

GEF-8 Program Framework Document (PFD)

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General Program Information

Program Title:

Guinean Forests (GEF-8 Amazon, Congo and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program) Addendum (February 2024)

Country(ies)

Regional, Guinea-Bissau, Togo

GEF Program ID

11391

Lead GEF Agency:

CI

GEF Agency Program ID

Other GEF Agency(ies):

FAO

IUCN

Submission Date

10/17/2023

Type of Trust Fund

GET

Anticipated Program Executing Entity(s):

Direction des Ressources Forestières (DRF)/ Ministère de l'environnement et des ressources forestières

Institute of Biodiversity and Protected Areas (IBAP)

Anticipated Program Executing Partner Type(s):

Government

Government

Sector (Only for Programs on CC):

Project Duration (Months):

72

GEF Focal Area (s)

Multi Focal Area

Program Commitment Deadline:

8/9/2025

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, International Waters, Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Plan Preparation, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Land Management, Land Degradation

GEF Program Financing (a)

10,112,013.00

PPG Amount: (c)

299,999.00

Agency Fee(s): (b)

910,078.00

PPG Agency Fee(s): (d)

27,000.00

Total GEF Project Financing: (a+b+c+d)

11,349,090.00

Total Co-financing

45,500,000.00

Project Tags

CBIT: No SGP: No

Program:

Guinean Forest

Program Summary

Please update those parts that are new in the Addendum (i. e. list of countries, GEBs, etc.)

The Guinean Forests Integrated Program (GFIP) seeks to stem and reverse forest loss and degradation in this critical forest biome. The GFIP will serve as a regional platform to apply a whole-of-biome approach to engage governments and other partners throughout the region to enhance the enabling environment for conservation and sustainable management of Guinean Forests, including dissemination of knowledge, tools, and best practice; support for technical and institutional capacity growth; innovative financing solutions; and facilitation of processes to enhance regional harmonization of policies relating to forest ecosystems. To address threats posed by expanding agriculture, unmanaged timber and non-timber resource extraction, and infrastructure development, country projects in **Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Togo** will apply multiple levers of transformation, including an enhanced enabling environment for sustainable forest management through supportive government policy and sustainable financing solutions; alternatives to unsustainable land and resource use through land use planning and support for sustainable livelihoods and nature-friendly enterprises; and enhanced forest governance through multi-stakeholder dialogues for co-management of protected areas and landscape-level coordination for improved planning and decision making. The regional component of the GFIP will reinforce these areas of work with technical support and capacity building, learning and knowledge exchange, and facilitation of transboundary forest landscape management and regional policy dialogue. Noting the institutional gap at the biome level with respect to policy alignment focused on forest management, the program will explore the development of a regional policy coordination body; in doing so, the GFIP will help advance the ECOWAS Convergence Plan for the Sustainable Management and Utilization of Forest Ecosystems in West Africa, and help impacts endure and expand throughout the biome beyond program implementation. **Collectively, these efforts will expand and strengthen the management of 1,162,156 ha of forest areas under formal protection and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), improve the sustainable management of 478,075 ha in wider forest landscapes outside Protected Areas (PAs), and restore 44,433 ha of land, thereby mitigating GHG emissions by at least 136 million Mt CO₂e. Critical to achieving these results will be ensuring inclusive, gender-equitable socioeconomic benefits for at least 185,667 direct beneficiaries (of which at least 48% will be women). Lastly, the economic empowerment of communities through investment in nature-based local livelihoods and enterprises coupled with participatory land use planning, strengthening community governance of natural resources including expansion of OECMs, and overall, mainstreaming gender in the proposed program interventions will entice local communities to protect and manage the forests hence deter further encroachment and destruction.**

A. PROGRAM RATIONALE

The Guinean Forests of West Africa comprise a globally recognized biodiversity hotspot spanning the southern part of West Africa into the northern region of Central Africa.¹ Covering approximately 620,000 km², the region includes two sub-regions: the Upper Guinean Forests (starting in Guinea and extending eastward to Sierra Leone, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, and part of Benin); and the Lower Guinean Forests extending from southern Nigeria into southwestern Cameroon and including São Tomé and Príncipe and Equatorial Guinea's islands.

An estimated 10 million hectares of forest have been lost in West Africa since the beginning of the 20th century, with only around 15% of the original forest cover still intact.² Decades of poor natural resource governance, civil conflicts, and high levels of poverty and income inequality have left the region's ecosystems in a precarious state, making the protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services upon which the population depends all the more challenging and urgent.

Principal threats to the Guinean Forests include agricultural expansion, unsustainable logging and fishing, bushmeat hunting and trade, industrial and artisanal mining, and climate change and pollution.³ Expansion of the agricultural

frontier for both subsistence and commercial crops is the leading cause of forest loss, such that approximately 80% of the region’s original habitat is considered an “agriculture-forest” mosaic.⁴ Root causes of these threats include high levels of poverty and wealth inequality, intense pressure for economic development, expanding infrastructure and settlements, and inadequate definition and recognition of land tenure and resource rights. Weak governance of natural resource use and management is a contributing factor to these threats throughout the region. Notably, some of the threats mentioned above are transboundary in nature, such as, unsustainable logging and fishing, bushmeat hunting and trade and artisanal mining where miners move between countries.

