Adaptation Innovation through Emissions Reductions Traditional Fire Management

Review CEO Approval and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID
11978
Countries
Regional (Angola, Mozambique, Zambia)
Project Name
Adaptation Innovation through Emissions Reductions Traditional Fire Management
Agencies
DBSA
Date received by PM
8/5/2025
Review completed by PM

Program Manager
Olusola Uchenna Ikuforiji
Focal Area
Climate Change
Project Type
MSP

CEO Approval Request

Part I - General Project Information

1. a) Is the Project Information table correctly filled, including specifying adequate executing partners?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

Yes

GEFSEC 1/11/2026

We note that Tthe GEF Project Grant and Agency Fee Grant amounts have changed from the previous submission, resulting in a discrepancy with the updated LOEs for Angola and Zambia. Please address and ensure consistency across all LOEs and the GEF Portal. See screenshot below

Before:

GEF Project Grant: (a)	1,662,385.00	**GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)**	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	149,615.00	**Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant: (d)**	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	1,812,000.00	**Total Co-financing:**	800,000.00

Now:

GEF Project Grant: (a)	1,662,386.00	**GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)**	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	149,614.00	**Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant: (d)**	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	1,812,000.00	**Total Co-financing:**	800,000.00

GEFSEC 1/24/2026

We note that the project grant amount and agency fee still remain unchanged in the portal entry compared to the LoE figures (see screenshots). Please change the grant amount in Portal to $1,662,385 and Agency fee to $149,615 as indicated in the LoE

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Information

Project Title:	Adaptation Innovation through Emissions Reductions Traditional Fire Management		
Region:	Africa	GEF Project ID:	11978
Country(ies):	Regional, Angola, Mozambique, Zambia	Type of Project:	MSP
GEF Agency(ies):	DBSA	GEF Agency Project ID:	
Project Executing Entity(s):	International Savanna Fire Management Initaitive	Project Executing Type:	CSO
GEF Focal Area (s):	Climate Change	Submission Date :	8/5/2025
Type of Trust Fund:	LDCF	Project Duration (Months):	30
GEF Project Grant: (a)	1,662,386.00	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	149,614.00	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant: (d)	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	1,812,000.00	Total Co-financing:	800,000.00
PPG Amount: (e)	0.00	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)	0.00
Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)	1,812,000.00		
Project Tags:	CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Competitive Window: No Innovation: Yes		

The total financing (from LDCF (Innovations Window)) being requested for this project is US$1,825,465, inclusive of project preparation grant (PPG), if any, and Agency fees for project cycle management services associated with the total GEF Project Financing. The financing requested for Mozambique is detailed in the table below.

Source of Funds	GEF Agency	Focal Area Source	Amount (in US$)				
			GEF Project Financing	GEF Project Financing Agency Fee	Project Preparation Grant (PPG)	Project Preparation Grant (PPG) Agency Fee	Total
LDCF	DBSA	Innovation	1,662,385.00	149,615			1,812,000

Thank you for reflecting changes in the portal. Cleared

Agency ResponseN/A

b) Are the Rio Markers for CCM, CCA, BD and LD correctly selected, if applicable?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

Yes

Agency ResponseN/A
2. Project Summary.
a) Does the project summary concisely describe the problem to be addressed, the project objective and the strategies to deliver the GEBs or adaptation benefits and other key expected results?
b) Does the summary capture the essence of the project, is well written and is it within the max. of 250 words?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

a) We note the project's strong mitigation rationale through emission reductions from improved fire management, however climate adaption (the core of the LDCF/SCCF financing) dimension is weakly articulated. The adaptation benefits described (e.g., improved biodiversity, ecosystem services, reduced crop loss) remain broad and lack specific pathways or measurable outcomes. The project requires much stronger articulation of the current and anticipated climate change hazards and impacts that will be addressing, and how the project will address these climate adaptation impacts. Currently, the project reads more as a climate change mitigation-oriented project, and therefore would not be available for LDCF/SCCF finance unless this is addressed. Examples on how this can be strengthened include

- Revise the project summary, including and particularly the stated objective of the project, as well as the full first paragraph which is currently focused only on mitigation impact.

- Strengthen climate adaptation and resilience throughout the project components, outcomes, and outputs.

- Strengthen the project rationale to focus directly on climate adaptation and resilience, including but not limited to by improving:

- Articulation of specifically how increasing wildfires are more frequent and severe due to climate change
- In the country specific information for all 3 countries, include articulation of anticipated changes to specific climate hazards and their impacts (e.g. temperature change, long periods of less rain, etc.,) and their anticipated direct impacts on wildfire (as well as associated impacts on ecosystem health). Ideally, for each country refer to scenarios 4.5 and 8.5 for 30 years out or 2050.
- In the project description, ensure all outcomes and outputs are directly focused on addressing the climate adaptation problem that is articulated through the current and anticipated impacts of current and anticipated climate hazards.

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

Thanks for the additional details on the climate adaptation elements in the Summary. Suggest shortening the narrative on the anticipated climate hazards and further elaborating the proposed adaptation solutions (project approach) and the anticipated results. Ensure text is within the 250-word limit.

Cleared

Agency Response

a) Added in specific pathways and outcomes relating to climate adaptation in project summary and indicative project overview.

Added description in project summary to address increasing intensity and occurrence of wildfires in Southern Africa due to climate change.

Added in country-specific information under ?Project Rationale?.

Amended the outcomes and outputs to draw more direct linkages to adaptation and resilience-building, bearing in mind that this proposal is meant to develop an enabling environment in order to achieve adaptation and mitigation benefits in the long-term.

