s nine targeted catchments. Table 1 shows details of key information on the project catchments:

1. Falealupo
2. Asau
3. Palauli
4. Apolima-tai
5. Mulifanua
6. Lotofaga
7. Nu?usuatia
8. Tafitoala
9. Maninoa



Catchment Number	Catchment name	District name	Catchment Area (Ha)	Villages in Site	Population of core villages (2016)	Main IAS threats observed in field survey	Fore Cove 201 (Perce
1	Falealupo	Falealupo and Alataua West	10200	Falealupo,Falelima, Neiafu Tai, Tufutafoe, Vaotupua, Avata	2673	*Leucaena leucocephala, Albizzia chinensis, Paraserianthes falcataria. Adenanthera pavonina*	68.3
2	Asau	Gagaifomauga III and Vaisigano West	21840	Fagasa, Sataua, Utulola, Matavai Asau, Auala, Vaisala	3728	*Leucaena leucocephala, Albizzia chinensis, Paraserianthes falcataria*	55.5
3	Palauli	Palauli East	5920	Tafua, Faala, Vaitoomuli, Satufia, Vaega, Pitonuu, Moasula	4887	*Merremia peltata, Spathodea campanulata, Albizzia chinensis, Paraserianthes falcataria*	74.5
4	Apolima tai	Aiga i le tai	98	Apolima tai	96	Not surveyed	0
5	Mulifanua	Aana alofi III, Aiga i le tai, Falelatai/Samatau	7100	Tausagi, Olo, Paepeala, Samea, Fauiloloo, Lalovii, Apolima Uta, Manonu Uta, Samatau, Siufaga, Pata, Nefunefu, Matautu, Levi, Matanofo,Falevai,Samau, Matafaa	8266	*Merremia peltata, Funtumia elastica, Spathodea campanulata, Albizzia chinensis, Paraserianthes falcataria*	39.5
6	Leafe	Safata	3210	Lotofaga and Sataoa	2070	*Merremia peltata, Funtumia elastica, Spathodea campanulata, Albizzia chinensis, Paraserianthes falcataria*	67.3

7	Nuusuatia	Safata	1910	Nuusuatia (Vaiee)	1022	*Merremia peltata, Funtumia elastica, Spathodea campanulata, Albizzia chinensis, Paraserianthes falcataria*	54.9
8	Tafitoala	Safata	2950	Tafitoala (Fausaga, Fusi)	1514	*Merremia peltata, Funtumia elastica, Spathodea campanulata, Albizzia chinensis, Paraserianthes falcataria*	58.1
9	Maninoa	Siumu/Safata	1180	Maninoa (Mulivai)	840	*Merremia peltata, Funtumia elastica, Spathodea campanulata, Albizzia chinensis, Paraserianthes falcataria*	42.4

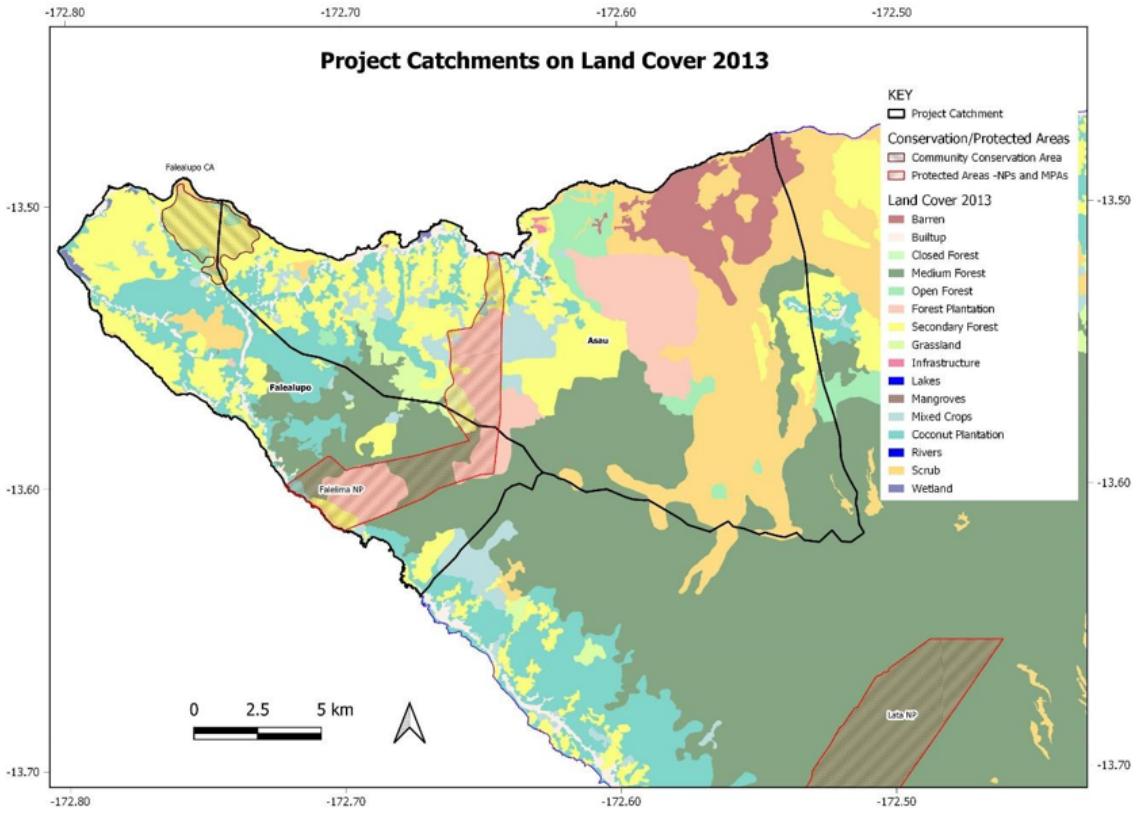
1. Falealupo

Main Features

The Falealupo catchment is located at the far western end of Savaii island (S13.50? , W172.75?) in the Falealupo and Alataua West Political Districts. The catchment area is approximately 10,200 Ha and consists of a large coastal plain with a few emergent volcanic craters up to 300m elevation. The geology is mostly relatively young and rocky Puapua volcanics (3000 years old) or Lefaga volcanics (10000 years old) and there are no rivers in the catchment. This area is one of the driest parts of Samoa with an annual rainfall of around 2000mm/year at Falealupo tai village but increasing to around 4000mm/year in the highest part of the catchment. The core villages in the catchment include Falealupo, Falelima, Neiafu Tai, Tufutafoe, Vaotupua and Avata with a population in 2016 of approximately 2,673 (Government of Samoa 2016). The forest cover in 2013 was approximately 68% (Government of Samoa 2013) with the balance mostly agricultural land (cocoa, taro, bananas, coconuts) especially in the lower parts of the catchment towards the coast. There was no deforestation recorded between 1999 and 2013 (Government of Samoa 2013). There is one community conservation area in the catchment- the Falealupo CCA at approximately 1537 Ha covering some unusual dry coastal forest and part of one National Park- the Falelima National Park at the eastern end of the catchment and which was a forest plantation until 2004.

Main IAS and management issues

The main problem IAS identified in community consultations included *Leucaena leucocephala, Spathodea campanulata, Funtumia elastica and Merremia peltata* as well as myna birds (*Acridotheres tristis* and *A. fuscus*), the Giant African Snail (*Lissachatina fulica*) and the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*). The community noted that there are currently no IAS being managed in the area.



