



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)¹
PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZED PROJECT
TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEFTF
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PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

| | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Project Title: | Participatory assessment of land degradation and sustainable land management in grassland and pastoral systems | | |
| Country(ies): | Global | GEF Project ID:² | 5724 |
| GEF Agency(ies): | FAO | GEF Agency Project ID: | 628937 |
| Other Executing Partner(s): | International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) | Submission Date: | March 18, 2014 |
| GEF Focal Area (s): | Land degradation | Project Duration (months): | 36 |
| Name of parent program (if applicable): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/> • For SGP <input type="checkbox"/> • For PPP <input type="checkbox"/> | | Agency Fee: | 250,774 |

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK³:

| Focal Area Objectives | Trust Fund | Indicative Grant Amount (\$) | Indicative Co-Financing (\$) |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| LD-4 Adaptive Management and Learning | GEFTF | 2,639,726 | 6,000,000 |
| Total project costs | | 2,639,726 | 6,000,000 |

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

| Project Objective: Improve the assessment capability and the decision making process of pastoral, agrosylvo-pastoral, and grassland system stakeholders in lowland and mountain areas to reverse land degradation (LD), enhance food security and resilience to climate change, as well as to improve the conservation of biodiversity. | | | | | | |
|---|------------|--|---|------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Project Component | Grant Type | Expected Outcomes | Expected Outputs | Trust Fund | Indicative Grant Amount (\$) | Indicative Co-financing (\$) |
| 1. Design an integrated and participatory assessment process to estimate multiple benefits in | TA | 1.1 Integrated herders self-assessment process in place to evaluate LD and SLM and tested in at least three regions in collaboration with the Pastoral Knowledge Hub | 1.1.1 A procedure for local level agrosylvopastoral and grassland LD/SLM analysis designed, validated and disseminated based on Pastoral Knowledge Hub and International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) data requirements and following lessons learned from other | GEFTF | 950,000 | 2,500,000 |

¹ It is very important to consult the PIF preparation guidelines when completing this template.

² Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

³ Refer to the reference attached on the Focal Area Results Framework when filling up the table in item A.

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|---|--|-------|------------------|------------------|
| grassland/pastoral areas (including mountain areas and agrosylvo-pastoral areas) and to support policy and investment in decision making | | 1.2 LD/SLM monitoring strategies focusing on grassland and pastoral systems developed to: i) reinforce policy development and planning in dry-land grassland and livestock systems and landscapes and ii) mobilise most appropriate investments in locally-controlled rangelands. | pastoral and LD/SLM initiatives requiring similar data assessing (at least 9 INRM systems in 9 countries analysed) | | | |
| 2. Calibrate and test methods for LD and SLM assessment through pilot studies in mountain and lowland grassland/pastoral areas in at least three regions | TA | 2.1 Sustained flow of ecosystem services analyzed through appropriate indicators that support evidence based selection of at least 20 INRM practices | 2.1.1 Grassland, agrosylvopastoral, and livestock related indicators developed, tested and piloted in selected projects (see list of cofinancing and collaborating partners). Indicators will include, but will not be limited to; a livelihood analysis, soil and grassland biodiversity, water holding capacity and water cycle improvement, meat and dairy quantity and safety, sustainable livestock management, livestock management in agro-forestry areas, impact of livestock genetic diversity on LD, impact of LD in wild plant and animal species composition, biomass productivity assessment, biomass and soil carbon cycle, land use change and encroaching crop and forest issues | GEFTF | 1,439,025 | 2,775,000 |
| 3 Knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation | TA | 3.1 The project's outcome and output targets are monitored and evaluated, and "lessons learned" on best practices are captured and disseminated to facilitate future operations. | 3.1.1 Project monitoring system providing systematic information on progress in meeting project outcome and output targets 3.1.2 Midterm and final evaluation conducted 3.1.3 Project related "best-practices" (BP) and "lessons-learned" documented and published (by using the Pastoral Knowledge Hub baseline structure) | GEFTF | 125,000 | 375,000 |
| Sub-Total | | | | | 2,514,025 | 5,650,000 |
| Project Management Cost | | | | | 125,701 | 350,000 |
| Total Project Costs⁴ | | | | | 2,639,726 | 6,000,000 |