Forests continue to be lost and degraded across West Africa, with Nigeria having one of the world’s highest deforestation rates and Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire’s primary forest loss rates increasing by 60% and 26% respectively from 2010-2020.⁵ (Table 1 below summarizes forest trend data for the eight countries originally eligible for the GFIP.) Failure to address the drivers of forest loss and degradation will result in continued habitat and ecosystem service loss, and loss of natural capital will erode the socioeconomic wellbeing of forest-dependent communities and foreclose sustainable economic development options.

Table 1: Forest Trends in GFIP-eligible Countries

Country	Stable Forest Cover (2000-2020)	Disturbed Forest (2000-2020)	Net Forest Loss (2000-2020)	Total Net Change (% of total tree cover, 2000-2020)
Cameroon	33,900,000 ha	1,670,000 ha	626,000 ha	-1.7%
Côte d’Ivoire	16,800,000 ha	4,380,000 ha	1,650,000 ha	-6.9%

Ghana	8,670,000 ha	1,690,000 ha	573,000 ha	-5.1%
Guinea	14,600,000 ha	2,626,000 ha	1,590,000 ha	-8.3%
Guinea Bissau	1,880,000 ha	251,000 ha	223,000 ha	-7.6%
Liberia	6,420,000 ha	2,530,000 ha	334,000 ha	-3.6%
Nigeria	20,600,000 ha	1,180,000 ha	1,470,000 ha	-6.1%
São Tomé-Príncipe	NA	NA	77 ha*	-0.5%
Sierra Leone	3,400,000 ha	1,990,000 ha	545,000 ha	-9%
Togo	1,990,000 ha	104,000 ha	181,000 ha	-5.9%

Source: Global Forest Watch (2023). *(2001-2021)

Table 2: Programmatic Components' Links to GEF Core Indicators and KMGBF Goals and Targets¹⁶

Program Components	Program Outcomes	KMGBF Goals	KMGBF Targets (measured at output level)
			<i>All GEF8 Integrated Programs are contributing to Targets 20, 21, 22 and 23</i>

<p>Component 1: Gender-responsive land use planning and spatial analysis</p>	<p>Outcome 1.1: Updated and expanded data and information base available</p> <p>Outcome 1.2: Integrated participatory land-use and spatial plans developed</p>	<p>Goal B: Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed and nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, are valued maintained, and enhanced, with those currently in decline being restored, supporting the achievement of sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations by 2050</p>	<p>Target 1</p> <p>Target 2</p> <p>Target 3</p> <p>Target 8</p> <p>Target 10</p> <p>Target 11</p> <p>Target 21</p>
<p>Component 2: Expand and improve management of forests in protected areas and OECMs</p>	<p>Outcome 2.1: Expanded coverage of protected areas and OECMs</p> <p>Outcome 2.2: Improved management effectiveness of existing protected areas and OECMs, including gender and inclusion considerations.</p>	<p>Goal A: The integrity connectivity and resilience of all ecosystems are maintained, enhanced, or restored substantially increasing the area of natural ecosystems by 2050</p>	<p>Target 1</p> <p>Target 3</p> <p>Target 8</p> <p>Target 10</p> <p>Target 11</p> <p>Target 21</p>
<p>Component 3: Sustainable land use linked to improved gender-responsive participatory and equitable forest management outside protected areas</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1: Improved sustainability of productive sectors in forest landscapes</p> <p>Outcome 3.2: Improved gender-responsive and inclusive access to local livelihoods and nature-friendly enterprises</p> <p>Outcome 3.3: Strengthened gender-responsive and inclusive community forest governance</p>	<p>Goal B: Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed and nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, are valued maintained, and enhanced, with those currently in decline being restored, supporting the achievement of sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations by 2050</p>	<p>Target 1</p> <p>Target 2</p> <p>Target 3</p> <p>Target 8</p> <p>Target 10</p> <p>Target 11</p>

<p>Component 4: Policy engagement to improve gender-responsive and inclusive, enabling conditions for forest conservation and management</p>	<p>Outcome 4.1: Improved policy framework for gender-responsive and inclusive, participatory land-use planning</p> <p>Outcome 4.2: Improved policies to foster a gender-responsive and inclusive economic environment conducive to forest conservation, e.g., incentives, reduction of perverse subsidies</p>	<p>Goal D: Adequate means of implementation including financial resources, capacity building, technical and scientific cooperation, and access to and transfer of technology to fully implement the KMGBF are secured and equitable accessible to all Parties, especially developing countries and small island developing states, as well as countries in economic transition, progressively closing the biodiversity financing gap of \$700 billion per year and aligning financial flows with the KMGBF and the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity</p>	<p>Target 1 Target 14 Target 18 Target 22</p>
<p>Component 5: Regional cooperation, knowledge sharing, and learning</p>	<p>Outcome 5.1: Gender-sensitive knowledge generation and exchange, including public awareness/communications</p> <p>Outcome 5.2: Enhanced coherence and synergies between projects and regional initiatives</p> <p>Outcome 5.3: Sustainable financing strategies formulated.</p> <p>Outcome 5.4: Enhanced basis for regional policy harmonization</p>	<p>Goal D: Adequate means of implementation including financial resources, capacity building, technical and scientific cooperation, access to and transfer of technology to fully implement the KMGBF are secured and equitable accessible to all Parties, especially developing countries and small island developing states, as well as countries in economic transition, progressively closing the biodiversity financing gap of \$700 billion per year and aligning financial flows with the KMGBF and the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity</p>	<p>Target 19 Target 20 Target 21</p>

