



# 'Strengthening the Ecological and Economic Functions of Critical Biodiversity Habitats of the N?ZI Voluntary Nature Reserve

Review PPG Request and Make a recommendation

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**

11810

**Countries**

Cote d'Ivoire

**Project Name**

'Strengthening the Ecological and Economic Functions of Critical Biodiversity Habitats of the N?ZI Voluntary Nature Reserve

**Agencies**

DBSA

**Date received by PM**

10/2/2024

**Review completed by PM**

12/9/2024

**Program Manager**

Jurgis Sapijanskas

**Focal Area**

Biodiversity

**Project Type**

GBFF

## GEF-8 Project Preparation Grant request Review Sheet

### I. General Project Information / Eligibility

a) Does the project meet the criteria for eligibility for GBFF funding?

b) Is the General Project Information table correctly populated?

Secretariat's Comments JS 12/9/2024 - Cleared

Agency's Comments

### II. Indicative Project Overview

a) Is the project objective presented as a concise statement and clear?

b) Are the components, outcomes and outputs sound, appropriate and sufficiently clear to achieve the project objective?

Secretariat's Comments JS 12/9/2024 - Cleared

Agency's Comments

c) Are the components adequately funded?

d) Are the GEF Project Financing and Co-Financing contributions to PMC proportional (only for Multi-trust Funds PPGs with BD from the GEF Trust Fund)?

e) Is the PMC equal to or below 5% of the total GEF grant for projects of more than \$2 million or 10% for projects of less than \$2 million? If the requested PMC is above the caps, has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated?

Secretariat's Comments

JS 12/12/2024 - Cleared

JS 12/11/2024 - The PPG funds and associated Agency Fee included in the portal are now within limits. However, the revised GEF project financing agency fee and the total GBFF funding request are bigger than what is foreseen in the LoE. Please revise to align with what is shown in the new LoE provided.

Source Funds	of GEF Agency	Focal Area Source	Amount in US \$				Total
			GEF Project Financing	GEF Project Financing Agency fee	Project Preparation Grant (PPG)	Project Preparation Grant (PPG) Agency fee	
GBFF	DBSA	GBFF	1,977,500	177,955	50,000	4,500	2,209,955
(select)	(select)	(select)					
(select)	(select)	(select)					
(select)	(select)	(select)					
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>			<b>1,977,500</b>	<b>177,955</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>2,209,955</b>

Type of Trust Fund:	GBFF	Project Duration (Months):	60
GEF Project Financing: (a)	1,977,500.00	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	177,975.00	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	2,155,475.00	Total Co-financing:	3,250,000.00
PPG Amount: (e)	50,000.00	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)	4,500.00
PPG total amount: (e+f)	54,500.00		
Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)	2,209,975.00		
Project Tags:	Contributions to the implementation of: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GBF Target 1 <input type="checkbox"/> GBF Target 3 <input type="checkbox"/> GBF Target 10 <input type="checkbox"/> GBF Target 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Support IPLC		

JS 12/9/2024 - The PPG funds and associated Agency Fee included in Portal are above the limits: for projects up to US\$ 2,000,000, the allowed PPG request is US\$ 50,000 and for DBSA, the allowed associated PPG Agency Fee is US\$ 4,500. The amount requested in portal is US\$ 100,000 and US\$ 9,000 respectively. Please revise.

Agency's Comments

### III. Project Rationale

a. Does the project adequately describe the: (i) current situation/baseline conditions within the project geographic area or project thematic area; (ii) problem(s) that the project will address; (iii) goal and objectives of the project; and (iv) justification for the project intervention; and (v) expected results

including the Global Environmental Benefits and an estimate of the project's contributions to the relevant biodiversity core indicators.

Secretariat's Comments JS 12/9/2024 - Cleared

Agency's Comments

#### **IV. Project Description**

- a) Is there a concise theory of change that describes the project logic, including how the project design elements will contribute to the objective, the expected causal pathways, and the key assumptions underlying these?**
- b) Are the project components and activities identified in the theory of change adequately described.**
- c) Is a list of stakeholders that will be involved in the project and their roles in the design and implementation of the project provided?**
- d) Are the Specific Action Area(s) that the project is aligned with identified and an explanation provided on and how the project will support the achievement of the specific Action Area objective(s).**