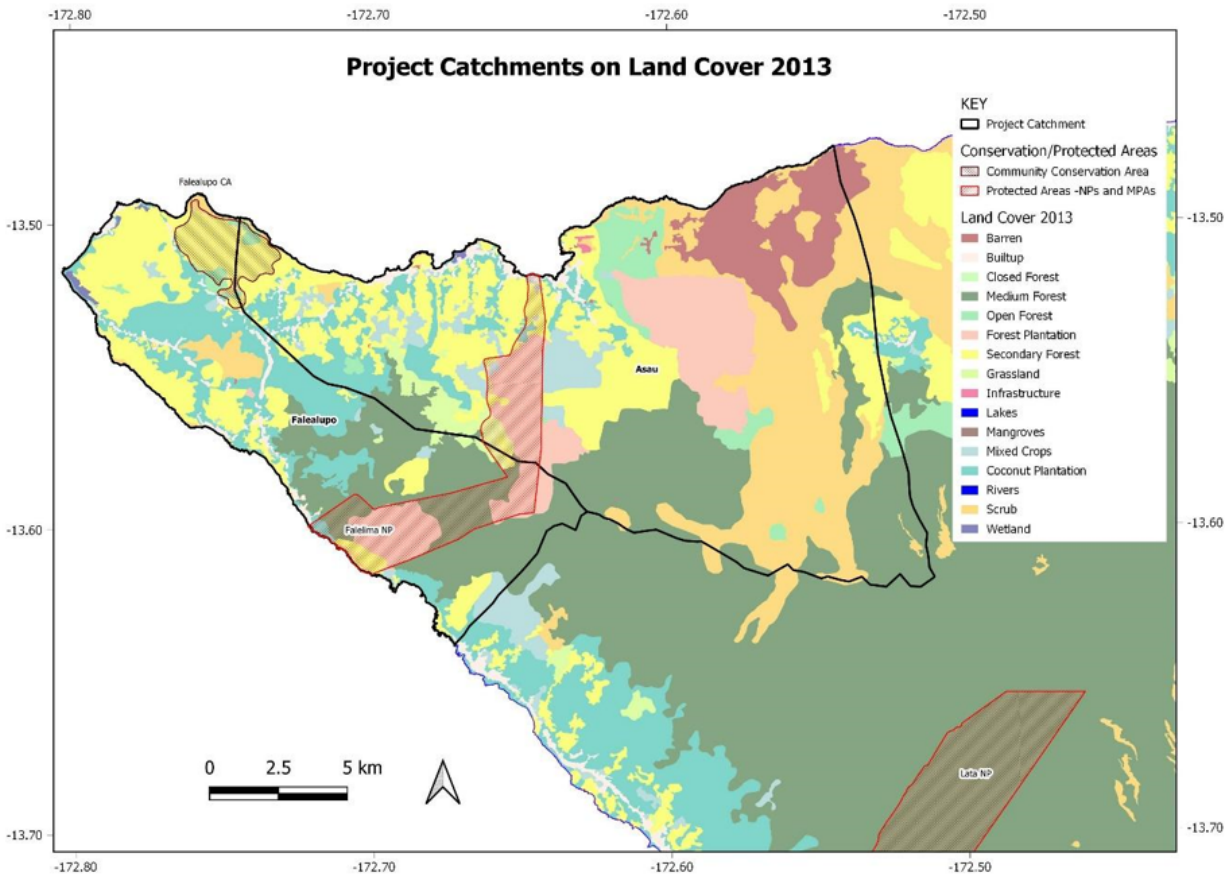
2. Asau

Main Features

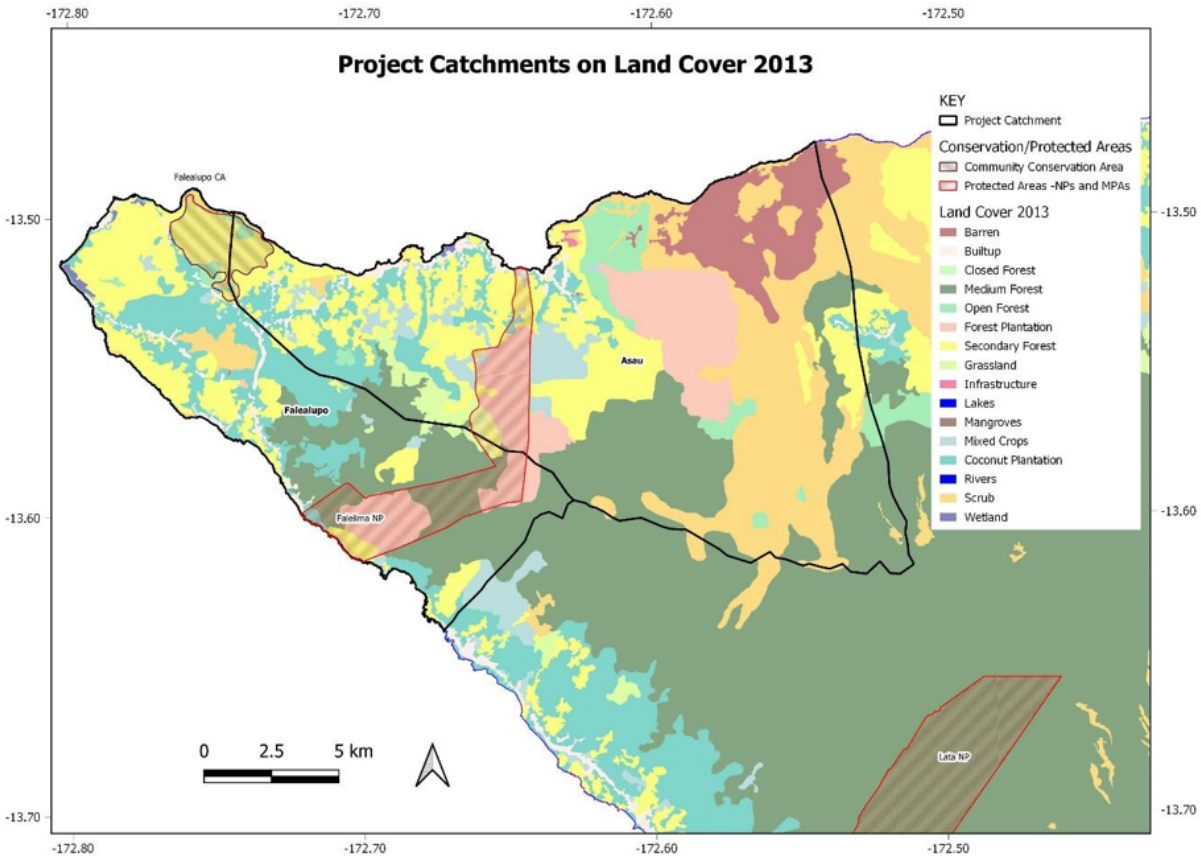
The Asau catchment is located at the north western end of Savaii island (S13.55? , W172.60?) in the Gagaifomauga III and Vaisigano West Political Districts. The catchment area is approximately 21,840 Ha and consists of a large rocky coastal plain with a ridge of volcanic craters up to 1,600m elevation in the southern part of the catchment, towards the centre of Savaii. The geology of the catchment is mostly gently sloping recent lava flows from the Aopo volcanics (lava flows since the 1700?s) or Puapua (3,000 years old) or Lefaga volcanics (10,000 years old) and there are no permanently flowing rivers in the catchment although there are some intermittent streams that flow during heavy rainfall events. The annual rainfall varies from around 2000mm at the coast to around 5000mm inland. The core villages in the catchment include Fagasa, Sataua, Utulola, Matavai Asau, Auala, and Vaisala with a population in 2016 of approximately 3,728 (Government of Samoa 2016). The forest cover in 2013 was approximately 55% (Government of Samoa 2013) with the balance mostly volcanic scrub, barren lava flows and some agricultural land (cocoa, bananas, taro, coconuts), especially lower down towards the settlements along the coast. There was no deforestation recorded between 1999 and 2013 (Government of Samoa 2013). There is part of one National Park- the Falelima National Park which cuts across the centre of the catchment (area = 2,494 Ha) and is a former forest plantation planted with mahogany, teak and other timber trees.

Main IAS and management issues

The main problem IAS identified in community consultations included *Leucaena leucocephala* as well as myna birds (*Acridotheres tristis* and *A. fuscus*), feral pigeons (*Columba livia domestica*), rats (*Rattus* species) and Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*). The community noted that there are currently no IAS being managed in the area although a common way to control invasive weeds is via slashing with bush knives.



feral pigeons (*Columba livia domestica*), rats (*Rattus* species) and Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*). The community noted that there are currently no IAS being managed in the area although a common way to control invasive weeds is via slashing with bush knives.