Table 3: Mapping of Program Components to Go Relevant MEA Objectives

Program Components	UNFCCC	UNCCD	Minamata
<p>Component 1: Gender-responsive land use planning and spatial analysis</p>	<p>The GFIP contributes to Target 8 under the GBF (minimizing the impact of climate change and increasing resilience), and thus aligns with the climate</p>	<p>Strategic objective 1; Expected impacts 1.1 and 1.3</p>	<p>Article 7 (Artisanal and Small-scale mining)</p>

<p>Component 2: Expand and improve management of forests in protected areas and OECMs</p>	<p>mitigation objectives of the UNFCCC.</p>	<p>Strategic objectives 1, 2, and 3; Expected impacts 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1 and 3.2</p>	<p>Article 7 (Artisanal and Small-scale mining)</p>
<p>Component 3: Sustainable land use linked to improved gender-responsive participatory and equitable forest management outside protected areas</p>		<p>Strategic objectives 1, 2, and 3; Expected impacts 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 3.1 and 3.2</p>	<p>Article 7 (Artisanal and Small-scale mining); Article 12 (Contaminated sites)</p>
<p>Component 4: Policy engagement to improve gender-responsive and inclusive, enabling conditions for forest conservation and management</p>		<p>Strategic objectives 1, 2, 4, 5; Expected impacts 1.3, 2.3, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1</p>	<p>Article 7 (Artisanal and Small-scale mining); Article 12 (Contaminated sites); Article 13 (Financial resources and mechanism)</p>
<p>Component 5: Regional cooperation, knowledge sharing, and learning</p>		<p>Strategic objectives 1, 2, 4, 5; Expected impacts 1.4, 2.3, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3</p>	<p>Article 7 (Artisanal and Small-scale mining); Article 13 (Financial resources and mechanism)</p>

Table 4: Status of Minamata Convention on Mercury of GFIP eligible Countries²⁰

Country	Signature Date	Status	Ratification Date	National Action Plans
Cameroon	24/09/2014	Ratification	10/3/2021	
Cote d'Ivoire	10/10/2013	Ratification	1/10/2019	
Ghana	24/09/2014	Ratification	23/03/2017	link
Guinea	24/09/2014	Ratification	22/10/2018	link
Guinea Bissau	24/09/2014	Ratification	22/10/2018	link

Liberia	24/09/2014	Signature		
Nigeria	10/10/2013	Ratification	1/2/2018	link
Sao Tome and Principe		Accession	30/08/2018	
Sierra Leone	12/8/2014	Ratification	1/11/2016	link
Togo	10/10/2013	Ratification	03/02/2017	link

Table 5: AFR100-Bonn Challenge Commitments/GFIP Child Project Restoration Targets²¹

Country	AFR100-Bonn Challenge Commitment	GFIP Restoration Targets
Guinea	2 million ha	7,000 ha
Guinea Bissau	-	15,000
Liberia	1 million ha	
Sierra Leone	700,000 ha	17,433 ha
Togo	1.4 million Ha	5,000
	5.1 million ha	44,433 ha

Total:		
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B. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Country Child Project Alignment and Contributions

Guinea Bissau

Guinea-Bissau has developed and implemented several policies to address environmental issues and has ratified several global environmental commitments related to climate and the environment. In the early 1990s, Guinea Bissau committed itself to global environmental agreements by signing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1995, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1994, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (RAMSAR Convention) in 1991, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Abidjan Convention, the Convention on International Trade in Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals, and more recently the Paris Agreement on climate change, etc. The signing of these global commitments is at the same time accompanied by the elaboration and strengthening of national policy and legal frameworks to combat biodiversity loss.

The Guinea Bissau Child project integrated approach aims to address environmental and systemic challenges holistically, recognizing that they are interlinked and require a comprehensive solution. The approach consists of strengthening protected area governance, sustainable land use in protected and non-protected areas, establishing ecological connectivity between protected and non-protected areas both nationally and in neighboring Guinea, engaging all relevant stakeholders and the private sector, strengthening policies and laws, and aligning policies and laws at the regional level. In addition, the Guinea Bissau Child Project's Theory of Change is perfectly aligned with the Global Guinea Forests IP (GFIP) Theory of Change.

Togo

The government of Togo has demonstrated a strong national willingness to protect and expand forest cover. Togo has established guidelines for the sustainable management of critical forest ecosystems and biodiversity conservation, including integrated land-use planning and forest landscape restoration. To create an enabling environment for such transformational change, several policies, strategies and programme frameworks – such as the Forest Policy 2023, National Strategy REDD+ 2020 among others – have been designed and are under implementation to support the sustainable use of forest resources, conserve biodiversity, increase forest cover and address sources of degradation. These frameworks promote the decentralisation of natural resources management and increased participation of surrounding communities in forest conservation and management.