10/01/2025:

The narrative has been ammended

3. Project Description 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 and the core indicators per the stated Theory of Change?
c) Are gender dimensions, knowledge management, and M&E included within the project components and appropriately funded?
d) Are the GEF Project Financing and Co-Financing contributions to PMC proportional?
e) Is the PMC equal to or below 10%? If above 10%, is the justification acceptable?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

a) Not yet. As noted above revise the project objective in the Project Description overview to focus on adaptation.

b) First, there's no Theory of Change (ToC). Please define a concise ToC (narrative and an optional schematic) that describes the project logic, including how the project design elements contribute to the objective, the identified causal pathways, the thrust and basis of the proposed solutions, how they provide a robust solution and listing the key assumptions underlying these. Secondly, as noted above the connection to adaptation impacts is underdeveloped: Strengthening the adaptation rationale by explicitly linking outputs to measurable resilience outcomes?such as reduced vulnerability of smallholder farmers, enhanced food security, improved health outcomes from reduced smoke exposure, and ecosystem services protection?would ensure that the project demonstrates its adaptation benefits alongside emission reductions.

c) Gender dimensions - The proposal includes gender elements based on evidence of gender gaps in fire management. KM: Adequately funded and integrated, with strong emphasis on South?South exchange and communications. On M&E, the PIF references a results framework (Annex C) and commits to MRV systems (Monitoring, Reporting, Verification) for emissions reductions. M&E costs are included under project management and KM.

d)The co-finance section is not completed. Please do so, with ambitious levels of co-finance and all relevant co-finance letters. We understand this will include co-finance from Australia, DBSA, and possibly an Australian financial institution.

e) Yes

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

a) Thank you for revising the project objective, which is more concise and links ER-TFM to resilience outcomes. It may be useful to further sharpen the text to be more concrete, for instance "develop the enabling environment' could be revised to "strengthening institutions and community capacities for ER TFM".

b) We note the addition of the ToC subsection, which identifies the barriers and the project intervention. The ToC however needs to clearly establish the logical causal pathways linking ER TFM to enhanced community and ecosystem resilience. Suggest including a schematic representation of the ToC, which demonstrates (i) the causal linkages between the activities, outputs, and outcomes to the overall project goal, (ii) how the project will address the identified barriers, (iii) assumptions that will guide the delivery of the project results. With respect to barriers, we note the reference to long-standing suppression of traditional fire management as a key barrier, however its not clear how this will be addressed. The project design focuses predominantly on capacity building and demonstrative pilots, are there plans to support dialogue, legal reforms or regulatory frameworks that will combat this "suppression"?

In the project description overview table: Please add identifiers to the components. Additionally, the outcomes should be in line with the component identifier (ie. Component 1, outcome 1.1 and outcome 1.2)

South to south technology and knowledge transfer	Technical Assistance	**Outcome 3:** Regional technological cooperation for MRV for ER TFM to ensure coherent and mutually supportive wildfire management in Southern Africa.	**Output 2.1:** Subregional coordination to ensure coherent and mutually supportive wildfire management in Southern Africa.	LDCF	**370,000.00**	**250,000.00**
		Outcome 4: South-to-south knowledge transfer of ER TFM to lusophone LDCs which have expressed interest in adopting TFM	**Output 2.2:** South-south transfer of ER TFM technologies and knowledge with a focus on lusophone countries			

Additional comment (from OP) on gender: Please ensure that knowledge products to be produced also include lessons learned and best practices on empowering women and advancing gender equality in the project, and are broadly disseminated.

GEFSEC 11/111/2025

Thanks for additional elaboration and revision of the project activities On gender, We kindly request that the gender dimensions are strengthened throughout the project, based on the activities and findings of the Gender Action Plan, such as in knowledge management.

Also, please complete Section D on Policy Requirements on Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment, including the gender-sensitive indicators.

). POLICY REQUIREMENTS

iender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

/e confirm that gender dimensions relevant to the project have been addressed during Project Preparation as per GEF Policy
iearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).

es

) Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive-measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality a
npowerment?

the project expects to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and wc
npowerment, please indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:

losing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;

nproving women's participation and decision-making; and/or

es

enerating socio-economic benefits or services for women.

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

Cleared

Agency Responsea) & b) See above and in particular, output 1.2.

c) NIL

10/01/2025

Revised Project Objective add to the proposal and ToC so it now reads

To strengthen institutions and community capacities for ER TFM Emissions Reduction Traditional Fire Management (?**ER TFM**?) so as to increase resilience of local communities and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change.

b) Schematic ToC has been updated. Activity 1.2, which is ?Improved management of wildfires and ecosystems through community-led ER TFM projects in order to increase resilience of both communities and ecosystems to wildfires? envisages community engagement and the development of guidelines and frameworks for ER TFM.

b) Under Indicative Project Overview, the following changes have been made to align identifiers, as below, with consequential amendments to be made in the TOC body.

In order to reduce wildfire emissions from late dry season wildfire, enhance the resilience of community and ecosystem and accrue mitigation in the face of increasing wildfire risks due to climate change, the project will support an enabling environment for scale up in Angola, Mozambique and Zambia of ER TFM, an innovative form of fire management that has multiple advantages over other fire management and prevention approaches for community and ecosystem resilience in remote woodland savanna landscapes.

ER TFM has proven to be a low-cost ER methodology which reduces annual emissions from wildfires by up to half and further sequester carbon in biomass, resulting in multiple adaptation benefits including biodiversity protection, supporting ecosystem resilience and ecosystem services, and enhancing food security.

The challenge is in overcoming the lack of institutional frameworks, legislations and initiatives, suppression of TFM methodologies since the colonial period, and the lack of capacity and resources in target countries to adopt the TFM method and the resources to develop them. The barriers include:

(a) Colonial Suppression of TFM : Mozambique, Angola and Zambia?s colonial legacies include the suppression of TFM. Consequently, little early dry season preventative fire management is undertaken resulting in fire regimes characterised by predominant large destructive too late dry season fires that occur too frequently and that emit globally significant GHGs, destroy biodiversity and the livelihoods and health of the people living in these landscapes.

(b) Lack of capacity and resources: These countries lack the capacity to adopt the TFM method and the resources to develop them. These include the lack of expertise, technical capacities or any of the necessary technologies to effectively manage wildfire, including for satellite-based MRV from key stakeholders such as the governments, IPLC and women The weakness of institutions and institutional coordination often found in Southern Africa is often linked to an absence of effective fire management, leaving Indigenous and local communities and ecosystems in fire affected areas vulnerable to the loss and damage associated with too frequent and too early or too late dry season wildfire, a trend being exacerbated by climate change, and meaning that there is little capacity for institutions across disciplines and levels of government to work together to lead the introduction of advantageous fire management programmes with interdisciplinary requirements, as is the case for the introduction of ER TFM. At the same time, community governance systems have, in some countries, little experience and fitness for purpose in engaging with external entities to agree to, lead and implement ecosystems services projects such as ER TFM activities that would support more effective fire management, in particular, methods of establishing FPIC are frequently ill defined with limited integration between community and external governance modalities Other relevant stakeholders also include education institutions (academia) in order to build an all-of-society adaptation and emissions mitigation response using ER TFM.

(c) Lack of initiatives such as private sector investor engagement: Due to the lack of appropriate institutional conditions, such as the ones identified above, private sector engagement remains limited. Further, private investors have limited understanding of ER TFM and the financial incentives that are associated with the methodology.