3. Palauli

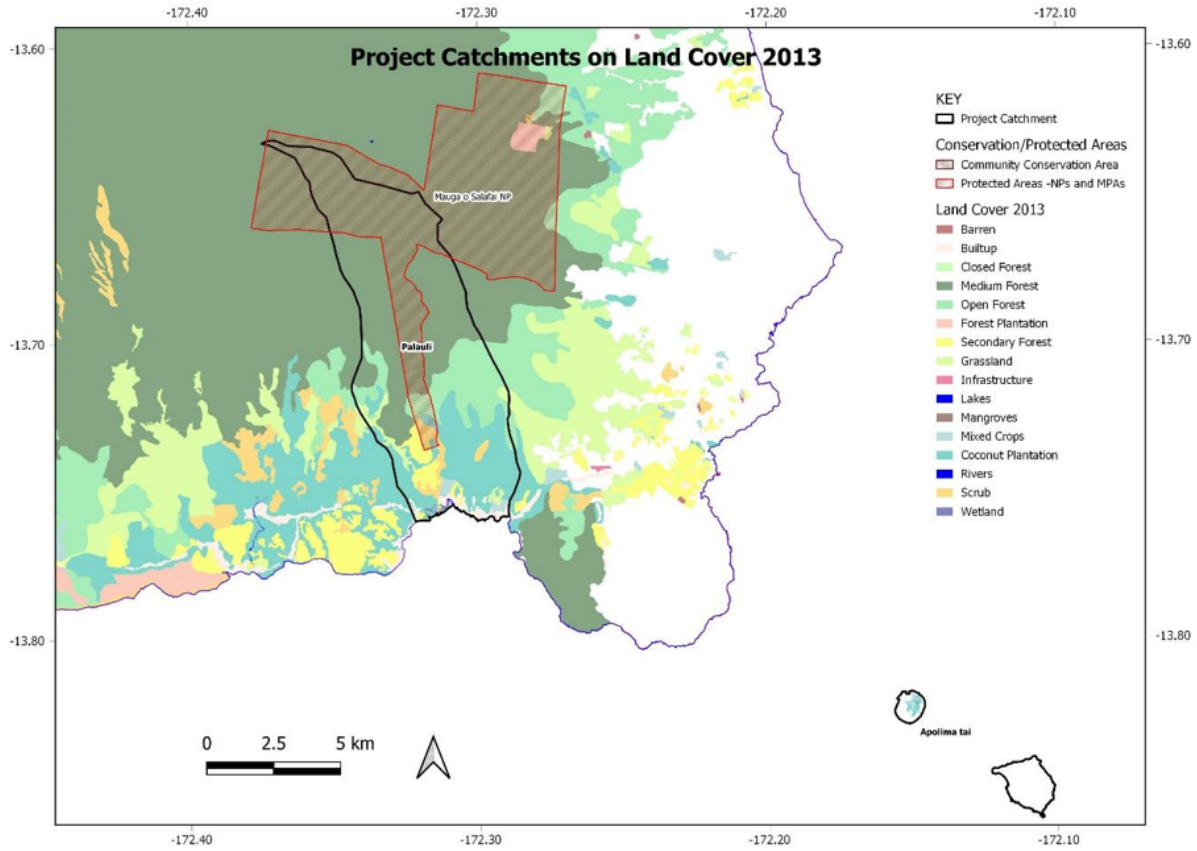
Main Features

The Palauli catchment is located at the south eastern end of Savaii island (S13.70? , W172.35?) in the Palauli East Political District. The catchment area is approximately 5,920 Ha and consists of gently sloping land with three rivers, from west to east the Seugagogo river, the Faleata stream and the Vailoa stream. The highest point of the catchment is at the volcanic crater of Mt Mafane at around 1000m. The geology of the catchment is mostly incised Salani volcanics (100,000-200,000 years old) but with some more recent rocky Puapua volcanics (3000 years old) and the annual rainfall varies from 3500mm at the coast to over 5000mm inland. The core villages in the catchment include Tafua, Faala, Vaitoomuli, Satufia, Vaega, Pitonuu and Moasula with a population in 2016 of approximately 4,887 (Government of Samoa 2016). The forest cover in 2013 was approximately 74% (Government of Samoa 2013) and mostly in the inland areas of the catchment with the balance mostly agricultural land (cocoa, taro,

bananas, coconuts) towards the coast. There was no deforestation recorded between 1999 and 2013 (Government of Samoa 2013). There is part of one National Park- the Mauga o Salafai National Park in the northern part of the catchment (area = 5,973 Ha).

Main IAS and management issues

The main problem IAS identified in community consultations included *Solanum torvum, Spathodea campanulata*, *Merremia peltata*, *Funtumia elastica* and *Castilla elastica* as well as myna birds (*Acridotheres tristis* and *A. fuscus*), feral pigeons (*Columba livia domestica*), Giant African Snail (*Lissachatina fulica*) and Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*). The community noted that they control Giant African Snails by burning and they ring bark invasive weeds.



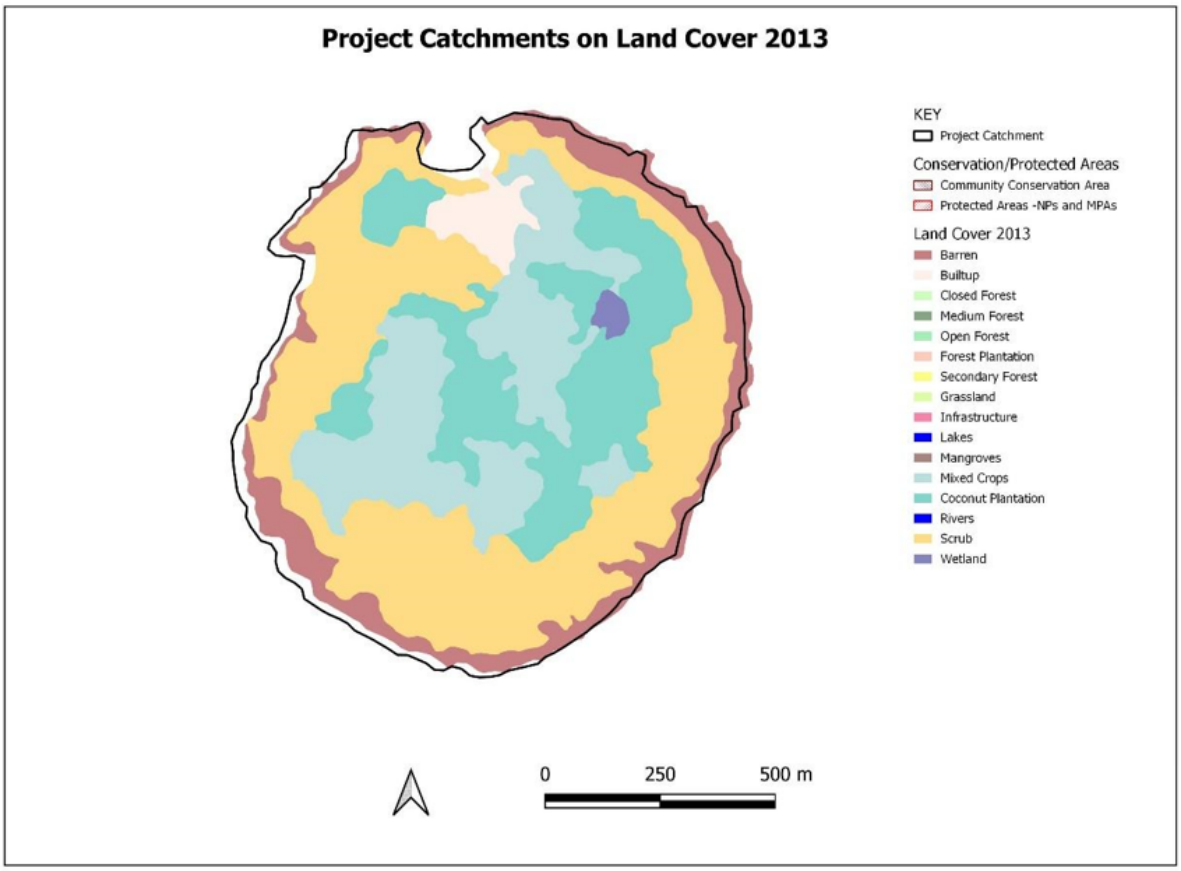
4. Apolima tai

Main Features

Apolima island Apolima tai) is located between Upolu and Savaii islands (S13.82? , W172.15?) in the Aiga i le tai Political District. The island is approximately 98 Ha in area and consists of a small village inside a volcanic crater. The highest point on the island is around 157m along the crater rim. The geology of the island is volcanic tuff- over 2 million years old and there is one intermittent stream that flows during heavy rainfall events towards the small bay at the north of the island. The annual rainfall is around 4000mm/year. The only village on the island had a population in 2016 of 96 people and is located next to a small bay and beach at the northern end of the island (Government of Samoa 2016). The forest cover in 2013 was zero, but around 30 % is classified as scrub with the balance a mixture of coconut plantations and areas of mixed crops (cocoa, bananas, taro, breadfruit) and some barren land (mostly cliffs) (Government of Samoa 2013).