Secretariat's Comments JS 12/9/2024 - Cleared

Agency's Comments

#### **V. Does the proposal adequately describe how the project meets the following criteria:**

- a) Potential to generate global environmental benefits (GEBs) (include a description of the GEBs the project will generate per the GEF-8 Core Indicators for biodiversity);**
- b) Alignment with the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and/or National Biodiversity Finance Plans or similar instruments to identify national and/or regional priorities;**
- c) The level of policy coherence and coordination across multiple ministries, agencies, the private sector, and civil society that the project aims to support;**
- d) Whether the project will mobilize the resources of the private sector and philanthropies'; and**
- e) Whether and how the project will engage with and provide support to IPLCs.**

Secretariat's Comments JS 12/9/2024 - Cleared

Agency's Comments

## **VI. Project results indicators**

**Is the table correctly populated and consistent with the Project Description?**

Secretariat's Comments JS 12/9/2024 - Cleared

Agency's Comments

## **VII. Project Financing Tables**

**a) Are all the tables correctly populated?**

**b) Are the indicative expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines (only for projects with GEF TF components)?**

Secretariat's Comments JS 12/9/2024 - Cleared

Agency's Comments

## **VIII. Project Endorsement**

**a) Has the project been endorsed by the country's(ies) OFP and has the OFP at the time of PPG request submission name and position been checked against the GEF database?**

**b) Are the OFP endorsement letters uploaded to the GEF Portal (compiled as a single document, if applicable)?**

**c) Do the letters follow the correct format and are the endorsed amounts consistent with the amounts included in the Portal?**

Secretariat's Comments JS 12/9/2024 - Cleared

Agency's Comments

## **IX. GEFSEC Decision**

**a. Is the PPG recommended for technical clearance?**

**b. Additional comments to be considered by the Agency during project preparation**

Secretariat's Comments

JS 12/11/2024 - a - The PPG is recommended for clearance.

b- During PPG, please:

- IPLCs: We note that \$1.6 million out of \$1.925 million of GBFF project financing will be allocated to actions by IPLCs. Please ensure that the entire amount reported as "amount to support action by IPLCs [for] biodiversity" in the CEO endorsement requests corresponds to project activities supporting action by IPLCs, and that the project documentation describes the IPLCs who will benefit from the project and details their role in the project. Activities where IPLCs are mere beneficiaries should not be counted in this amount. Support to stakeholders that are not IPLCs (i.e. indigenous peoples or local communities that embody traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity) should not be counted either. Whether the project as a whole or certain project activities support action by IPLCs could entail a number of circumstances including but not limited to: IPLCs directly receive resources through the GEF agency for execution of project components/activities; IPLCs lead the design and management of some project activities but do not manage financial resources; the project provides in-kind support to actions led by IPLCs for biodiversity, etc.

- Co-financing: While co-financing is not required in the GBFF, it is encouraged and mobilization of private sector and philanthropic resources is a selection criterion. Please consolidate co-financing, especially from the private sector, as this project will support a private eco-tourism venture. The fully developed project should include a clear financial mechanism that channels part of the revenues from ecotourism to ensure long-term finance for biodiversity conservation and clearly articulate how the GBFF grant leverage is leveraging private resources.

- Core indicators / GEBs:

Please provide in the CEO endorsement request the WDPA ID, baseline METT score and target METT score at mid-term and project end for each PA targeted by this project.

Please also capture anticipated climate co-benefits during PPG and report a target on core indicator 6 following the guidelines [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2022-09/Results\\_Framework\\_Guidelines\\_2022\\_06\\_30.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2022-09/Results_Framework_Guidelines_2022_06_30.pdf) Please note however that all mitigation benefits that are to be sold as Carbon credits that may be used as offsets should not be reported under core indicator 6. The core indicators are to capture GEBs when offsets do not generate GEBs.

The area of direct impact is currently quite limited relative to the GBFF funding request. Please consider expanding the scope and area of interventions to encompass the wider landscape surrounding the N'Zi reserve especially to address pressure from land use dynamics around the reserve and contribute to landscape connectivity.

- One of the main added-value of this project is to demonstrate a PPP and private/voluntary reserve model for replication in Cote d'Ivoire. Please include in the design a clearer pathway towards replication. It includes conducting a detailed analysis of the barriers to replication and adding key interventions to address these barriers in the design.

JS 12/11/2024 - a - For the project to be further considered in the third selection round, please address comment on project financial information and resubmit as soon as possible.

JS 12/9/2024 - a - For the project to be further considered in the third selection round, please address comment on PPG funds and associated fees and resubmit as soon as possible.

Agency's Comments

Review Dates

	PPG Request Review	Agency Response
<b>First Review</b>	12/9/2024	
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	12/12/2024	
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>		
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>		
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>		