To enhance the integrity of biodiversity-rich Guinean forest landscapes in the mountainous sub-humid zone of Togo and maintain the functions of these forests' ecosystems, it is necessary to rehabilitate and restore these estates with the participation of the local populations, seeking a balance between the preservation of biodiversity and the necessity to meet the needs of local populations. The Togo child project will contribute primarily to the targets 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 18, 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and to achieving the country's commitments related to the Bonn Challenge, AFR100 Initiative and the reduction of GHG emissions in the AFOLU sector. The project will target small-scale farming communities living in close proximity of protected areas.

They will be supported in protecting and exploiting forest resources' sustainably for their own benefits. Income-generating activities that enable to increase the financial value of healthy forest ecosystems and provide sustainable, climate-resilient sources of income to local communities will be promoted to incentivise forest conservation in the long term. A total of 50,000 people (including 40% of women, and 30% of youth) will directly benefit from the project, including 30,000 people benefiting from the protection and restoration of primary forests, and 20,000 people benefitting from improved agroforestry systems and value chains. Other global environmental benefits include 270,000 ha of terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management, 5,000 ha of land and ecosystems under restoration and 100,000 ha of landscapes under improved practice and 20,602,629 tCO₂eq Greenhouse Gas emissions mitigated.

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

Guinea Bissau: Guinea-Bissau has developed and implemented several policies to address environmental issues and has ratified several global environmental commitments related to climate and the environment. In the early 1990s, Guinea Bissau committed itself to global environmental agreements by signing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1995, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1994, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (RAMSAR Convention) in 1991, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Abidjan Convention, the Convention on International Trade in Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (UITF), the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals, and more recently the Paris Agreement on climate change, etc. The signing of these global commitments is at the same time accompanied by the elaboration and strengthening of national policy and legal frameworks to combat biodiversity loss.

Togo: The government of Togo has demonstrated a strong national willingness to protect and expand forest cover. Togo has established guidelines for the sustainable management of critical forest ecosystems and biodiversity conservation, including integrated land-use planning and forest landscape restoration. To create an enabling environment for such transformational change, several policies, strategies and programme frameworks – such as the Forest Policy 2023, National Strategy REDD+ 2020 among others – have been designed and are under implementation to support the sustainable use of forest resources, conserve biodiversity, increase forest cover and address sources of degradation. These frameworks promote the decentralisation of natural resources management and increased participation of surrounding communities in forest conservation and management.

Indicative Program Overview

Program Objective

To protect and improve the effective governance of the Guinean Forests in-order to maximize global environmental benefits, contribute to the health of the planet and flow of vital ecosystem services that underpin human well-being.

Program Components

COMPONENT 1: Gender-responsive land use planning and spatial analysis

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Program Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,123,998.00	8,221,666.00
Program Outcome:	

Outcome 1.1: Updated and expanded data and information base available

Outcome 1.2: Integrated participatory land-use and spatial plans developed

COMPONENT 2: Expand and improve management of forests in protected areas and OECMs

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Program Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,498,109.00	10,427,737.00
Program Outcome:	

Outcome 2.1: Expanded coverage of protected areas and OECMs

Outcome 2.2: Improved management effectiveness of existing protected areas and OECMs, including gender and inclusion considerations.

COMPONENT 3: Sustainable land use linked to improved gender-responsive participatory and equitable forest management outside protected areas

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Program Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,498,109.00	10,427,737.00
Program Outcome:	

Outcome 3.1: Improved sustainability of productive sectors in forest landscapes

Outcome 3.1: Improved sustainability of productive sectors in forest landscapes

Outcome 3.2: Improved gender-responsive and inclusive access to local livelihoods and nature-friendly enterprises

Outcome 3.3: Strengthened gender-responsive and inclusive community forest governance

COMPONENT 4: Policy engagement to improve gender-responsive and inclusive, enabling conditions for forest conservation and management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET

GEF Program Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
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Program Outcome:

Outcome 4.1: Improved policy framework for gender-responsive and inclusive, participatory land-use planning

Outcome 4.2: Improved policies to foster a gender-responsive and inclusive economic environment conducive to forest conservation, e.g., incentives, reduction of perverse subsidies

COMPONENT 5: Regional cooperation, knowledge sharing, and learning

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Program Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,123,999.00	8,221,666.00

Program Outcome:

Outcome 5.1: Gender-sensitive knowledge generation and exchange, including public awareness/communications

Outcome 5.2: Enhanced coherence and synergies between projects and regional initiatives

Outcome 5.3: Sustainable financing strategies formulated

Outcome 5.4: Enhanced basis for regional policy harmonization

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Program Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
386,276.00	3,809,524.00

Program Outcome:

Outcome 6.1: A functional gender-sensitive M&E framework in place

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
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COMPONENT 1: Gender-responsive land use planning and spatial analysis	2,123,998.00	8,221,666.00
COMPONENT 2: Expand and improve management of forests in protected areas and OECMs	2,498,109.00	10,427,737.00
COMPONENT 3: Sustainable land use linked to improved gender-responsive participatory and equitable forest management outside protected areas	2,498,109.00	10,427,737.00
COMPONENT 4: Policy engagement to improve gender-responsive and inclusive, enabling conditions for forest conservation and management		
COMPONENT 5: Regional cooperation, knowledge sharing, and learning	2,123,999.00	8,221,666.00
M&E	386,276.00	3,809,524.00
Subtotal	9,630,491.00	41,108,330.00
Project Management Cost	481,522.00	4,391,670.00
Total Program Cost (\$)	10,112,013.00	45,500,000.00

Please provide Justification

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Please use this space to provide a description of all aspects of the Program design that are appropriate for the additional countries being brought into the Program. That includes information from the Program Rationale and Policy Requirements that are not displayed in this Addendum template. Please use subheadings as necessary

The Guinean Forests of West Africa comprise a globally recognized biodiversity hotspot spanning the southern part of West Africa into the northern region of Central Africa. Covering approximately 620,000 km², the region includes two sub-regions: the Upper Guinean Forests (starting in Guinea and extending eastward to Sierra Leone, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, and part of Benin). Guinea Bissau and Togo fall in the upper Guinean forest, therefore, their addition to the program is based on the two countries being part of this region.

Guinea Bissau and Togo project objectives are well aligned with the program's objective, to invest in the protection and effective governance of the Guinean Forests to sustain the health of the planet and the flow of vital ecosystem services that underpin human well-being. More specifically, Togo aims to address the accelerated degradation of natural forest ecosystems due to the combined action of human activities and climate change, which are reducing the supply of ecosystem services to communities that are becoming increasingly vulnerable, resulting in overexploitation of natural resources, deforestation, land degradation, erosion of biodiversity and vulnerability of natural resources-based livelihoods. Guinea Bissau, on the other hand, aims to address the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss such as the extreme weather events (recurrent droughts, frequent floods) and sea-level rise (coastal erosion and salinisation of coastal land) pose a significant threat to ecosystems, communities, and the national economy.

Policy Requirements

The program will build on prior and current investments in policy engagement initiatives by supporting strategic national-level policies that will impact regional conservation and restoration, including those relating to: climate change mitigation and adaptation, land-use planning, conservation finance, and more secure land and natural resource tenure. It will also support policies that create positive incentives for conservation, restoration, and sustainable development while working to address perverse incentives that drive habitat loss and degradation.

Guinea-Bissau has developed and implemented several policies to address environmental issues and has ratified several global environmental commitments related to climate and the environment. In the early 1990s, Guinea Bissau committed itself to global environmental agreements by signing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1995, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1994, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (RAMSAR Convention) in 1991, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Abidjan Convention, the Convention on International Trade in Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (UITF), the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals, and more recently the Paris Agreement on climate change, etc. The signing of these global commitments is at the same time accompanied by the elaboration and strengthening of national policy and legal frameworks to combat biodiversity loss.

The government of Togo has demonstrated a strong national willingness to protect and expand forest cover. Togo has established guidelines for the sustainable management of critical forest ecosystems and biodiversity conservation, including integrated land-use planning and forest landscape restoration. To create an enabling environment for such transformational change, several policies, strategies and programme frameworks – such as the Forest Policy 2023, National Strategy REDD+ 2020 among others – have been designed and are under implementation to support the sustainable use of forest resources, conserve biodiversity, increase forest cover and address sources of degradation. These frameworks promote the decentralisation of natural resources management and increased participation of surrounding communities in forest conservation and management.

Components

Guinea Bissau and Togo Child projects will tap into the coordinating role, the larger added value of the GFIP Regional Child Project will be to foster a whole-of-biome approach to protecting the integrity of the Guinean Forests, by promoting regional integration among governments and other stakeholders in countries throughout the region. The child projects will contribute to the effectiveness, sustainability, and impact of the GFIP as a whole. It will increase the effectiveness and sustainability at a regional level through technical support and capacity-building; facilitation of policy harmonization; knowledge sharing and programmatic M&E.

The table below shows the alignment between the program components and the two child projects.

Components of Guinean Forest Program	Components of Guinea Bissau Child Project	Components of Togo Child Project
Component 1: Land use planning and spatial analysis:	Component 1: Strengthened institutional capacities and legal framework of intact forests landscapes conservation outside and inside protected areas.	Component 1: Strengthening the policy framework and cross-sectoral collaboration for the integrated management of Guinean forests
Component 2: Expand and improve management of forests in protected areas and OECMs	Component 2: Conservation-restoration of intact Guinean Forests and sustainable livelihoods.	Component 2: Restoring forestlandscapes to support biodiversity conservation, and the provision of ecosystem goods and services.
Component 3: Sustainable land use linked to improved participatory and equitable forest management outside protected areas	Component 3: Establishment of transboundary cooperation and financial framework for forest landscape management.	Component 3: Promoting nature-based businesses for sustainable development and increased resilience to climate change
Component 4: Policy engagement to improve inclusive, equitable enabling conditions for forest conservation and management:	Component 4: Learning, Knowledge sharing, management and communication	Component 4: Knowledge sharing at the national, regional and international scales, and transboundary collaboration.
Component 5: Regional cooperation, knowledge sharing, and learning	Component 5: Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework	Component 5: Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework.