Main IAS and management issues

We were not able to visit Apolima island so cannot report on their main IAS problem species but expect it to be similar to the common invasive species recorded as problem species by communities on Upolu (ie the plants *Mimosa pudica*, *Solanum torvum, Spathodea campanulata*, *Albizzia chinensis*, *Paraserianthes falcataria*, *Merremia peltata*, *Funtumia elastica* and *Castilla elastica* as well as myna birds (*Acridotheres tristis* and *A. fuscus*), Crown of Thorns starfish (*Acanthaster planci*), Giant African Snail (*Lissachatina fulica*) and Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros)*).



5. Mulifanua

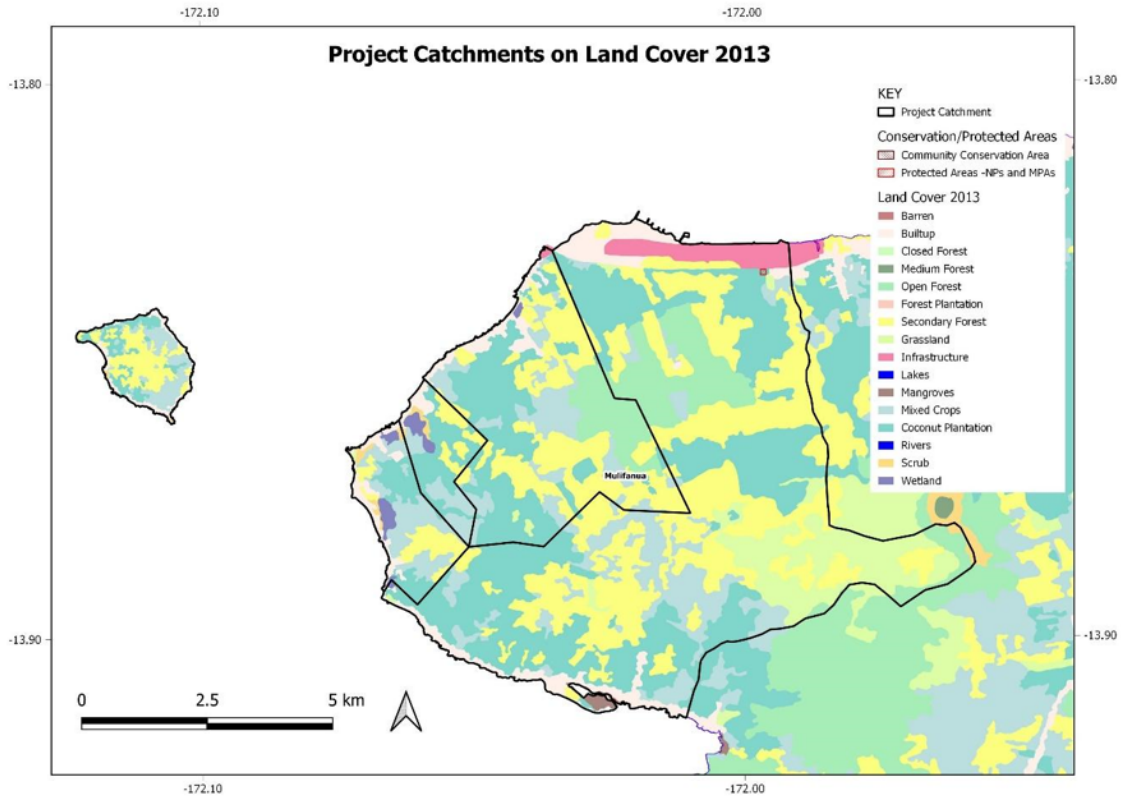
Main features

Mulifanua catchment is located at the far eastern end of Upolu island (S13.85? , W172.05?) in the Aana alofi III, Aiga i le tai and Falelatai/Samatau Political Districts. The catchment area is approximately 7,100 Ha and is mostly a gently sloping coastal plain with no rivers. The highest point of the catchment is adjacent to Mt Tafua Upolu at around 600m. The geology of the catchment is mostly Mulifanua volcanics (100,000 years old) but with some more recent rocky Puapua volcanics (3,000 years old) at Mt Tafua Upolu. The annual rainfall varies from 3,000mm at the coast to near 5,000mm inland. The core villages in the catchment include Tausagi, Olo, Paepeala, Samea, Fauiloloo, Lalovii, Apolima Uta, Manonu Uta, Samatau, Siufaga, Pata, Nefunefu, Matautu, Levi, Matanofo, Falevai, Samau with a population in 2016 of approximately 8,266 (Government of Samoa 2016). The forest cover in 2013 was approximately only 39.5% -mostly secondary forest with the balance mostly coconut plantations with

some areas of mixed crops (taro, bananas, cocoa) (Government of Samoa 2013). Six percent of the forest area was lost between 1999 and 2013 (Government of Samoa 2013). There are no national parks or community conservation areas in this project area although there are some important herbaceous marshes and mangrove wetland areas along the coast.

Main IAS and management issues

The main problem IAS identified in community consultations included *Mimosa pudica*, *Solanum torvum, Spathodea campanulata*, *Albizzia chinensis*, *Paraserianthes falcataria*, *Merremia peltata*, *Funtumia elastica,* and *Castilla elastica* as well as myna birds (*Acridotheres tristis* and *A. fuscus*), Crown of Thorns starfish (*Acanthaster planci*), Giant African Snail (*Lissachatina fulica*) and Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*). The community noted that they control Giant African Snails by burning or dumping in the sea and they ring bark or poison invasive weeds with paraquat.