C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME IF AVAILABLE, (\$)

| Sources of Co-financing | Name of Co-financier | Type of Co-financing | Amount (\$) |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------|-------------|
| CSO | International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) | Grant | 700,000 |
| GEF Agency | FAO-AGA through Germany - The Pastoralist Knowledge Hub (symbol to be defined) - global cofinancing | Grant | 1,600,000 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--|---------|------------------|
| GEF Agency | FAO-AGP through EU – Innovative Efficient Protein-Rich Food Sources (symbol to be defined) – global cofinancing | Grant | 100,000 |
| GEF Agency | FAO-AGP through EU – Innovative Efficient Protein-Rich Food Sources (symbol to be defined) – global cofinancing | In-kind | 400,000 |
| GEF Agency | FAO-FOR through multiple donors, Mountain Partnership GCP/GLO/204/MUL - Argentina, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Morocco | Grant | 200,000 |
| GEF Agency | FAO-FOR through multiple donors, Mountain Partnership GCP/GLO/204/MUL - Argentina, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Morocco | In-kind | 400,000 |
| GEF Agency | FAO-FOR through Finland – Strengthening Forest Resources Management and Enhancing its Contribution to Sustainable Development, Landuse and Livelihoods - Tanzania GCP /GLO/194/MUL | In-kind | 1,000,000 |
| GEF Agency | FAO-Kenya through EU - Improved Community Drought Response and Resilience (ICDRR) OSRO/KEN/102/EC | Grant | 100,000 |
| GEF Agency | FAO-Kenya through EU - Improved Community Drought Response and Resilience (ICDRR) OSRO/KEN/102/EC | In-kind | 400,000 |
| GEF Agency | FAO-FOR through EU – ACP project Action Against Desertification for sustainable livelihoods and productive and resilient landscapes in 8 ACP countries - Burkina Faso, Niger GCP /INT/157/EC | Grant | 100,000 |
| GEF Agency | FAO-FOR through EU - ACP -- project Action Against Desertification for sustainable livelihoods and productive and resilient landscapes in 8 ACP countries - Burkina Faso, Niger GCP /INT/157/EC | In-kind | 900,000 |
| GEF Agency | FAO-FOR through Turkey “Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Mountain Watersheds in Central Asia and the Caucasus” – Kyrgyzstan (GCP /SEC/002/TUR) | In-kind | 50,000 |
| GEF Agency | AGP Regular programme | Grant | 50,000 |
| Total Co-financing | | | 6,000,000 |

D. GEF/LDCF/SCCF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY (IES), FOCAL AREA(S) AND COUNTRY¹

| GEF Agency | Type of Trust Funds | Focal Area | Country Name/ Global | (in \$) | | |
|------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | | | | Project amount (a) | Agency Fee (b) | Total c=a+b |
| FAO | GEFTF | Land degradation | Global | 2,639,726 | 250,774 | 2.890.500 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Total Grant Resources | 2,639,726 | 250,774 | 2,890,500 |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|

¹ In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide information for this table.

E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)⁴

Please check on the appropriate box for PPG as needed for the project, according to the GEF Project Grant:

| | <u>Amount Requested (\$)</u> | <u>Agency Fee for PPG (\$)⁵</u> |
|--|----------------------------------|--|
| • No PPG required | | |
| • (Upto) \$50k for projects up to & including \$ 1 million | | |
| • (Upto) \$100k for projects up to & including \$ 3 million | 100,000 | 9,500 |
| • (Upto) \$150k for projects up to & including \$ 6 million | | |
| • (Upto) \$200k for projects up to & including \$ 10 million | | |
| • (Upto) \$300k for projects above \$ 10 million | | |

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY (IES), FOCAL AREA(S) AND COUNTRY(IES) FOR MFA AND/OR MTF PROJECT ONLY

| Trust Fund | GEF Agency | Focal Area | Country Name/ Global | (in \$) | | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | | | PPG (a) | Agency Fee (b) | Total c=a+b |
| GEFTF | FAO | LD | Global | 100,000 | 9,500 | 109,500 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Total PPG Amount | | | | 100,000 | 9,500 | 109,500 |

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. PROJECT OVERVIEW:

A.1. Project description

Recent studies from international, non-governmental organizations such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)/World Initiative for Sustainable Pastoralism (WISP), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and UN agencies, document the enormous contributions pastoralism continues to provide to food security, particularly in a world in which land degradation (LD) and climate variability features are becoming more prominent. Pastoralism also provides a major boost to agriculture by providing manure, livestock, products and services, labour and knowledge.