Table On Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
380767	0	0	0

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

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

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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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)
380767	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDP A 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)
Cantanhez National Park	351088	National Park	105,767.00						
Fazao-Malfakassa National Park	2340	National Park	275,000.00						

Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
20000	0	0	0

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
20,000.00			

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) under restoration

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
220767	0	0	0

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
120,767.00			

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

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
100,000.00			

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

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

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

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

Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	27351413	0	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)	0	0	0	0

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	27,351,413			
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting	2025			
Duration of accounting	20			

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

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

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

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

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	46,000			
Male	54,000			
Total	100,000		0	0

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

Entries for Core Indicator targets are the aggregates of targets provided in the country child project concepts; for details, please see explanations provided in those concepts and in the M&E Framework. Note that figures remain subject to ongoing review and refinement. Rough estimates of greenhouse gas emissions mitigated (Core Indicator 6) were produced for a 20-year period, beginning in 2025. Improved estimates will be computed during the PPG phase using the Ex-Ante Carbon-Balance Tool (EX-ACT) Tier Standard Edition, developed by FAO.

Risks to Achieving Program Outcomes

Summarize program-level risks that might emerge from preparation and implementation phases of child projects under the program, and what are the mitigation strategies the child project preparation process will undertake to address these (e.g. what alternatives may be considered during child project preparation-such as in terms of consultations, role and choice of counterparts, delivery mechanisms, locations in country, flexible design elements, etc.). Identify any of the risks listed below that would call in question the viability of the child project during its implementation. Please describe any possible mitigation measures needed.

The risk rating should reflect the overall risk to program outcomes considering the global context and ambition of the program. The rating scale is: High, Substantial, Moderate, Low.

Risk Categories	Rating	Comments
Climate	Low	The Program will ensure all child projects are closely aligned with country-level commitments on climate change and support related strategies and action plans. Prior and future analysis will continue to identify and refine areas that will be most impacted by climate change (such as KBAs or priority watersheds), with project design and implementation incorporating appropriate strategies for climate resilience and mitigation. Anticipated climate change impacts will be a key factor in land use planning and spatial planning to inform decision-making.
Environment and Social	High	All child projects will be subject to GEF-related environmental and social safeguards through accredited implementation agencies in each country. The Regional Level Platform will also assess child project-related environmental and social risks during both design and implementation phases, using data gathered from prior and current GEF- and CEPF-related investments. Child projects will be required to prepare relevant safeguard plans, including at minimum gender mainstreaming and stakeholder engagement plans, and grievance accountability and redress mechanisms.

Political and Governance	Moderate	<p>Prior involvement with CEPF-and GEF-related investments has allowed for strong regional and country-specific networks and alliances with key government officials from the local to the national level, as well as with the private sector, CSOs, and international multi-and bilateral stakeholders. The Regional Level Platform will utilize these networks and alliances to ensure Program and child project-specific goals are supported, as well as identify where detrimental policies or non-compliance with complementary policies are undermining successful implementation. Particular attention will be given to identifying existing or new policies that create perverse incentives that undermine the larger environmental goals of the Program, and opportunities to incorporate policy reform into Child Project design.</p>
Macro-economic	Moderate	<p>Economies of the Guinean Forest region are heavily dependent on commodities such as cacao which can be subject to large price swings, adding a degree of complexity to long-term planning for sustainable investments, such as certified products. While growing, markets for certified products are often difficult for producers to access, as capacity-building, capital, and marketing are required. By placing IPLCs at the center of its strategies, the Program can build off of two decades of investment and experiences in sustainable development, promoting best practices to improve productivity and profitability while conducting outreach to potential higher-value markets for more sustainable produced commodities. Securing land and natural resource</p>

		<p>tenure and supporting capacity building and enforcement will also enable IPLCs to more effectively manage, and benefit from, areas for conservation and restoration, and prevent unauthorized land uses, such as illegal logging or unregulated bushmeat hunting.</p>
Strategies and Policies	Low	<p>Over two decades of prior investments by GEF and CEPF have demonstrated a number of coordination and collaboration mechanisms that the Program's Regional Level Platform will adopt to ensure strategic and policy coherence among key stakeholders. This will include regular country- and regional-level meetings, exchanges and capacity-building workshops, and regular information sharing and updates from the Program's monitoring and evaluation component.</p>
Technical design of project or program	Low	<p>Both the Program technical design as well as the design of the child projects will be based on over two decades of prior experiences and lessons learned from GEF and CEPF investments. Programmatically, all components are well aligned with national policies and commitments, as well as with GEF strategies and objectives. Communication and coordination with key stakeholders will be core elements of all Program components, including regular meetings from the local to regional levels. The knowledge management component includes a monitoring and evaluation mechanism that will guide adaptive management, allowing for design corrections should conditions and priorities change during implementation. Lessons learned from prior programs</p>