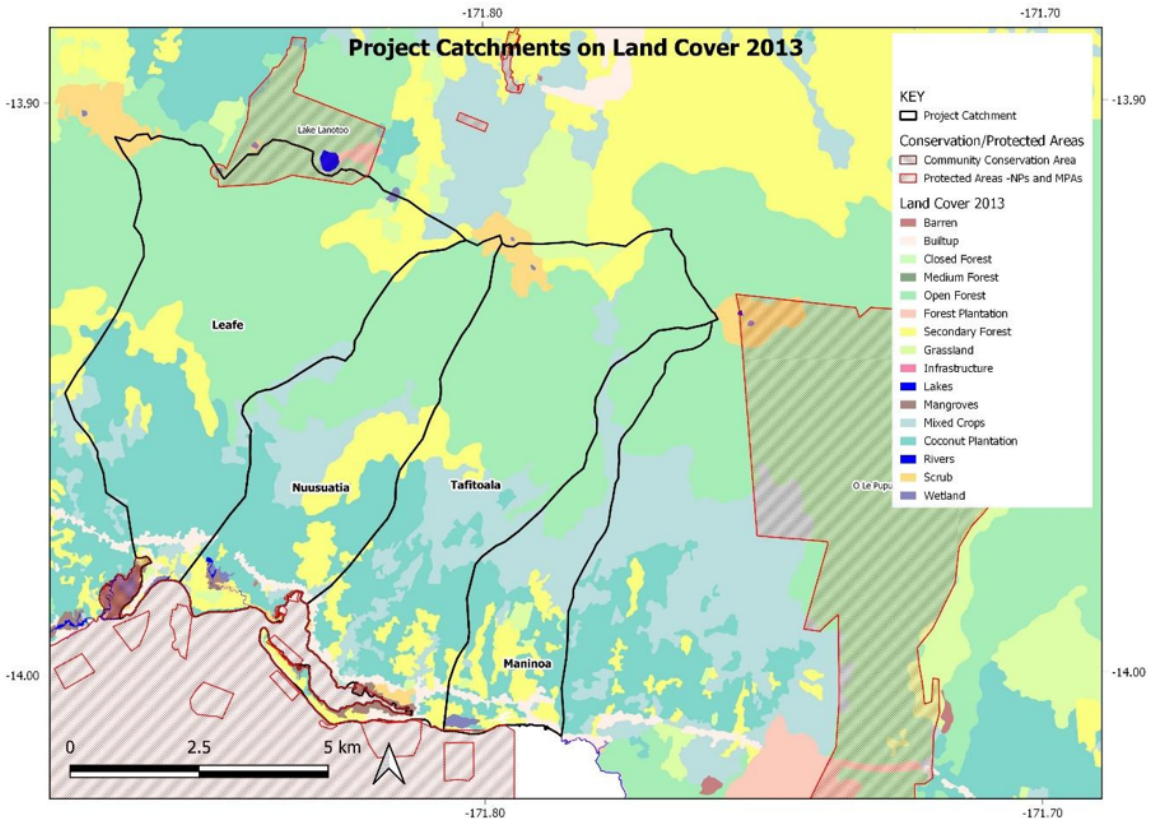
6. **Lotofaga**

Main Features

The Lotofaga or Leafe catchment is located in the south central part of Upolu island (S13.95? , W171.85?) in the Safata Political District. The catchment area is approximately 3,200 Ha and consists of the deeply incised Leafe river catchment. The highest point of the catchment is the crater surrounding the largest natural lake in Samoa, Lake Lanoto?o, at around 750m in the north of the catchment. The geology of the catchment is mostly the relatively old Salani volcanics (100,000 - 200,000 years old) but with some even older Fagaloa volcanics (up to 5 million years old) exposed in the upper Leafe river. The annual rainfall varies from 3,500mm at the coast to near 5,000mm inland. The two main villages in the catchment are Lotofaga and Sataoa with a population in 2016 of approximately 2,070 (Government of Samoa 2016). The forest cover in 2013 was approximately 67% - mostly open (low density) forest in the inland, higher part of the catchment with the balance towards the coast largely coconut plantations with some areas of mixed crops (taro, bananas, cocoa) (Government of Samoa 2013). Six point six percent of the forest area was lost between 1999 and 2013 (Government of Samoa 2013). The Lake Lanoto?o National Park (470 Ha) is at the northern end of the catchment and the Sa?anapu Sataoa Mangrove Conservation Area (c 53 Ha) borders the south western edge of the catchment. The Safata Marine Protected Area was once located in the lagoon adjacent to the catchment and out to the reef slope in the Safata District, but is not operational at the current time.

Main IAS and management issues

The main problem IAS identified in community consultations included *Mimosa pudica*, *Solanum torvum, Spathodea campanulata*, *Albizzia chinensis*, *Paraserianthes falcataria*, *Funtumia elastica,* and *Castilla elastica* as well as myna birds (*Acridotheres tristis* and *A. fuscus*), Giant African Snail (*Lissachatina fulica*) and Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*). The community noted that they control Giant African Snails by burning and they ring bark and burn invasive trees and poison invasive weeds with paraquat.



7. Nu?usuatia

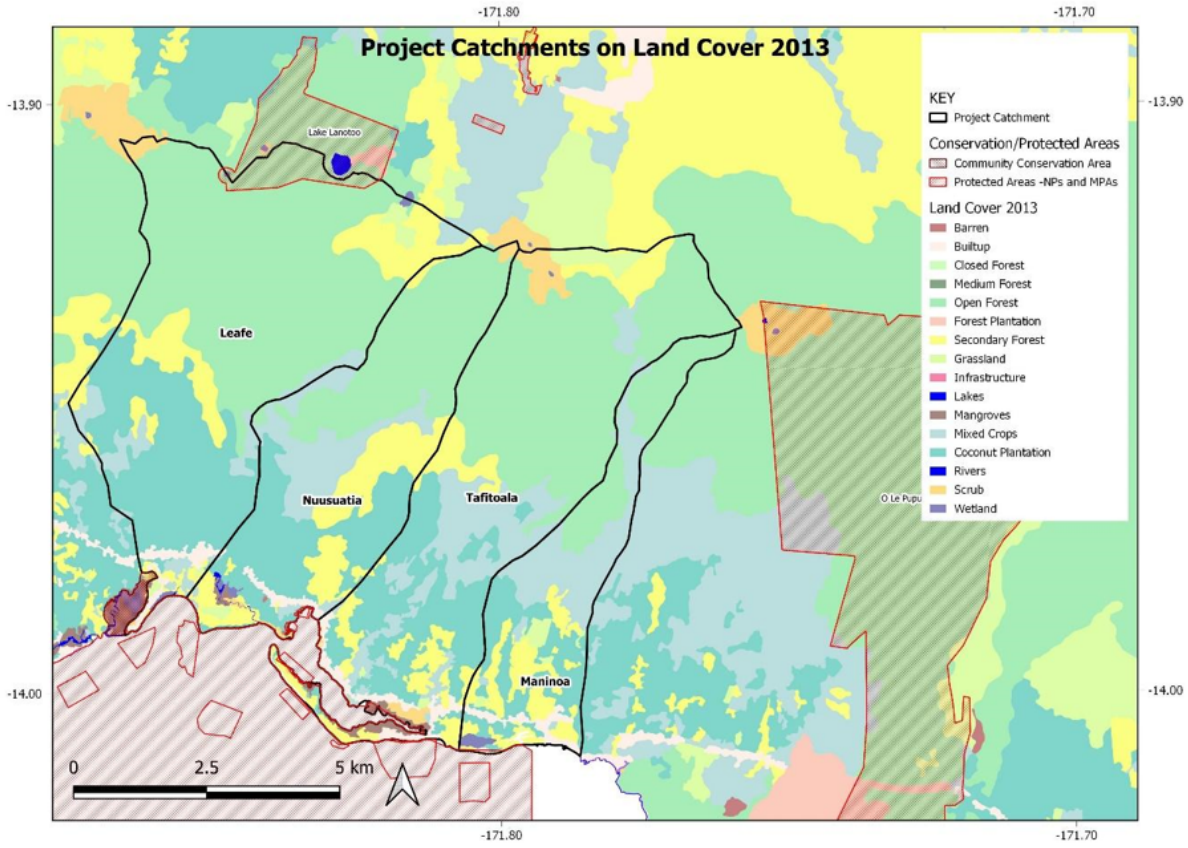
Main Features

The Nu?usuatia catchment is located in the south central part of Upolu island (S13.95? , W171.82?) in the Safata Political District to the east of the Lotofaga/Leafe catchment. The catchment area is approximately 1,910 Ha and consists of the incised Nu?usuatia river catchment. The highest point of the catchment is Mt Fiamoe at around 900m in the north of the catchment. The geology of the catchment is mostly the relatively old Salani volcanics (100,000 -200,000 years old) but with some even older Fagaloa volcanics (up to 5 million years old) exposed in the upper Nu?usuatia river where it is called the Tumu o le Manu river. The annual rainfall varies from 3,500mm at the coast to near 5,000mm inland. The two main villages in the catchment are Nu?usuatia and Vaiee with a population in 2016 of approximately 1,022 (Government of Samoa 2016). The forest cover in 2013 was approximately 55% -mostly open (low density) forest in the interior areas with the balance largely coconut plantations with some areas of mixed crops (taro, bananas, cocoa) at the forest edge (Government of Samoa 2013). Four point six percent of the forest area was lost between 1999 and 2013 (Government of Samoa 2013). The Safata Marine Protected Area was once located in the lagoon

adjacent to the catchment and out to the reef slope in the Safata District, but is not operational at the current time.

Main IAS and management issues

The main problem IAS identified in community consultations included *Mimosa pudica*, *Solanum torvum, Spathodea campanulata*, *Albizzia chinensis*, *Paraserianthes falcataria*, *Funtumia elastica,* and *Castilla elastica* as well as myna birds (*Acridotheres tristis* and *A. fuscus*), Giant African Snail (*Lissachatina fulica*) and Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*). The community noted that they control Giant African Snails by burning and they ring bark and burn invasive trees and poison invasive weeds with paraquat.