In terms of the pastoral product supply and populations' food supply, pastoral and agro-pastoral systems in the Sahel contribute by more than 80 percent to the supply of animal products. In the Sahel, pastoralism accounts for 70 to 90 percent of cattle rearing and 30 to 40 percent of sheep and goat rearing. In the Sahel and West Africa, transhumant pastoralism supplies an estimated 65 percent of beef, 40 percent of mutton and goat meat, and 70 percent of milk⁶. Animals that have travelled more than 450 miles from southern Somalia account for 26 percent of the beef eaten in Kenya and 16 percent of the beef eaten in Nairobi. Traditional herding in Tanzania accounts for 70 percent of the

⁴ On exceptional basis, PPG amount may differ upon detailed discussion and justification with the GEFSEC.

⁵ PPG fee percentage follows the percentage of the GEF Project Grant amount requested.

⁶ <http://www.oecd.org/swac/publications/38402714.pdf> Policy Note: *Promoting and Supporting Change in Transhumant Pastoralism in the Sahel and West Africa*

national milk production, which added up to 770 million liters in 2006⁷. With regard to national GDP, live animal exports amounted to USD 44.6 million in 2006 in Mali, and USD 15 million in Burkina Faso.

Rangelands cover some 25 percent of the global land area, and include the drylands of Africa (66 percent of the total continental land area) and the Arabian Peninsula, the steppes of Central Asia and the highlands of Latin America. The contribution that rangelands make to the maintenance of an ecosystem's functions and biodiversity is important. In addition to providing feed for livestock, they play an important role as a habitat for wildlife, for water retention and for the conservation of plant genetic resources. The flora of rangelands is rich: about 750 genera and 12 000 grass species. These ecosystems are also important for the maintenance of fauna, for example, grasslands contain 11 percent of the world's endemic bird areas (White et al., 2000: 40), and contribute to the maintenance of pollinators and other insects that have important regulating functions. Ecosystem benefits, especially regulating services such as water infiltration and purification, climate regulation (e.g. carbon sequestration) and pollination, have begun to be assigned with an economic value, and systematic data-gathering in rangelands of both developed and developing countries should therefore be a global priority.

The FAO's research indicates that pastoral rangelands are decreasing because of: 1) exclusive conservation policies on pastoral rangelands that are also the natural habitat for wildlife, flora and fauna; and 2) growing populations that create competition for natural resources and the encroachment of arable farming on potential grazing lands⁸. Pastoral land is being acquired by state allocation and also by agro-industrial companies. Agricultural expansion is increasingly cutting into pastoral land and cultivators extract the water that feeds pastoral wells. Furthermore, the FAO's State of Land and Water (SOLAW-LADA) indicates that 40 percent of extensive pastoral land use systems and 58 percent of agro-pastoral systems are degraded. Soil erosion, decreasing vegetative cover and changes in plant species' composition are resulting in declining forage yields for the livestock. In this framework, one of the most crucial challenges is the need to adapt to climate change, which – through alterations in temperature, precipitation among others – will affect grazing land and their potential yields, and the incidence of animal diseases.

LD is also very relevant in mountainous areas where animal husbandry activities are either the main or the only source of income for communities living at high altitudes. In mountainous areas, pastoralism provides money, food and manure. Yet, pastoral activities impact biomass production, soil compaction, and biodiversity conservation and negatively affect any attempt to reverse degradation through reforestation activities, if not properly managed. In central Asia many pastures have been seriously degraded because of overgrazing which, combined with the effect of climate change have reduced vegetation cover, with a loss of productivity and increasing desertification; furthermore, destruction of forests and shrubs has led to wind erosion⁹. As recognized by the Rio +20 Declaration, LD on mountains strongly impacts biodiversity. This can be intended as plant and animal genetic diversity. In the tropical Andes, the quality of wool and meat from camels – vicuña, alpaca and guanaco in particular – are seriously deteriorating because of the lack of genetic diversity. Lack of capacity, cultural aptitude, and lack of marketing knowledge are the main barriers in this region. Additionally, in many high mountainous areas, (i.e. tropical Andes), the impact of livestock genetic diversity is relevant as the replacement of camels with cows is reducing soil capacity for water infiltration accelerating degradation processes. Indeed, because of the physical isolation, the lack of extension services and economic and social exclusion, the genetic quality of the animals in certain areas such as for instance in the case of camels in the Andes, is very degraded, thus highly affecting the quality of the wool and the quantity of milk and meat production. In many mountainous areas, pastoralism is the main source of income and a provider for high level proteins for the communities. Sustainable management of pastures and livestock can have a strong resilience function by improving land quality and sustaining livelihoods. Agroforestry practices in agro-sylvo-pastoral systems are not taken in sufficient technical consideration considering that they can, when properly managed, play a crucial role to reduce LD by preventing deforestation, conserving biodiversity, and providing erosion control by reducing water sediment load.