		and projects will guide the budgeting process, thereby mitigating the risk that budgets are misaligned with objectives. The Regional Level Platform will be utilized to ensure that committed counterpart resources are delivered as promised, as well as engage in efforts to leverage additional funding from new sources, thereby helping to mitigate shortfalls.
Institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability	Substantial	The Program’s design explicitly recognizes the need for capacity building throughout the region and incorporates strategies to address gaps. The Regional Level Platform addresses capacity gaps by promoting region-wide cooperation and knowledge sharing, as well as through targeted technical support. Specific child projects will also identify capacity-building gaps and incorporate project elements to address these gaps and will coordinate efforts with the Regional Level Platform to direct resources and technical expertise where appropriate.
Fiduciary: Financial Management and Procurement	Moderate	Country-level commitments for both the Program and child projects are explicit in signed letters of endorsement that detail levels of co-financing/counterpart support. Regular communication and coordination with government stakeholders will support the timely delivery of committed resources. Identifying additional sources of support will also be a priority for the Regional Level Platform, and adaptive management mechanisms will allow for resource re-allocation in the event of shortfalls in committed support.
Stakeholder Engagement	Low	Prior investments and lessons learned in the region over the last two

		decades have resulted in a broad range of strong stakeholder relationships and effective engagement mechanisms that the program will build upon. The Regional Level Platform is specifically tasked with building synergies and coherence between projects, making effective stakeholder engagement a key responsibility to achieve these goals. Throughout implementation, the Regional Level Platform will coordinate closely with child projects to ensure key stakeholders are being effectively engaged and able to deliver upon commitments, hold regular meetings, disseminate knowledge, and build capacity where needed. Safeguard requirements for child projects will include the preparation of stakeholder engagement plans, subject to review per GEF and Lead Agency standards.
Other		
Financial Risks for NGI projects		
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	GEF Program Financing (\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
FAO	GET	Togo	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	1,338,563.00	120,470.00	1,459,033.00
FAO	GET	Togo	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: IPs	1,770,793.00	159,372.00	1,930,165.00

FAO	GET	Togo	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	446,187.00	40,156.00	486,343.00
FAO	GET	Togo	Land Degradation	LD IP Matching Incentives	590,264.00	53,124.00	643,388.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	1,789,862.00	161,088.00	1,950,950.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	1,342,397.00	120,815.00	1,463,212.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: IPs	1,342,397.00	120,815.00	1,463,212.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	596,620.00	53,696.00	650,316.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Climate Change	CC IP Matching Incentives	447,465.00	40,271.00	487,736.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Land Degradation	LD IP Matching Incentives	447,465.00	40,271.00	487,736.00
Total GEF Resources (\$)					10,112,013.00	910,078.00	11,022,091.00

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
FAO	GET	Togo	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	48,431.00	4,359.00	52,790.00
FAO	GET	Togo	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: IPs	64,069.00	5,766.00	69,835.00
FAO	GET	Togo	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	16,143.00	1,453.00	17,596.00
FAO	GET	Togo	Land Degradation	LD IP Matching Incentives	21,356.00	1,922.00	23,278.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	45,000.00	4,050.00	49,050.00

IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	33,750.00	3,038.00	36,788.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: IPs	33,750.00	3,038.00	36,788.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	15,000.00	1,350.00	16,350.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Climate Change	CC IP Matching Incentives	11,250.00	1,012.00	12,262.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Land Degradation	LD IP Matching Incentives	11,250.00	1,012.00	12,262.00
Total PPG Amount (\$)					299,999.00	27,000.00	326,999.00

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
FAO	GET	Togo	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	1,511,823.00
FAO	GET	Togo	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	2,000,000.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	2,000,000.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	1,500,000.00
IUCN	GET	Guinea-Bissau	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	1,500,000.00
Total GEF Resources					8,511,823.00

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
CFB Guinean Forests IP	GET	4,145,807.00	25,500,000.00
CFB Guinean Forests IP	GET	5,966,206.00	20,000,000.00
Total Project Cost		10,112,013.00	45,500,000.00

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Donor Agency	Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources (MERF)-Togo	Grant	Investment mobilized	15,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	MERF/PALCC+*	Grant	Investment mobilized	5,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	MAEDR/UTCC/ITRA	Grant	Investment mobilized	2,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	PNUD/Ecovilage/MERF	Grant	Investment mobilized	1,000,000.00
GEF Agency	FAO	Grant	Investment mobilized	2,000,000.00
Donor Agency	KINOME/YCID	Grant	Investment mobilized	500,000.00
Recipient Country Government	State Secretary of Environment and Biodiversity, WACA Project	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	10,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, FIDA project (REDE +)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	6,000,000.00
GEF Agency	IUCN	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	250,000.00
Others	Bio Guiné Foundation	Grant	Investment mobilized	250,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (PACVEAR Project, PACV Project)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3,500,000.00
Total Co-financing				45,500,000.00

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date

Comlan Awougnon	Directeur des Affaires Administratives et Financiers	Ministere de l'Environnement et des Ressources Forestieres	10/4/2023
Joao Raimundo Lopez	Director General of Environment	Secretaria de Estado do Ambiente E Biodiversidade	10/17/2023