To address the barriers above and support community and ecosystem services and resilience, the project will establish an enabling framework in order for target countries to scale up ER TFM activities in the long run.

The Project?s **outcomes** will be achieved through sustained dialogues with Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the proximity of pilot sites on the adaptation benefits of introducing ER TFM, and aim to achieve the following reforms:

(a) increased institutional and regulatory capacity for public and private investment on wildfire management;

(b) increased resilience of communities and ecosystems to wildfires;

(c) Regional cooperation for the transfer of MRV for ER TFM to ensure coherent and mutually supportive wildfire management in Southern Africa.

(d) South-to-south knowledge transfer of ER TFM to lusophone LDCs which have expressed interest in adopting TFM.

Capacity development will be a key factor in achieving the outcomes, with capacity development and stakeholder engagement critical to supporting sectoral growth in the target countries, and South-South dissemination of experience for emissions reductions and adaptation to climate change. Specifically, in order to address the barriers described above, accrue mitigation, and support community and ecosystem services and resilience, the project will seek to enhance the knowledge of local stakeholders on the benefits of ER TFM so as to develop an enabling environment for ER TFM

11/11/2025

1) The gender dimensions are strengthened throughout the project,

2) Section D updated

4. Project Outline
A. Project Rationale
a) Is the current situation (including global environmental problems, key drivers of environmental degradation, climate vulnerability) clearly and adequately described from a systems perspective and adequately addressed by the project design?
b) Have the role of stakeholders, incl. the private sector and local actors in the system been described and how they will contribute to GEBs and/or adaptation benefits and other project outcomes? Is the private sector seen mainly as a stakeholder or as financier?
c) If this is an NGI project, is there a description of how the project and its financial structure are addressing financial barriers?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

a) Not yet. See comment above on strengthening the adaptation rationales

b) The roles of communities, Indigenous peoples, governments, and NGOs are clearly described, with local actors positioned as central to achieving adaptation benefits through implementation of community-led ER TFM projects. However, the role of the private sector needs further elaboration. The proposal frames it mainly as a stakeholder for outreach and awareness, with references to potential future engagement in carbon markets, but without clear financing commitments or defined contributions to adaptation outcomes. We recommend clarifying whether the private sector is expected to act primarily as a stakeholder or as a financier, and specifying concrete pathways for how private sector engagement can contribute to long-term sustainability and scaling of adaptation benefits. The project document notes that ER TFM attracts private sector investment, as has demonstrably been the case in Australia and Botswana; however the mechanism for attracting private sector investment needs to clearly articulated for the pilot countries.

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

a) Thank you for the additional elements on the the current fire management problem and its linkages to climate vulnerabilities in the region and respective countries. Kindly ensure that the text in the project Summary and Project Rationale sections are harmonized, especially as regards the climate data. They currently read as two separate sections.

b) Thank you for clarifying the role of the private sector as a stakeholder as referenced in output 1.1

GEFSEC 11/11/2025

Thank you. Cleared

Agency Response

a) see above

b) The private sector is envisaged to act primarily as a stakeholder (apart from co-financing). Activity 1.1 has been elaborated on how capacity-building may target private sector involvement in wildfire management, including seminar to enhance knowledge on multi-tenure partnership settings.

10/01/2025

a) done

b) noted thank you

5 B. Project Description
5.1 a) Is there a concise theory of change (narrative and an optional schematic) that describes the project logic, including how the project design elements are contributing to the objective, the identified causal pathways, the thrust and basis (including scientific) of the proposed solutions, how they provide a robust solution and listing the key assumptions underlying these?
b) Is there a description of how theGEF alternative will build on ongoing/previous investments (GEF and non-GEF), lessons and experiences in the country/region?
c) Are the project components (interventions and activities) described and proposed solutions and critical assumptions and risks are properly justified? Is there an indication of why the project approach has been selected over other potential options?
d) Incremental/additional cost reasoning: Is the incremental/additional cost reasoning properly described as per the Guidelines provided in GEF/C.31/12? Has the baseline scenario and/or associated baseline projects been described? Is the project incremental reasoning provisioned (including the role of the GEF)? Are the global environmental benefits and/or adaptation benefits identified?
e) Other Benefits: Are the socioeconomic benefits resulting from the project at the national and local levels sufficiently described?
f) Is the financing presented in the annexed financing table adequate and demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives? Are items charged to the PMC reasonable according to the GEF guidelines?
g) How does the project design ensure resilience to future changes in the drivers and adaptive management needs and options (as applicable for this MSP)?
h) Are the relevant stakeholders (including women, private sector, CSO, e.g.) and their roles adequately described within the components?
i) Gender: Does the gender analysis identify any gender differences, gaps or opportunities linked to project/program objectives and activities and have these been taken up in component description/s?
j) Are the proposed elements to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning outputs and strategic communication adequately described?
k) Policy Coherence: Have any policies, regulations or subsidies been identified that could counteract the intended project outcomes and how will that be addressed?
l) Transformation and/or innovation: Is the project going to be transformative or innovative? Does it explain scaling up opportunities?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

a) See comment above regarding the ToC

b) yes

c) To a large extent, yes. Suggest further strengthening justification for selected solutions by comparing for instance the ER TFM with other potential approaches (e.g. ecosystem restoration, community forestry, or non-fire-based land management practices) would help demonstrate why this is the most appropriate and transformative intervention for the region.

d) Suggest a subsection fully describing the adaptation benefits.

e) Yes, there's a broad description of the socioeconomic benefits. However these could be further detailed with reference to livelihoods, jobs, health etc. with clarification on targeting women and youth.

f) Yes

g) We note the project design incorporates elements that can support resilience to future climate drivers, notably through ER TFM?s ability to reduce the intensity of late dry season wildfires, protect ecosystem services, and strengthen institutional capacity via MRV and knowledge exchange. However, the proposal does not clearly articulate a structured adaptive management framework showing how monitoring results will be used to adjust strategies during implementation. We recommend explicitly outlining an adaptive management cycle and integrating measurable adaptation targets to ensure resilience benefits can be demonstrated and sustained under evolving climate risks.

h) Not fully. Please provide clear description of stakeholder roles (communities, IPCs, government, private sector, CSOs and academia) for each component. We recommend developing a stakeholder management plan.

i) Partially, yes. We note the attached gender action plan and analysis. However, this should be further expounded to show the gender differences, gaps/opportunities linked to the project objectives.

j) The project integrates communication and learning in Component 2, with dedicated budget and activities. A KM and communication plan is suggested to elaborate how knowledge will be captured and disseminated as well as the learning outputs and strategic communication.