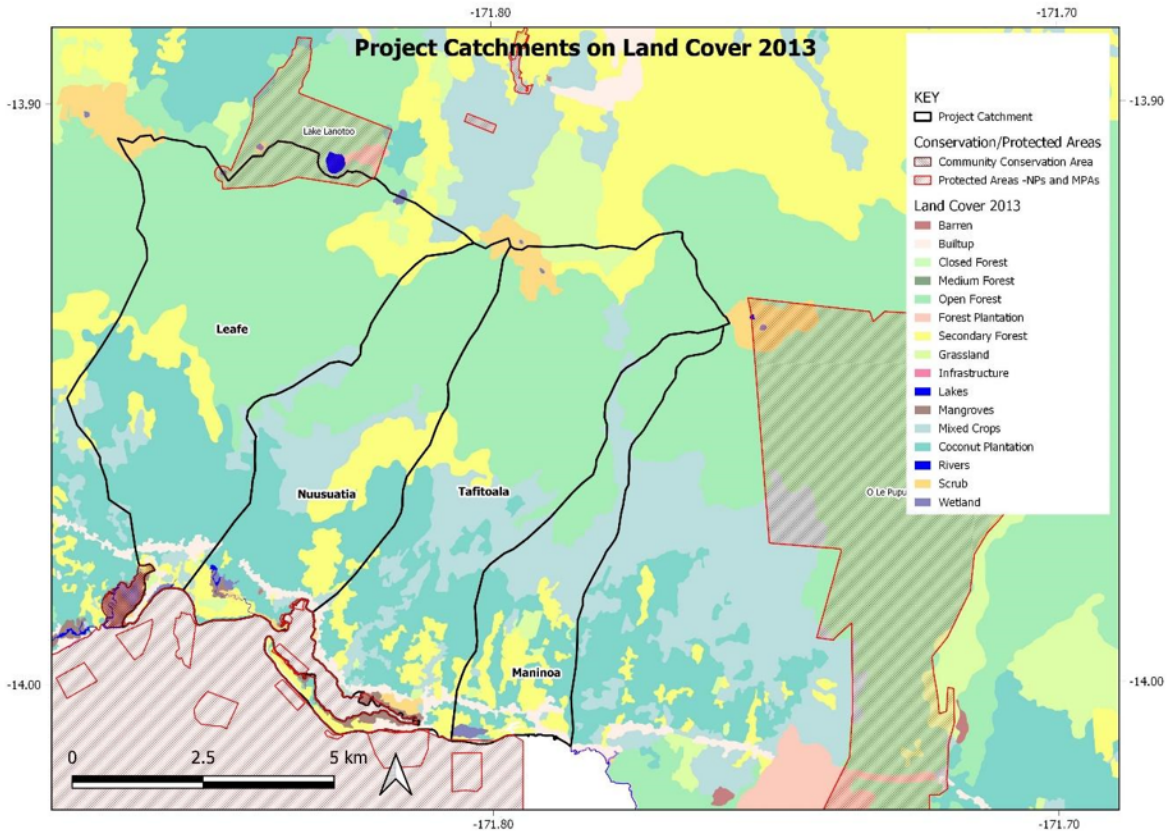
8. Tafitoala

Main Features

The Tafitoala catchment is located in the south central part of Upolu island (S13.95? , W171.78?) in the Safata Political District to the east of the Nu?usuatia catchment. The catchment area is approximately 2,950 Ha and consists of the incised Tafitoala river catchment. The highest point of the catchment is Mt Fiamoe at around 900m. The geology of the catchment is mostly the relatively old Salani volcanics (100,000 -200,000 years old) but with some even older Fagaloa volcanics (up to 5 million years old) exposed in the upper Tafitoala river. The annual rainfall varies from 3500mm at the coast to near 5000mm inland. The three main villages in the catchment are Tafitoala, Fausaga and Fusi with a population in 2016 of approximately 1,514 (Government of Samoa 2016). The forest cover in 2013 was approximately 58% -mostly open (low density) forest in the interior areas with the balance largely coconut plantations with some areas of mixed crops (taro, bananas, cocoa) at the forest edge (Government of Samoa 2013). Five point one percent of the forest area was lost between 1999 and 2013 (Government of Samoa 2013). There is a large mangrove forest in the inner lagoon within the Tafitoala peninsula and the Safata Marine Protected Area was once located in the outer lagoon and out to the reef slope in the Safata District, but is not operational at the current time.

Main IAS and management issues

The main problem IAS identified in community consultations included *Merremia peltata, Mimosa pudica*, *Solanum torvum, Spathodea campanulata*, *Albizzia chinensis*, *Paraserianthes falcataria*, *Ardisia elliptica*, *Funtumia elastica,* and *Castilla elastica* as well as myna birds (*Acridotheres tristis* and *A. fuscus*), Giant African Snail (*Lissachatina fulica*), Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*) and wild pigs (*Sus scrofa*). The community noted that they control Giant African Snails by burning and they ring bark and burn invasive trees and poison invasive weeds with paraquat.



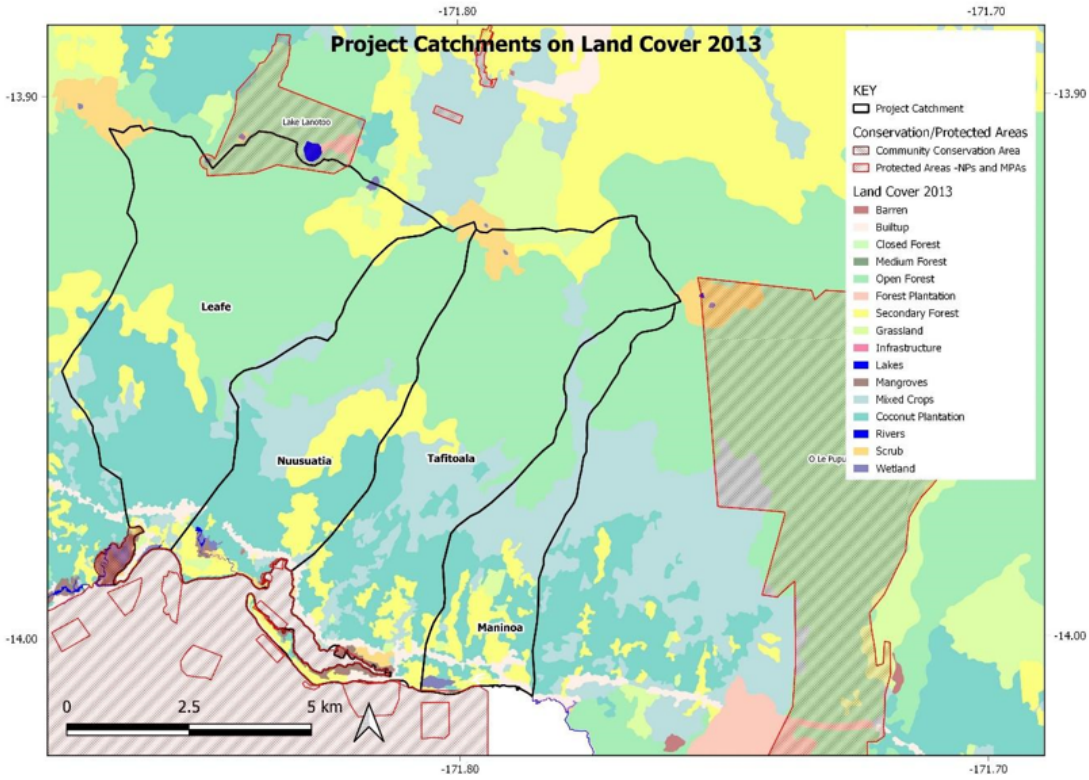
10. **Maninoa**

Main Features

The Maninoa catchment is located in the south central part of Upolu island (S13.95? , W171.77?) in the Siumu and Safata Political Districts to the south east of the Tafitoala catchment. The catchment area is approximately 1,180 Ha and consists of the Maninoa river catchment. The highest point of the catchment is on the slopes of Mt Le Pue at around 700m. The geology of the catchment is mostly the relatively old Salani volcanics (100,000 -200,000 years old). The annual rainfall varies from 3500mm at the coast to near 5000mm inland. The two main villages in the catchment are Maninoa and Mulivai and with a population in 2016 of approximately 1,514 (Government of Samoa 2016). The forest cover in 2013 was approximately 42% -mostly open (low density) forest in the interior areas with the balance large areas of mixed crops (taro, bananas, cocoa) and coconut plantations (Government of Samoa 2013). Four point two percent of the forest area was lost between 1999 and 2013 (Government of Samoa 2013).