Mobile pastoralists in many dryland regions, for example, maintain herding strategies that mimic nature, thereby promoting ecosystem functions that not only support their livelihood but also provide global environmental benefits

⁷ Sources: *Promoting and Supporting Change in Transhumant Pastoralism in the Sahel and West Africa*, ECOWAS, CSAO, Policy Note No. 3: <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/35/14/38402714.pdf>;

⁸ Source: <http://www.fao.org/agriculture/lead/themes0/drylands/information0/background/it/>

⁹ Source: *Grasslands of the World*, Edited by J.M. Suttie, S.G. Reynolds and C. Batello. FAO, Rome. <http://www.fao.org/docrep/008/y8344e/y8344e0i.htm#bm18.4.1>

like carbon sequestration and species conservation.¹⁰ Regardless of the great importance of pastoralism for livelihoods and environmental management, pastoralist communities are often socially and politically marginalized. Planners and policy makers in some cases do not address properly the minimum requirement of pastoral livelihood and do not know the opportunities linked to pastoral, sustainable, environmental and agro-ecosystem management¹¹. In pastoral areas agroforestry also continues to face challenges such as unfavorable policy incentives, inadequate knowledge collection and dissemination, legal constraints and poor coordination among the multiple sectors (including livestock production) to which it contributes.

The present project aims to empower pastoralists and pastoral institutions by allowing them to gather updated holistic knowledge about pastoralism and the land pastoralists manage, about the multiple ecosystem benefits they are producing, and about the livelihood opportunities they are provided with in the context of a changing climate. Additionally, the intended project focuses on empowering pastoralists to influence policies that constrain their livelihoods and their ability to sustainably manage their resources.

1) The global environmental problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

Lack of a comprehensive process that assesses and transfers LD and SLM information to appropriate policies and legal instruments to sustainably manage grassland areas

International organizations have intensified their interest and support to pastoralists. Although non-binding, a series of declarations provide input into the policy-shaping process, influence the global debate, and raise awareness. Nevertheless, pastoralist policies are hard to come by at a national level. In fact, policies often aim to forcibly settle or exclude pastoralists from their traditional grazing areas.¹² Furthermore, a comprehensive monitoring system for pastoral areas does not exist. Various examples of pastoral level monitoring systems have been piloted at a small scale or in single projects or initiatives. However, a coherent process to assess LD and SLM and to transfer information to a decision making level does not exist. Furthermore, pastoral associations and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and local level research often do not have the capacity or access to data to properly assess the impact of CC in grassland LD and pastoral livelihood, or the impacts of LD in grassland biodiversity. In fact, a lack of efforts towards land rehabilitation and climate resilience of grassland and pastoral areas is indirectly linked to a lack of capacity, knowledge and experience, which is an obstacle for development both at smallholder and governmental levels. As a result, policies are not up to date or are not present in a form that can address issues related to sustainable land use and rehabilitation in grassland areas, and if they exist, they are not applied. Finally, lack of planning capacity directly affects LD. The project will focus on these barriers, reinforcing local-level capacity to build a knowledge base in an endogenous manner and to use such knowledge to influence local and national level policy agendas, thus contributing to a holistic vision at a local and national level planning.

Lack of a coherent and negotiated list of indicators focusing on assessing the multiple ecosystem benefits in grassland and pastoral areas

The FAO has developed a self-assessment tool for pastoralists to measure their resilience to climate change called SHARP (Self-evaluation and Holistic Assessment of climate Resilience of farmers and Pastoralists). The scheme is directly linked to a climate resilience assessment. On the request of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture¹³, the FAO is currently undertaking a study on the ecosystem services provided by local breeds in grazing systems. The preliminary results highlight the remaining gaps of 'hard' data and the lack of awareness in many countries. Furthermore, breed spatial distribution and production environment descriptor data have started to be collected at country level for selected species (Brazil, Kenya, Tanzania, Mali, Egypt, Iran, Morocco and Turkey),