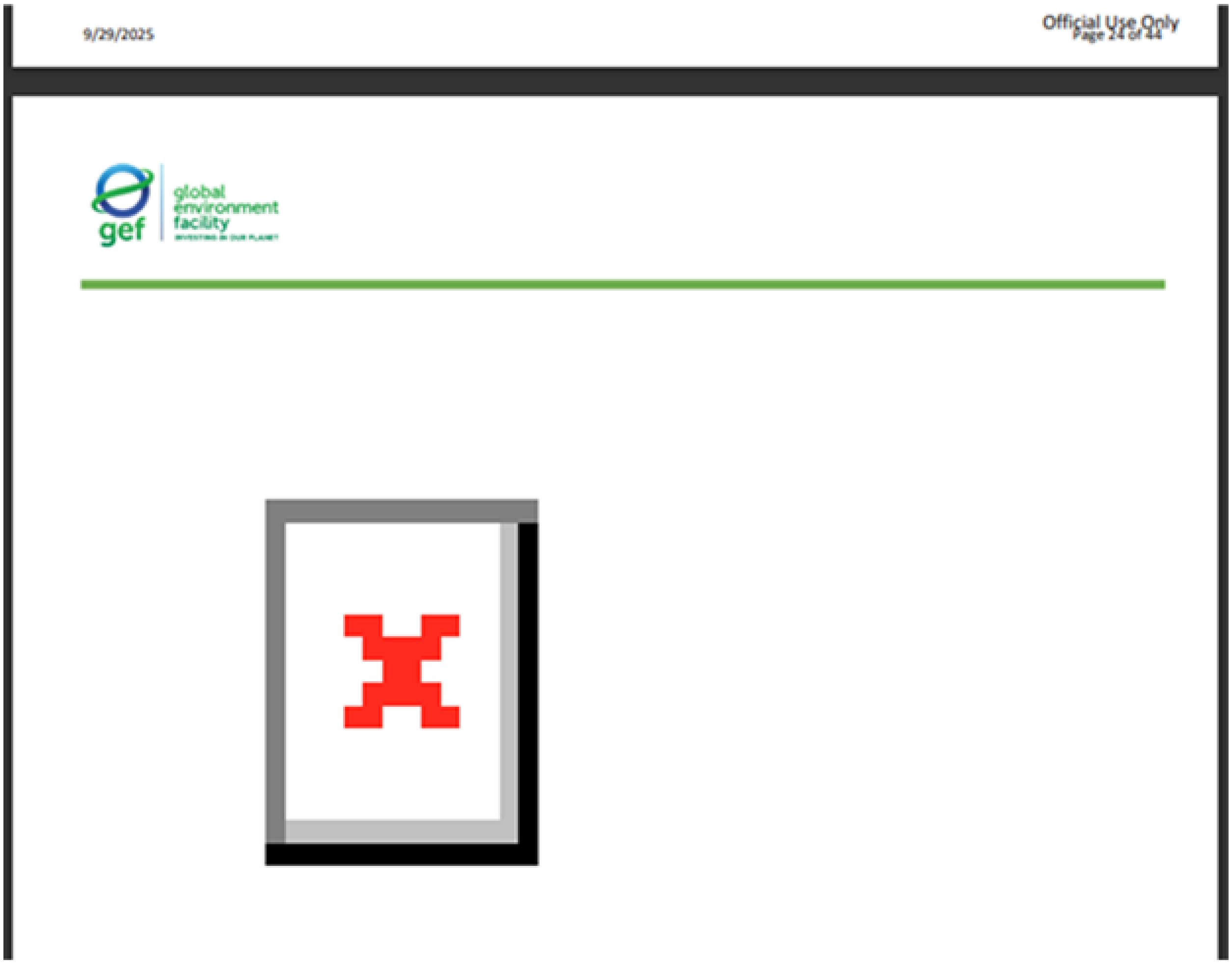
k) Not yet. We note the project aims to support regulatory framework and institutional environment. Please identify any potential counteracting policies or regulations and outline how the project will engage with policy reform, enforcement practices, and institutional coordination to ensure ER TFM can be sustainably adopted.

l) Yes, the project is innovative and potentially transformative, especially in adapting ER TFM to Africa and integrating Indigenous knowledge with MRV and carbon finance. It also describes opportunities for scaling through replication, regional cooperation, and global knowledge transfer. However, scaling opportunities are not sufficiently quantified or operationalized ? the proposal would benefit from a clearer plan for how pilot projects will transition into large-scale national or regional programs.

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

a) see suggestion above on improving the ToC

c) We note additional inputs comparing the proposed project approach/solution to other alternatives. In the project rationale, there's a reference to figure 1 that illustrates the effectiveness of EDS, the image is however missing in the official GEF CEO document. Similarly, under the impact potential subsection, the image illustrating the impact of reintroduction of traditional fire management is not visible on page 25. Please include in the CEO approval Request PDF (which is the document that is circulated to Council and later web posted).



d) Comment not addressed. suggested subsection on the project's adaptation benefits is missing.

e) Yes. Thank you

g) Comment addressed. Thank you

h) Yes, we note reference to stakeholders in respective components. Thank you for submitting the stakeholder engagement plan

i-j) Thank you for additional information

k) See above comment on the the issue of suppression as a key barrier. Suggest clarifying this barrier isn't related to suppressive policies limiting the uptake of ER TFM.

l) We note the additional section on transformation and innovation. Thank you

GEFSEC 11/11/2025

We note that stakeholder engagement plan has been provided. However, the plan doesn?t include information on stakeholder consultation with IPLCs and CSOs.

a. Please elaborate further about consultation with IPLCs and CSOs, and how the results of consultations were integrated into the project design.

b. Please also provide more details plan for each country how IPLCs and CSOs will be engage in project implementation.

Thank you for the updated SEP. Comment cleared

Agency Response

Have compared ER TFM with other non-traditional fire management practices using the case study of Western Australia based on similarities in climate structures and topography.

Subsections carved out and elaborated upon under ?impact potential?. Included specific populations in target sites and fire hazards each site faces in order to give contextual knowledge of extent of benefits/beneficiaries. There is little specific information on women and youth. As such, the benefits to IPLCs are assessed holistically.

g) Added in a new section entitled ?Monitoring and Evaluation: Adaptive Management?.

h) We had, on 21 May 2025, sent DBSA a stakeholder management plan, which details the description of stakeholder roles for the various identified stakeholders.

i) Have added in a short description of the gender gaps in Southern Africa and how these can be narrowed with project objectives.

j) Learning and strategic communication are central to the project and are already embedded as a core focus under Component 2.

k) No counteracting policies surveyed thus far. Have added this in.

l) Have added in a section entitled ?Transformation and Innovation?.