Main IAS and management issues

The main problem IAS identified in community consultations included *Merremia peltata, Mimosa pudica*, *Solanum torvum, Spathodea campanulata*, *Albizzia chinensis*, *Paraserianthes falcataria*, *Ardisia elliptica*, *Funtumia elastica,* and *Castilla elastica* as well as myna birds (*Acridotheres tristis* and *A. fuscus*), Giant African Snail (*Lissachatina fulica*), Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*) and wild pigs (*Sus scrofa*). The community noted that they control Giant African Snails by burning and they ring bark and burn invasive trees and poison invasive weeds with paraquat



Annex F: GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Annex G: GEF Project Taxonomy Worksheet

Annex H: Changes from PIF

Summary of changes made	PIF	GEF CEO ER/ Prodoc	Rationale
Objective	To equip and empower local communities to safeguard Samoa?s indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from Invasive Alien Species (IAS) and unsustainable land use practices.	No Change	NA
Components	Component 1: Enhancing institutional and technical capacity in safeguarding indigenous species, natural ecosystems and production systems from IAS Component 2: Demonstrating integrated management of catchments from ridge to reef to safeguard indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from IAS and unsustainable land use practices Component 3: Gender mainstreaming and knowledge management	No Change	NA

Output 2.1	Output 2.1 Community Integrated Management Plans interventions assessed and safeguards prioritized to ensure that the selected catchments are effectively managed for biodiversity conservation, soil and water conservation and food security whilst ensuring that IAS risks are minimized from ridge to reef	Output 2.1 Identification and prioritization of Invasive Alien Species in community production areas Output 2.2 Community Integrated Management Plans interventions assessed and safeguards prioritized and implemented to enhance management of IAS risks in community areas	PIF Output 2.1 was separated into 2 outputs to ensure that new Output 2.1 exclusively focuses on prioritization of IAS in community managed areas, given the key focus of the project and new Output 2.2 focusses on integration of IAS priorities into CIMPs as an annex to CIMPs. The CIMPs already focuses on conservation and sustainable resource management actions
New Output 2.4	NA	A separate Output 2.4 has been added: ?Improving capacity of communities for management of IAS?	The PPG team felt that a clear priority for addressing IAS prevention and management in 9 catchments, including community productive lands, is to enhance the capacity of community members, fisherfolk, farmers, local administrators and PA and forestry staff. The training program will focus on improving their understanding on IAS and how to identify such species, recognize possible factors that enable the rapid spread; improve understanding of the negative impacts of invasive species on their environment; and specific actions against invasive species.
New Output 3.4	NA	A new Output 3.4 ?Monitoring and Evaluation? has been added	The M&E is now a separate Output in accordance with GEF requirements

Targets	Core Indicator 1: Terrestrial PAs created or under improved management ? 5,618 ha Core Indicator 2: Marine PAs created or under improved management ? 6,152 ha Core Indicator 4: Area of landscape under improved management ? 59,804 Core Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries ? 26,610 (13,096 female and 13,514 male)	Core Indicator 1: Terrestrial PAs created or under improved management ? 10,567 ha Core Indicator 2: Marine PAs created or under improved management ? 6,449 ha Core Indicator 4: Area of landscape under improved management ? 48,547 Core Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries ? 25,246 (12,255 female and 12,991 male)	The new numbers are based on actual ground assessments made at PPG stage. In addition , a new Core Indicator 3 has been added at PPG stage, namely are of land restored ? 20 ha (this includes demonstration of IAS eradication and restoration of natural vegetation in IAS infested locations within PAs)
Component budgets were adjusted	*Component 1: $950,000* *Component 2: $2,050,000* *Component 3: $336,160* *PMC: $166,808*	*Component 1: $1,091,257* *Component 2: $1,968,000* *Component 3: $277,320* *PMC: $166,391*	The budget was slightly adjusted between three project Components calculated in consultations with key stakeholders to ensure enough funds are available for implementation of each Component.
Project co-financing was adjusted to real commitments	*$20,000,000*	*$ 18,858,000.00*	A 5.7 % reduction of co-financing from PIF value. This reduction is due to a number of factors, namely on account of Covid-19 in that as a result: (i) national budgets have been constrained; (ii) a more strategic budget focus on key sectors affected by Covid-19 such as health, disease prevention and food security; and (iii) reduction in government earnings on account of total loss of tourism that accounted for about 35-37% of the national GDP.

ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)						Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1	*Component 2*	*Component 3*	*Sub-Total*	*M&E*	*PMC*		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Equipment	IT Equipment – $148,757 (i) IT equipment for support IAS information system	148,757			148,757			148,757	MNRE
Equipment	Equipment and Furniture - $220,000 (i) Equipment for biosecurity treatment and laboratory facilities - $220,000	220,000			220,000			220,000	MNRE
Grants	Low value Grants - $1,000,000 - Grants to communities for SLM, SFM, IAS prevention and management and livelihood activities – (Output 2.2). Use of grant shall follow UNDP Low-Value Grants Policy'		1,000,000		1,000,000			1,000,000	MNRE/UNOPS
Sub-contract to executing partner/ entity	UNDP Direct project cost: $5,776 (Annex 17)						5,776	5,776	UNDP
Contractual Services – Individual	Contractual services – Implementing partner - $66,000 Technical Coordinator (local) total costs $144,000 for 6 years of which Component 1 cost is $66,000	66,000			66,000			66,000	MNRE
Contractual Services – Individual	Contractual services – Implementing partner - $66,000 (i) Technical Coordinator (local) total costs $144,000 for 6 years of which Component 1 cost is $66,000		66,000		66,000			66,000	MNRE/UNOPS
Contractual Services – Individual	Contractual services – Implementing partner - $10,000 Technical Coordinator (local) total costs $144,000 for 6 years of which Component 3 cost is $10,000					10,000		10,000	MNRE

Contractual Services – Individual	Contractual Services – Implementing partner (i) Project Coordinator/Manager - $145,615						145,615	145,615	MNRE
Contractual Services – Company	Contractual services – companies - $140,000 for Simulation training and trials, Development of IAS information exchange platform ,Development of biosecurity treatment (2 ports) and laboratory facilities (2 ports) – Output 1.3	140,000			140,000			140,000	MNRE
Contractual Services – Company	Contractual services – Companies - $339,000 (i) Review CIMPS to assess gaps in SLM, SFM and land management and develop IAS plans to CIMPs – $40,000, (ii)n Restoration of 2 critical catchments as models of demonstration of conservation practice - $119,000, (Output 2.2) (ii) Support for implement on-the-ground demonstration activities in 3 PAs and MPA - $100,000 (Output 2.3) (iii) Capacity needs assessment and design of training program for local communities and design of training materials and curriculum - $80,000 - Output 2.4		339,000		339,000			339,000	MNRE/UNOPS
Contractual Services – Company	Contractual Service – Firm - $80,000 (i) Design awareness and communication plan and materials and conduct awareness - $80,000 (Output 3.2)			80,000	80,000			80,000	MNRE
International Consultants	International Consultant - $135,000 (i) Technical advisor (intermittent long-term) – Component 1 cost of $125,000 (total costs $197,000) (ii) Biosecurity economic analysis (cost-recovery) – 20 days at $500 = $10,000 (Output 1.4)	135,000			135,000			135,000	MNRE
International Consultants	International Consultant - $72,000 (i) Technical advisor (intermittent long-term) – Component 2 costs of $72,000 (total costs $197,000)		72,000		72,000			72,000	MNRE/UNOPS