ANNEX C: PROGRAM LOCATION

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

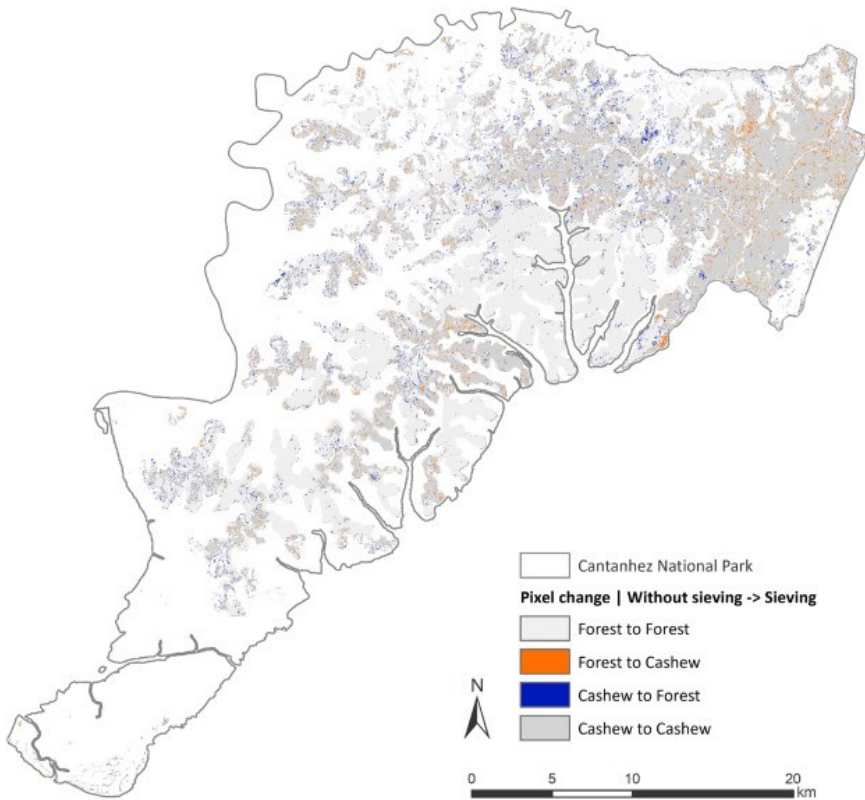
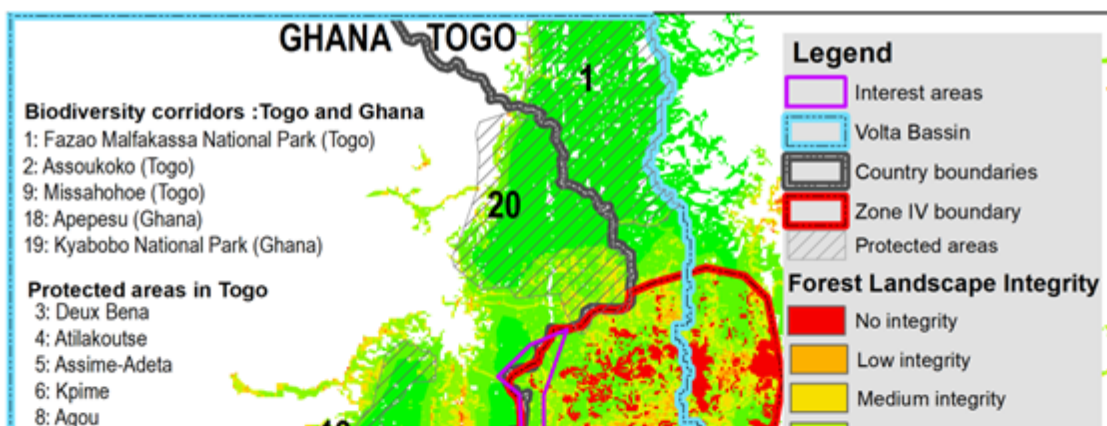


Figure 1. Cantanhez National Park in Guinea Bissau



ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Desertification
Principal Objective 2	Significant Objective 1	Principal Objective 2	Significant Objective 1

ANNEX H : CHILD PROJECT INFORMATION

Title

17Nov2023 PFD Addendum Compiled Revised Concept Notes_Togo_GuineaBissau

PFD Addendum Compiled Concept Notes_Togo_Guinea Bissau

Child Projects under the Program

Country	Project Title	GEF Agency	GEF Amount (\$) PROJECT FINANCING	Agency Fees(\$)	Total(\$)
	FSPs				
Togo	Strengthening conservation and resilience of forest landscapes in the sub-humid mountainous zone of Togo	FAO	4,145,807.00	373,122.00	4,518,929.00
Guinea-Bissau	Promoting and Strengthening Restoration and Conservation of Cantanhez Primary Forests in Guinea Bissau	IUCN	5,966,206.00	536,956.00	6,503,162.00
	Subtotal (\$)		10,112,013.00	910,078.00	11,022,091.00
	MSPs				
	Subtotal (\$)		0.00	0.00	0.00
	Grant Total (\$)		10,112,013.00	910,078.00	11,022,091.00