10/01/2025

a) See above

c) Images have been reuploaded.

d) Adaptation benefits have been addressed under Impact Potential.

k) See above and has been amended to accommodate.

11/11/2025

The SEP has been updated to take into account suggested comments

5.2 Institutional Arrangements and Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.
a) Are the institutional arrangements, including potential executing partners, outlined on regional, national/local levels and a rationale provided? Has an organogram and/or funds flow diagram been included?
b) Comment on proposed agency execution support (if agency expects to request exception). Is GEF in support of the request?
c) Is there a description of coordination and cooperation with ongoing GEF and non-GEF financed projects/programs (such as government and/or other bilateral/multilateral supported initiatives in the project area, e.g.).

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

a) Not yet. Please Please describe the Institutional Arrangements for the execution of this project, including financial management and procurement.

c) Yes

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

a) Thank you for clarifying the institutional arrangements.

Cleared

Agency ResponseHave added a section under Institutional Arrangements and Coordination with ongoing projects, including an organigram.

5.3 Core indicators
a) Are the identified core indicators calculated using the methodology included in the corresponding Guidelines (GEF/C.54/11/Rev.01)?
b) Are the project?s targeted contributions to GEBs (measured through core indicators)/adaptation benefits reasonable and achievable? Are the GEF Climate Change adaptation indicators and sub-indicators for LDCF and SCCF properly documented?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

a) Yes. The level of ambition is extremely low and needs to be significantly increased and articulated for all 5 core indicators. Several key LDCF core indicators (e.g., land area under climate-resilient management, number of policies strengthened, beneficiaries with diversified livelihoods) are marked as zero despite clear relevance. These should be quantified to track results.

b) Not yet. Please see comment above

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

a-b) Thanks for additional inputs. It's still unclear how only 100 people will potentially benefit from the project activities (which includes demonstration sites, as well as capacity building at the institutional and community levels) in 3 countries. We note that the data provided under Sub indicator 4, suggests 600 people (national and local government, and local communities) will be trained under the project. Please harmonize. Core Indicators 2 (land under climate change management) and 5 (private sector enterprises engaged) should not be 0. Please revise. Kindly clarify the 3,200,000 indicated as "Number of direct beneficiaries from more resilient physical and natural assets" (Sub-indicator 1)

GEFSEC 11/11/2025

Thanks for the revision. However Core indicator 5 is still 0. Please check

GEFSEC 1/11/2026

Per email from ITS please update Core Indicator 5 and sub indicators

Comment cleared.

Agency Response

a) The project intends to concentrate specifically on pilot sites and therefore are on the lower end. CI for land area under management updated.

b) We have revised and increased the Core Indicators as requested.

10/01/2025

Apologise for the confusion and have updated the Core Indicators.

11/11/2025

Amended

5.4 Risks
a) Is there a well-articulated assessment of risk to outcomes and identification of mitigation measures under each relevant risk category? Are mitigation measures clearly identified and realistic? Is there any omission?
b) Is the rating provided reflecting the residual risk to the likely achievement of intended outcomes after accounting for the expected implementation of mitigation measures?
c) Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately screened and rated and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

a) The reference of a "no residual risk impact) to Angola in the risk table is unclear. We recommend a thorough analysis of the risks (climate, EnS, Political etc.) as relevant to respective country context and appropriate mitigation measures.

c) Yes. Please harmonize the ratings in the ESS screening sheet and the risk table in the PIF. The narrative in the risk table also needs to be consistent.

GEFSEC 10/9/2025

Additional OP comments: Whereas the ESS rating is low, the rating of the Environmental and Social risk category is Moderate. Please ensure these two ratings are the same as per guidance in the GEF Risk Appetite (GEF/C.66/13).

GEFSEC 11/11/2025

Thank you. Cleared

Agency Response

Both ESS and table in PIF have been harmonised and amended.

10/01/2025

updated

5.5 NGI Only: Is there a justification of financial structure and use of financial instrument with concessionality levels?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

6 C. Alignment with GEF-8 Programming Strategies and Country/Regional Priorities

6.1 Is the project adequately aligned with Focal Area objectives, and/or LDCF/SCCF strategy?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

a) Not clearly elaborated. Please demonstrate clear alignment with the three priority areas of the GEF-8 strategy: scaling up finance, whole of society and private sector/innovation

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

Alignment with the LDCF priority areas still not clear. Please revise

Cleared. Thank you

Agency Response

Have included specific alignment with scaling up finance, whole of society approach and private sector/innovation.

10/01/2025

The project aligns with PRIORITY AREA 2

Strengthening innovation, technology transfer and

private sector engagement and this has been included in an updated and expanded Section C. Alignment With Gef-8 Programm
Priorities.

6.2 Is the project alignment/coherent with country and regional priorities, policies, strategies and plans (including those related to the MEAs and to relevant sectors).

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

We note reference to the county NDCs and NBSAPs. Suggest a brief narrative for each country on how the proposed project aligns with the respective strategies and policies

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

Rather than list the national strategies/ policies, please include a short sentence on the project's alignment.

GEFSEC 11/11/2025

Thank you. Cleared

Agency Response

Have amended to include express alignment.

10/01/2025:

The project also aligns with national priorities, as evidenced by existing policies and targets addressing the risks associated with uncontrolled wildfires. ER TFM is a fire management strategy that, given its role in reducing uncontrolled forest fires, would simultaneously support both Angola?s mitigation targets, adaptation priorities, biodiversity and human development strategies. The capacities that would be developed by the interventions proposed would also reinforce the target counties? other actions and climate change priorities through strengthening research, scientific and institutional capacities, and supporting systematic observation and analysis through strengthening satellite-based mapping and early warning systems relevant to the AFOLU sector and disaster prevention and response.

At the regional level, ER TFM supports the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Regional Fire Management Programme. Recognising vegetation fires as a significant concern over the past two decades, SADC highlights the ecological importance of fire in maintaining healthy ecosystems and biodiversity, advocating for prescribed and controlled burns. The current regional programme establishes a collaborative platform for cross-border fire management. ER TFM priorities are congruent with this approach; specifically, Output 2.3 outlines steps to realise transboundary coordination for coherent and mutually beneficial wildfire management in Southern Africa. Activities 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 propose establishing collaborative mechanisms for monitoring ER TFM initiatives and developing biodiversity monitoring, research, and safeguard templates for the Southern African region.

No national policies have been identified that conflict with the intended outcomes of the project.