¹⁰ Source: http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/drylands_bk_2.pdf

¹¹ On the same themes, please consult

https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/manual_for_min_standards_low_resolution_may_2012.pdf

¹² Source: Pastoralism in India: A Scoping Study <http://r4d.dfid.gov.uk/PDF/outputs/ZC0181b.pdf>

¹³ Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture: www.fao.org/nr/cgrfa/cgrfa-home/en/

with the aim of mapping breed's adaptation to specific environments, including feed. For making the best use of locally available feed resources by pastoralists and other livestock farmers it is imperative that these resources are reliably quantified at a national level, spatially and temporally.

Feed assessments are a pre-requisite for developing optimal feeding strategies and thus supporting feed and food security and the environmental sustainability of pastoralism. In addition, the ability to cope during emergency situations of feed shortages, the ability to provide input data into country level food input-output analyses, and the capability to assess the environmental impact of livestock rely on feed balance. Guidance is available on developing national feed assessments, from spatially extensive rangeland and grasslands to highly intensive crop-livestock systems¹⁴ (FAO, 2012). While feed assessments are ongoing in Asia, most African countries do not yet have quantitative information on the availability of feed resources.

The GEF LADA¹⁵ project has implemented a system to assess LD and SLM at a local, national, and global scale. This expert assessment method used a mapping base, a set of semi-quantitative definitions on soil degradation, and a team of national and international experts. The method provides reliable indicators for the endogenous and participatory assessment of the degradation phenomenon in pastoral and grassland areas. Furthermore, assessment of the socio-economic driving forces and cultural attributes and indicators linked to LD are well documented, and their integration into development initiatives is now increasing¹⁶. Based on the FAO study¹⁷ grassland's multiple economic value includes: water supply, preservation of non renewable water, flood barrier, food production from grazing or collecting wild products, medicinal use, carbon sequestration, gene pool and wild animal and plant preservation, energy source, and aesthetic and cultural value of nature and landscapes' beauty. This integration is crucial if there is to be success in reversing LD and mitigating threats of CC and variability through promoting sustainable land use and the transfer of global benefits of capacity building to the local level where costs are incurred. However, there is a need to integrate the pastoral livelihood key elements of socio-economic and cultural linkages in a comprehensive assessment methodology for LD. The project will focus on these barriers by discussing and proposing an indicator framework addressing Driving forces, Pressures, States, Impacts, and Responses (DPSIR method) in grassland and pastoral areas. This framework should be scientifically valid, allow for data replication, and be easily usable at the local level. It should be a multi-level system that enables the inclusion of detailed field studies into national statistical frameworks. Indicators will therefore include, but will not be limited to; a livelihood analysis, soil, animal species/breed and grassland biodiversity, water holding capacity and water cycle improvement, meat and dairies quantity and safety, sustainable livestock management, livestock management in agro-forestry areas, impact of livestock genetic diversity on LD, biomass productivity assessment, land use change and encroaching crop and forest issues.

2) THE BASELINE SCENARIO AND ANY ASSOCIATES' BASELINE PROJECTS

At present, greater attention is being paid to pastoralists because their practices; contribute to food security, adapt to threats and crises, and can be environmentally sustainable. International initiatives are increasingly targeting the pastoralist populations such as the Rangelands Observatory, a tool to monitor land use and investment, launched by the International Land Coalition, and the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) World Initiative for Sustainable Pastoralism (WISP). Pastoralists have also become one of the constituencies within the Committee on World Food Security's Civil Society Mechanism.

Founded in 1948, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) was the world's first global environmental organization and is today the largest professional global conservation network with more than 1,200 member organizations including more than 200 government and 900 non-government organizations. IUCN provides a neutral forum for governments, NGOs, scientists, business and local communities to find practical solutions to conservation and development challenges. IUCN's Ecosystem Management Programme includes the Global Dryland Initiative that strongly focuses in pastoral areas to support restoration and sustainable management of dryland ecosystems through enhanced land use strategies, effective natural resource governance and improved

¹⁴ FAO. 2012. *Conducting national feed assessments*, by Michael B. Coughenour & Harinder P.S. Makkar. FAO Animal Production and Health Manual No. 15. Rome, Italy. <http://www.fao.org/docrep/016/i3043e/i3043e.pdf>