International Consultants	International consultants - $41,000 (i) Evaluator for MTR – 41 x $500 = $20,500; TE Evaluator – 41 days x $500 = $20,500 (Output 3.4)				-	41,000		41,000	UNDP
Local Consultants	Local Consultants - $104,500 (i) IAS capacity needs assessment – 20 days x $300 = $6,000 (Output 1.1) (ii) Develop modular IAS safeguard training programs – 20 days x $300 = $6,000 (Output 1.1) (iii) Develop model agro-environmental training program - 20 days x $300 = $6,000 (Output 1.1) (v) Develop IAS baseline, IAS information system and content of information system – 40 days x$300 = $12,000 (Output 1.2) (vi) Gather baseline data and enter into database – 50 days x $200 = $10,000 (Output 1.2) (vi) Strengthen risk assessment activities and protocols of MAF -25 days x $300 = $7,500 (Output 1.2) (vii) Support MAF in identifying activities and developing protocols for each identified biosecurity activity – 20 days x $300 = $6,000 (Output 1.3) (Potential combining vi and vii) (viii) Update of NISSAP – 20 days x $300 = $6,000 (Output 1.3) (ix) Design and deliver SISERP simulation training – 37.5 days x $400 = $15,000 (Output 1.3) (x) Develop detailed platform(s) report for IAS information exchange and reporting – 13 days = $4,000 (xi) Develop regulations under the EM&C legislation – 20 days x $400 = $8,000 (Output 1.1) (xii) Develop biosecurity treatment plan – 10 days x $300 = $3,000 (Output 1.3) (xiii) Update of SISERP – 20 days x $300 -= $6,000 (Output 1.3) (xiv) Develop biosecurity laboratories plan -10 days x $300 = $3,000 (Output 1.3) – (Potential combining xii and xiv) (xv) Legal support for planning and development of cost-recovery support mechanism – 20 days x $300 = $6,000 (Output 1.4)	104,500			104,500			104,500	MNRE

Local Consultants	Local Consultants - $60,000 (i) To assess current status of IAS that threatened ecosystems in demonstration sites and identify pathways and prioritize prevention and management actions – 75 days x $400 = ($30,000) – Output 2.1 (ii) Development of monitoring framework to measure IAS prevention and management investments in community areas – 20 days x 300 = $6,000 (Output 2.2) (iii) Rapid surveys in 3 PAs, marine PA and community fisheries reserves and identify new species for prevention and management - 40 days x $300 = $12,000, Design demonstration actions in PAs – 40 days x $300 = $12,000 – Output 2.3		60,000		60,000			60,000	MNRE/UNOPS
Local Consultants	Local consultants - $86,500 (i) Gender specialist 55 days x $300 = $16,500 (30 days in Year 1 and 5 days in Years 2 through 6) – Output 3.1 (ii) Undertaking KAP surveys in Year 1 and 6 =20 x 2 days X $200 = $8,000 (Output 3.2) (iii) Establish website and social media platforms – 30 days x $200 = $6,000 (Output 3.2) (iv) Documentation of best practices – 80 days x $250 = $20,000 (Output 3.3) (v) MTR evaluation – 30 days x $400 = $12,000; TE = 30 days x $400 - $12,000(Output 3.4) (vi) Climate projection assessment related to IAS and biodiversity – 40 days x $300 = $12,000 (Output 3.4)			46,000	46,000			46,000	MNRE

Local Consultants	Local consultants - $86,500 (i) Gender specialist 55 days x $300 = $16,500 (30 days in Year 1 and 5 days in Years 2 through 6) – Output 3.1 (ii) Undertaking KAP surveys in Year 1 and 6 =20 x 2 days X $200 = $8,000 (Output 3.2) (iii) Establish website and social media platforms – 30 days x $200 = $6,000 (Output 3.2) (iv) Documentation of best practices – 80 days x $250 = $20,000 (Output 3.3) (v) MTR evaluation – 30 days x $400 = $12,000; TE = 30 days x $400 - $12,000(Output 3.4) (vi) Climate projection assessment related to IAS and biodiversity – 40 days x $300 = $12,000 (Output 3.4) (vii) Prepare M&W framework, review and update M&E plan 24 days in Y1 and 16 Days in Y4 (40 X $250 = 12,000)				-	40,500		40,500	UNDP

Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Training, workshops and conferences - $277,000 (i) Workshops to finalize ISU TORs ($4,000), develop and finalize ISU communication plan for information flow between ISU and Ministries ($2,000), Gather stakeholder input to revision of EM&C legislation ($5,000), SNITT quarterly meetings ($6,000), SNITT-ISU coordination meetings ($6,000), Modular safeguard training program development finalization ($1,000), workshops to develop regulations for EM&C legislation ($4,000), IAS modular training workshops ($150,000), agro-environmental training workshops ($50,000) – (Output 1.1) (ii) Workshops to support gathering of baseline IAS data ($2,000), Training workshops for ISU staff to utilize, maintain and update IAS database ($5,000), training workshop for ISU staff to utilize, maintain and update IAS information system ($5,000), Workshops to train MAF and MNRE staff for IAS monitoring and data collection ($25,000) – Output 1.2 (iii) Workshops to support IAS biosecurity and protocol development ($2,000), Stakeholder workshops to support development of biosecurity facilities plan ($2,000), Stakeholder workshops to support development of biosecurity laboratories plan ($2,000) – Output 1.3 (iv) Workshops for economic analysis of identifying sustainable financing options ($6,000),	277,000			277,000			277,000	MNRE

Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Training, workshops and conferences - $402,000 (i) Consultation meetings in 9 catchments to identify prevention and management of IAS – $9,000 (Output 2.1) (ii) Workshops and Consultation costs for CIMP plan review – $10,000, Workshops and Consultation costs associated with catchment conservation –$13,000, Training of local communities for early detection and reporting of IAS – 20,000 - Output 2.2 (iii) Training workshops for PA and MPA and Fish reserve staff and communities - $10,000 (Output 2.3) (iv) Training of local communities on various aspects of IAS prevention and management based on needs assessment – $340,000 – Output 2.4		402,000		402,000			402,000	MNRE/UNOPS
Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Training, workshops and conferences -$37,820 (i) Gender related training (Output 3.1) (ii) KAP surveys meetings (Output 3.2) (iii) Awareness meeting costs(Output 3.2) (iv) Dissemination of best practices - & Launch and Terminal workshops (Output 3.3); total (i-iv): $30,500 (v) Inception workshop($7,320)			30,500	30,500			30,500	MNRE
Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Training, workshops and conferences -$37,820 (i) Gender related training (Output 3.1) (ii) KAP surveys meetings (Output 3.2) (iii) Awareness meeting costs(Output 3.2) (iv) Dissemination of best practices - & Launch and Terminal workshops (Output 3.3); total (i-iv): $30,500 (v) Inception workshop($7,320)				-	7,320		7,320	MNRE
Travel	Travel - $29,000 Travel related to assessment of IAS status, CIMP review, PA and MPA activities (Outputs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3)		29,000		29,000			29,000	MNRE/UNOPS
Travel	Travel -$22,000 (i) MTR and TE travel - $10,000 (Output 3.4) (ii) Travel related to monitoring (Output 3.4) - $12,000			12,000	12,000			12,000	MNRE

Travel	Travel -$22,000 (i) MTR and TE travel - $10,000 (Output 3.4) (ii) Travel related to monitoring (Output 3.4) - $12,000				-	10,000		10,000	UNDP
Other Operating Costs	Professional Services (Audits) - $15,000				-		15,000	15,000	UNDP
Grand Total		**1,091,257**	**1,968,000**	**168,500**	**3,227,757**	**108,820**	**166,391**	**3,502,968**	

ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet

Instructions. Please submit an finalized termsheet in this section. The NGI Program Call for Proposals provided a template in Annex A of the Call for Proposals that can be used by the Agency. Agencies can use their own termsheets but must add sections on Currency Risk, Co-financing Ratio and Financial Additionality as defined in the template provided in Annex A of the Call for proposals. Termsheets submitted at CEO endorsement stage should include final terms and conditions of the financing.

ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows

Instructions. Please submit a reflows table as provided in Annex B of the NGI Program Call for Proposals and the Trustee excel sheet for reflows (as provided by the Secretariat or the Trustee) in the Document Section of the CEO endorsement. The Agencys is required to quantify any expected financial return/gains/interests earned on non-grant instruments that will be transferred to the GEF Trust Fund as noted in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy. Partner Agencies will be required to comply with

the reflows procedures established in their respective Financial Procedures Agreement with the GEF Trustee. Agencies are welcomed to provide assumptions that explain expected financial reflow schedules.

ANNEX H: (For NGI only) Agency Capacity to generate reflows

Instructions. The GEF Agency submitting the CEO endorsement request is required to respond to any questions raised as part of the PIF review process that required clarifications on the Agency Capacity to manage reflows. This Annex seeks to demonstrate Agencies? capacity and eligibility to administer NGI resources as established in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy, GEF/C.52/Inf.06/Rev.01, June 9, 2017 (Annex 5).