6.3 For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), does the project clearly identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and how it contributes to the identified target(s)?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response
7 D. Policy Requirements
7.1 Are the Policy Requirement sections completed?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

Yes

GEFSEC 10/9/2025

Please fully complete the section Policy requirements section as shown below (please respond to the last question on Project results framework ? this should be Yes, meaning the results framework should include gender-sensitive indicators)

). POLICY REQUIREMENTS

;ender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

/e confirm that gender dimensions relevant to the project have been addressed during Project Preparation as per GEF Policy learly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).

es

) Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive-measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality a mpowerment?

the project expects to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and wo mpowerment, please indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:

losing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;

nproving women's participation and decision-making; and/or

es
enerating socio-economic benefits or services for women.

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

GEFSEC 11/11/2025

Section D is still incomplete. Please address

Thank you. Cleared

Agency ResponseDone.
7.2 Is the Gender Action Plan uploaded?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

We note the attached GAP. Suggest further development of the GAP with more comprehensive details of gender dimensions of fire management in respective countries.

Comment cleared.

Agency Response

7.3 Is the stakeholder engagement plan uploaded?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

Yes

GEFSEC 10/9/2025

On stakeholder engagement: We note that stakeholder engagement plan has been provided. However, the plan doesn?t include information on stakeholder consultation with IPLCs and CSOs.

a. Please elaborate further about consultation with IPLCs and CSOs, and how the results of consultations were integrated into the project design.

b. Please also provide more details plan for each country how IPLCs and CSOs will be engage in project implementation.

GEFSEC 11/11/2025

We note the updated stakeholder engagement plan (SEP). The SEP however still does not clearly identify the specific Indigenous peoples, local, women, youth and community groups and associations to be engaged in project implementation. Please further elaborate on these different groups and associations roles related to project components and outputs.

Comment cleared.

Agency Response

A revised SEP attached.

11/11/2025

SEP elaborated to include more specific project components for specific Indigenous peoples, local, women, youth and community groups.

8 Annexes
Annex A: Financing Tables
8.1 GEF Financing Table and Focal Area Elements: Is the proposed GEF financing (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines? Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):
STAR allocation?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Focal Area allocation?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

LDCF under the principle of equitable access?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

Yes

Agency Response

SCCF A (SIDS)?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

SCCF B (Tech Transfer, Innovation, Private Sector)?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

Yes

Agency Response

Focal Area Set Aside?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

8.2 Project Preparation Grant (PPG)
a) Is PPG reimbursement requested and if so, is it within the eligible cap of USD 50,000?
b) Is the use of PPG attached in Annex: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG) properly itemized according to the guidelines?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

No PPG is requested.

Agency ResponseN/A

8.3 Source of Funds

Does the sources of funds table match with the OFP?s LOE? Note: the table only captures sources of funds from the country?s STAR allocation

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

Yes

Agency Response

8.4 Confirmed co-financing for the project, by name and type: Are the amounts, sources, and types of co-financing adequately documented and consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines? e.g. Have letters of co-finance been submitted, correctly classified as investment mobilized or in-kind/recurring expenditures? If investment mobilized: is there an explanation below the table to describe the nature of co-finance? If letters are not in English, is a translation provided?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

As noted above, the co-finance section is not completed. Please do so, with ambitious levels of co-finance and all relevant co-finance letters. We understand this will include co-finance from Australia, DBSA, and possibly an Australian financial institution. Attach co-financing letters.

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

Please submit co-finance letters from ISFMI and DBSA. (Please submit evidence of confirmed cofinancing)

GEFSEC 11/11/2025

The co-financing letters from ISFMI (executing agency) and DBSA are still not attached. Please address

Thank you for uploading the letters. Cleared

Agency ResponseISFMI letter reuploaded, DBSA letter

Annex B: Endorsements

8.5 a) Has the project been endorsed by the GEF OFP/s of all GEF eligible participating countries and has the OFP name and position been checked against the GEF database at the time of submission?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

Letters of endorsement are needed from Angola and Mozambique.

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

Thank you for submission.

Additional OP comments on LoE for Zambia: The LoE template utilized by the OFP has removed the footnote that conditions the selection of the executing partner to the following: ?Subject to the capacity assessment carried out by the GEF Implementing Agency, as appropriate?. Per the email sent back in March when we were aiming to constitute June 2023 Work Program, Agencies were informed that LoEs ?with modifications cannot be accepted and will be returned?. While the removal of the footnote seems to be trivial, it is not: this footnote reduces the chances of having an executing partner that does not meet the fiduciary and procurement standards required to safely execute the project. Please request a new LoE from OFP or get an email from the OFPs accepting this footnote to be part of the LoE.

b. Additionally, the financial information presented in the LoEs differs from that entered in the GEF Portal. Please update and align the data in the GEF Portal accordingly. See below images.

GEF Project Grant: (a)	1,662,385.00	**GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)**	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	149,615.00	**Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant: (d)**	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	1,812,000.00	**Total Co-financing:**	800,000.00

Source of funds	GEF Agency	Focal Area Source	Amount (in US$)				
			GEF Project Financing	GEF Project Financing Agency Fee	Project Preparation Grant (PPG)	Project Preparation Grant (PPG) Agency Fee	Total
LDCF	DBSA	Innovation	1,648,920	163,080			1,812,000
Total GEF Resources			1,648,920	163,080			1,812,000

GEFSEC 11/11/2025
The LoE's have not be updated as per the OP comments.

a. Zambia: The template utilized for this project by the OFP removed the footnote that conditions the selection of the executing partner to the following: ?Subject to the capacity assessment carried out by the GEF Implementing Agency, as appropriate?. Please note the communication from the GEF Secretariat in which Agencies were informed that LoEs ?with modifications cannot be accepted and will be returned?.

While the removal of the footnote seems to be trivial, it is not: this footnote reduces the chances of having an executing partner that does not meet the fiduciary and procurement standards required to safely execute the project. Suggest having the OFP revise the LoE or get an email from the OFP accepting this footnote to be part of the LoE

b. Kindly address the discrepancies in the financial information in the LoEs and the GEF Portal. Update

GEF Project Grant: (a)	1,662,385.00	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	149,615.00	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant: (d)	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	1,812,000.00	Total Co-financing:	800,000.00

Source of funds	GEF Agency	Focal Area Source	Amount (in US$)				
			GEF Project Financing	GEF Project Financing Agency Fee	Project Preparation Grant (PPG)	Project Preparation Grant (PPG) Agency Fee	Total
LDCF	DBSA	Innovation	1,648,920	163,080			1,812,000
Total GEF Resources			1,648,920	163,080			1,812,000

Thank you addressing the discrepancies. Comment cleared

Agency Response

b. The LoEs provide for

1,648,920 + 163,080 whereas the proposal provides for GEF Project Grant: (a)

1,662,385.00

GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)

0.00

Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)

149,615.00

New LoEs to be obtained based on the portal restrictions.