¹⁵ The LADA web page is: <http://www.fao.org/nr/lada/>

¹⁶ i.e. Economic of Land Degradation initiative: <http://www.eld-initiative.org/>

¹⁷ http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Event-and-campaigns/Land-Day/5/Documents/PPT_Constance%20L.%20Neely.pdf

understanding of dryland ecology. This includes promoting sustainable development and ecosystem-based adaptation in the drylands, through partnership with communities and civil society, government and intergovernmental organisations, and the private sector. Various IUCN activities are key baseline for the present project. WISP, the **World Initiative for Sustainable Pastoralism (WISP)** is managed by IUCN and currently funded by IFAD and UNEP to constitute a global advocacy and capacity building network that promotes sustainable pastoral development for both poverty reduction and environmental management. WISP was established in 2005 through two UNDP/GEF global projects: *Enabling Sustainable Dryland Management Through Mobile Pastoral Custodianship* and *Enabling Sustainable Dryland Management Through Mobile Pastoral Custodianship: World Initiative on Sustainable Pastoralism*.

WISP contributes to enabling pastoralists to sustainably manage the rangelands and to demonstrate that their land use and system is an effective way of harnessing natural rangeland resources. WISP provides the social, economic and environmental arguments to improve perceptions of pastoralism as a viable and sustainable resource management system. WISP also advocates for an enabling environment for sustainable rangeland management, improved pastoral livelihoods and pastoral empowerment. IUCN is also implementing the DANIDA funded project **“Sustainably managing the drylands: policy implementation for sustainable land management”** for a total budget of USD 0.7 million. This project focuses on “closing the policy implementation gap”, recognising that a good number of successful approaches have been piloted for improved pastoral governance to enable both sustainable rangeland management and biodiversity conservation. In most cases supportive policies already exist but the challenge lies in their implementation. For this, the project is developing methodologies to demonstrate the best investments in locally-controlled rangelands and to mobilise the most appropriate investments for policy implementation and improved herders livelihood. The project addresses barriers such as poor dissemination of knowledge and low awareness of the opportunities, low capacity, and inadequate motivation amongst critical stakeholders by strengthening knowledge and capacity, identifying investment opportunities, and convening dialogue to build motivation, expectations and accountability. The project also sustains different practices that are proven to significantly improve SLM, including transhumant pastoralism¹⁸.

IFAD has a long history of investing in pastoral projects. The global **WISP initiative** has been supported by IFAD over the course of its history¹⁹ and has been successful in providing global advocacy and a capacity building network to promote sustainable pastoral development for both poverty reduction and environmental management. In this framework, IFAD has contributed to various important baseline initiatives. The report: **“Supporting Sustainable Pastoral Livelihoods: A Global Perspective on Minimum Standards and Good Practices”**²⁰, developed by IUCN, WISP, and the Ford Foundation with IFAD’s support helps planners and policy makers avoid investment strategies and policies that negatively impact pastoralists and enable them to ensure that specific policies and plans for pastoral development are more closely tailored to the needs of pastoralists. Minimum standards relate to four main thematic areas: i) develop country strategies that recognise and support pastoralism, ii) avoid non-pastoral investments and policies that undermine pastoralism, iii) place governance and rights, including those of minorities, at the centre of pastoralist development, and iv) promote investments and policies that support pastoralism.

IFAD also contributed to organizing the **Global Gathering of Women Pastoralists**, held in November 2010 in Mera, India which resulted in the Mera declaration. The Mera declaration is in itself an important baseline of the present projects as it calls on the international community to monitor the development and implementation of policies affecting and protecting pastoralists, to take into account the specificities of the pastoral ways of life and to differentiate nomadic and transhumant pastoralism from intensive livestock production when setting up new policies. IFAD has also contributed to the preparation of the Summary Report and Global Action Plan: **Women Pastoralists**²¹ resulted from the Global Gathering that set an Action Plan designed to guide pastoralist women through key issues such as networking, land rights, market access, policy and advocacy, education and capacity building, and communication and media. The action plan establishes actions we can take to address these issues, as well as timeline and responsibilities.