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

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

See comment above

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

Yes

Agency ResponseProvided as requested.
c) Do the letters follow the correct format and are the endorsed amounts consistent with the amounts included in the Portal?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response
8.6 For NGI projects (which may not require LoEs), has the Agency informed the OFP(s) of the project before the PIF submission?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response
Annex C: Project Results Framework
8.7 a) Have the GEF core indicators been included?
b) Have SMART indicators been used; are means of verification well thought out; do the targets correspond/are appropriate in view of the budget (too high? Too low?)
c) Are all relevant indicators sex disaggregated?
d) Is the Project Results Framework included in the Project Document pasted in the Template?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

a) Yes. see comment above

c) Yes

d) Not yet

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

d) the project results framework is still missing.

GEFSEC 11/11/2025

Please insert the Result Framework in the project document or submit it separately into the Portal

Thank you for addressing the comments. Cleared

Agency ResponseSee Revised Core Indicators.
Annex E: Project map and coordinates
8.8 Are geo-referenced information and maps provided indicating where the project interventions will take place ?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

Yes, geo-referenced information provided

Agency Response

Annex F: Environmental and Social Safeguards Screen and Rating
8.9 Have safeguard screening document and/or other ESS document(s) attached and been uploaded to the GEF Portal?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

Yes. A screening document is attached.

GEFSEC 10/9/2025

We note the attached environmental and social safeguards screening tool and stakeholder engagement plan, and an overall ESS risk is classified as Low.

a. It is critical for this project to have strong engagement with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs). Please elaborate further on how the project has been engaged with IPLCs so far and what is the plan to engage with IPLCs in project implementation.

b. Please ensure Free, Prior and Informed Consent with IPLCs about project proposal, and IPLCs must be able to accept, modify or reject proposals and participate in ongoing governance.

c. Please provide ESMF at CEO Approval stage, not only environmental and social safeguards screening document.

d. ?This Project involves at least one fragile and conflict affected state? in the Meta Information ? LDCF said ?false?. However, Mozambique is one of the countries listed as in conflict on the WBG FY26 List of Fragile and Conflict-affected Situations. Please correct.

e. Please provide conflict sensitive assessment and analysis for project implementation in Mozambique and risk management strategies should be integrated into project design.

GEFSCE 11/11/2025

Thank you for providing additional information about engagement with IPLCs. However most of the comments were are not addressed

a. first, the review sheet does not include any responses to the previous ESS comments. Please kindly provide responses to the comments.

b. Please provide ESMF at CEO Approval stage, not only environmental and social safeguards screening document. If there is no ESMF for this project, please provide clear monitoring indicators to ensure strong engagement of IPLCs in project implementation.

c. Please provide conflict sensitive assessment and analysis for project implementation in Mozambique and risk management strategies should be integrated into project design.

Thank you for addressing comments. Cleared

Agency Response

a) Responces provided

b. We can provide clear monitoring indicators and have add that element to the section on ?Monitoring & Evaluation: Adaptive Management?.

c. Done.

Annex G: GEF Budget template
8.10 a) Is the GEF budget template attached and appropriately filled out incl. items such as the executing partner for each budget line?
b) Are the activities / expenditures reasonably and accurately charged to the three identified sources (Components, M&E and PMC)?
c) Are TORs for key project staff funded by GEF grant and/or co-finance attached?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

a) The budget table is not in GEF format. As DBSA knows well, this needs to be in GEF format

c) ToRs not attached

GEFSEC 10/9/2025

Additional OP comments: Please delete the budget table pasted in the field of Annex G and use the respective option to upload the budget table following the required format in the template provided in the Guidelines on the Project Cycle.

ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Please upload the budget table here.

Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

Budget for each Target Country:

Activity	USD
Preparing draft project development documents by ISF MI led team with a local implementing partner(s) (inclu ding, for each country lead author, indigenous fire rang ers, fire scientist, legal/policy expert, community engag ement specialist, carbon market expert, ESS/gender sp ecialist).	80,000
Travel to target countries and selected sites by ISFMI an d partners team	40,000
Workshops to review project development documents by all relevant stakeholders	35,000
Develop community informed indicators to guide both site level fire project M&E plans and future benefit shar ing arrangements	20,000

GEFSEC 11/11/2025

a. Please upload the budget table in Word format. Do not include an image inside the Word document because it is unreadable in the PDF document (which is the document that is circulated to Council and later web posted) refer to page 45.

b. Please group the different categories instead of listing them spread out across the budget table.

Expenditure Category
Workshop
Sub-grants
Subcontract to executing entity
Travel
Workshop
Subcontract to executing entity
Subcontract to executing entity
Subcontract to executing entity
Sub-contract to executing partner/ entity
Goods
Subcontract to executing entity
Sub-contract to executing entity
Sub-contract to executing entity
Sub-contract to executing entity
Workshop
Subcontract to executing partner

c) PMC and M&E items are missing from the budget table

d) There are no positions listed on the budget table, except for a ?communications professional?. However, we could not find TORs. Please include any personnel positions in the budget table and to include the TORs in the document section in the GEF Portal

Contractual Services - Individual	Implementation of communications plan by communications professional				[illegible]	[illegible]				[illegible]
Contractual Services - Individual	Translation services				4,000	4,000				[illegible]
Contractual Services - Individual	Use of communications tools and services to execute communications plan				4,000	4,000				[illegible]

GEFSEC 1/11/2026

PMC and M&E items are still missing from the budget table. It is required to indicate in the budget what items with the detailed description are being charged to PMC and M&E. These usually include personnel responsible for managing the project and M&E related activities. Please amend.

Please include the TOR of any additional position that may be added as part of the details for the PMC and M&E items

GEFSEC 1/24/2026

Comment yet to be addressed. Kindly enter the M&E and PMC budget allocation in their designated columns as highlighted below. Same requirement applies for the Total column:

Appendix A: Indicative Project Budget Template

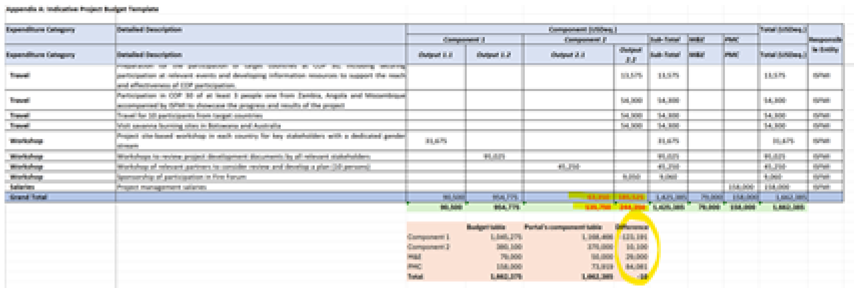
Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Res
		Component 1		Component 2		Sub-Total	M&E	PMC		
		Output 1.1	Output 1.2	Output 2.1	Output 2.2					
Contractual Services – Individual	Implementation of communications plan by communications professional				25,000	25,000				ISF
Contractual Services – Individual	Translation services				4,000	4,000				ISF
Contractual Services – Individual	Use of communications tools and services to execute communications plan				4,000	4,000				ISF
Goods	Equipment (e.g. PPE equipment for rangers) to support preliminary training		45,000			45,000				ISF
sub-contract to executing partner	Engage relevant partners through two virtual meetings, both to be convened in Portuguese language				10,000	10,000				ISF
Sub-contract to executing entity	Development of institutional arrangements and implementation agreement(s) and for specific sites (e.g. visits to project sites primarily undertaken by local consultants, local communities, local NGOs and research agencies) to promote sustainability of the initiative and with a view to building on any existing initiatives where such opportunities exist.		150,000			150,000				ISF
Sub-contract to executing entity	Development of relevant baseline data for countries such as GHG emissions, fire histories and vegetation mapping		105,000			105,000				ISF
Sub-contract to executing entity	Review of regional cooperation and coordination efforts and needs with governments, regional organisations, development banks, other relevant local stakeholders including local universities and civil society, and international partners).			30,000		30,000				ISF
Sub-contract to executing entity	Report of the exchange				10,000	10,000				ISF
Sub-contract to executing entity	Develop a project communication plan to guide ISFMI and DBSA communication tools to maximise awareness of progress and results of project and communications materials and to support fire practitioners develop capacity in target countries				12,000	12,000				ISF
Sub-contract to executing partner/ entity	Preliminary fire operations training for rangers and communities		45,000			45,000				ISF
Sub-grants	Research funds	65,000				65,000				ISF
Subcontract to excuting partner	Develop agreed tools to implement the plan			50,000		50,000				ISF
Subcontract to executing entity	Preparing draft project development documents by ISFMI led team with a local implementing partner(s) (including, for each country lead author, indigenous fire rangers, fire scientist, legal/policy expert, community engagement specialist, carbon market expert, ESS/gender specialist).		240,000			240,000				ISF
Subcontract to executing entity	Develop community informed indicators to guide both site level fire project M&E plans and future benefit sharing arrangements		60,000			60,000				ISF
Subcontract to executing entity	Development of community informed natural resource (biodiversity, water, soil, air quality related) and fire hazard mapping, and fire operations plan, and development of all other detailed assessments and action plans to ensure safeguard compliance.		90,000			90,000				ISF
Subcontract to executing entity	Development of appropriate governance /institutional arrangements for the Indigenous/local communities		65,000			65,000				ISF
Subcontract to executing entity	Engagement of potential donors and investors		30,000			30,000				ISF
Subcontract to executing partner	Support for relevant partners to participate in the implementation of the plan (e.g. communication support, development of websites, participation in relevant meetings by partners to socialize the plan)			20,000		20,000				ISF
Travel	Travel to target countries and selected sites by ISFMI and partners team		120,000			120,000				ISF
Travel	Preparation for the participation of target countries at COP 30, including securing participation at relevant events and developing information resources to support the reach and effectiveness of COP participation.				15,000	15,000				ISF

In addition, please include the TOR of any additional position that may be added as part of the details for the PMC and M&E items.

GEFSEC 1/30/2026
We note pending issues with the Budget table, detailed below:

(i) Grant total of output 2.1 and 2.2. are not correct in the budget table, please revise.

(ii) There are differences between the budget table and Portal?s component table as shown in screenshoot below, please revise to make them match.


Appendix A: Indicative Project Budget Template

(iii) Despite previous comments on this point, total personnel costs (including consultants, contractual services ? individuals, and salaries) accounted for 64% of total project budget, which is very high.

Row Labels	Sum of Total (USDeq.)		Sum of Total (USDeq.)		
Consultants - International	119,725		119,725	7%	
Consultants - Local	58,825		58,825	4%	
Contractual Services – Company	27,150		27,150	2%	
Contractual Services – Individual	47,965		47,965	3%	
Contractual Services – Individual	685,085		685,085	41%	
Goods	40,725		40,725	2%	
Grants	58,825		58,825	4%	
Salaries	158,000		158,000	10%	64%
Travel	285,075		285,075	17%	
Workshop	181,010		181,010	11%	
Grand Total	**1,662,385**		1,662,385		

Please consolidate, streamline, and reduce overall personnel costs to around 30% - also, as repeatedly requested, include the TOR of any additional position that may be added as part of the details for the PMC and M&E items.

Agency Response

a) addressed

11/11/2025

A. Word document provided.

b. Revised excel provided.

c. PMC and M&E were provided in totals not per line item which seems to make more sense

d. TORs for the communication professional included.

Annex H: NGI Relevant Annexes
8.11 a) Does the project provide sufficient detail (indicative term sheet) to take a decision on the following selection criteria: co-financing ratios, financial terms and conditions, and financial additionality? If not, please provide comments.
b) Does the project provide a detailed reflow table to assess the project capacity of generating reflows? If not, please provide comments.
c) Is the Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments.

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Additional Annexes

9. GEFSEC DECISION

9.1.GEFSEC Recommendation Is the project recommended for approval

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 08/18/2025

Not yet. Agency needs to address all comments.

GEFSEC 10/1/2025

Project recommended contingent on addressing all comments

GEFSEC 11/11/2025

Agency needs to address all comments, and in addition communicate in the review sheet how the comments were clearly addressed.

GEFSEC 1/24/2026

Agency yet to fully address all comments.

9.2 Additional Comments to be considered by the Agency during the inception and implementation phase

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

9.3 Review Dates

	1SMSP CEO Approval	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	**8/20/2025**	
Additional Review (as necessary)	**10/9/2025**	
Additional Review (as necessary)	**11/11/2025**	
Additional Review (as necessary)	**1/13/2026**	
Additional Review (as necessary)		