¹⁸ Winterbottom et al. *ibid*; Mortimore, M. et al., 2009. Dryland Opportunities: a new paradigm for people, ecosystems and development. www.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2009-033.pdf

¹⁹ <http://www.ifad.org/lrkm/theme/range/pastoral.htm>

²⁰ http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/manual_for_min_standards_low_resolution_may_2012.pdf

²¹ http://www.cop-ppld.net/fileadmin/user_upload/cop-ppld/items/GGWP%20Summary%20Report%20FINAL.pdf

IFAD supports the following livestock projects: i) developing incentives to promote the social and economic security of pastoral communities while respecting their knowledge systems and collaborating with customary pastoral institutions, ii) fostering market integration and boost the subsistence economy of pastoralists through mechanisms that encourage traditional, sustainable use of natural resources, and iii) providing appropriate services, i.e. services that are efficient, culturally sensitive and sometimes, mobile. One of the key recommendations from IFAD is the need to reverse rangeland degradation and to pay more attention to indigenous environmental knowledge, which emphasizes the preservation of species and habitats, thus contributing to biodiversity and making pastoralism essential for the ecosystem health of dryland environments. Following these principles IFAD is intervening in Uganda, Chad, Mongolia, Bolivia, Tanzania, , Kyrgyzstan and Lesotho. One important IFAD baseline project is the **Livestock and Market Development Programme (LMDP) in Kyrgyzstan** (USD 23 million, 2012 – 2017) that supports livestock and veterinary services, community-based pasture management, and improved market access for smallholder livestock farmers in order to reduce vulnerability to climatic risks and external shocks. The programme targets poor rural women and men to achieve sustainable improvements to their livelihoods. The development objective is to reduce vulnerability to climatic risks and external shocks and increase the income of smallholders and poor households in the project area through increased livestock productivity. In **Lesotho**, the **Wool and Mohair Programme (WAMP)**- under preparation) has been designed in response to the government's request to provide support to this important aspect of Lesotho's rural economy on which so many of its women and men smallholder producers depend. WAMP is designed to address the issues of rural poverty and food insecurity in the context of climate vulnerability. The programme is national in scope, however most of the activities focus on the poorer mountainous regions of the country - this is where the incidence of poverty is the highest and agricultural activity is severely restricted due to the lack of cultivatable land, degraded rangelands and the harsh climate. In these areas sheep and goat herding is the main economic activity, and subsistence and food security are essentially derived from the proceeds of selling animals or wool and mohair. The project will work in land tenure, improved livestock production and management, and wool and mohair fibre handling and marketing.

The FAO has an increasing **baseline** that focuses on supporting herder's networks and grassland assessment and rehabilitation. Also, collaboration between FAO, IUCN and IFAD is well established. FAO recently contributed to the recent global pastoralist gathering on the theme of "Pastoralism and the Transition to a Global Green Economy" organised by IUCN, WISP, World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples (WAMIP) and UNEP. The FAO is supporting the IFAD Kyrgyzstan project through expert missions by the Technical Cooperation Department and is interested in the development of the SHARP tool.

Germany will soon (May 2014) finance the FAO to establish "**The Pastoralist Knowledge Hub**", a mechanism through which information can be developed, shared and used among pastoralists. Its overall objective is to enhance the capacity of pastoralists and their organizations to; improve their livelihoods, strengthen their networks and outreach, and as a result influence a policy. The FAO was approached by pastoralist networks (including WISP) in late 2012 and early 2013 to establish a consultative platform for the pastoralist constituency. The intention of the consultative platform was to enable consistent and representative participation at FAO policy forums to highlight pastoralist issues. The proposed Pastoralist Knowledge Hub is the answer to this request, as it incorporates the overall aim of the initial proposal and addresses the constraints faced by pastoralists and policy makers alike. The Knowledge Hub will support activities such as: training and capacity development, learning exchanges, regional workshops, community dialogues, and the design of viable communication models to raise awareness. The Knowledge Hub advocacy on behalf of the pastoralists who seek support to target their issues, enlarge their participation and enhance their capacity to engage in global, regional and/or national policy debates that affect their lives. Often marginalized due to their unique cultural particularities (i.e. nomadic life; transnational status and mobility) pastoralists have been overshadowed by more dominant and better organized groups such as small crop farmers. The enhanced knowledge based on their breeds, feeds, land management and early warning will contribute to enhancing their livelihood options and strategies.

The FAO has been working on the assessment and monitoring of the environmental impact and the sustainability of animal production systems²². As such, the sustainability of the livestock system is related to the genetic composition of animal breeds. Improved understanding of the livestock breeds' adaptability to production environments might constitute an important baseline to define and assess LD with respect to its impact on animal genetic resources. Certainly the study of species and breeds, and the analysis of their land management systems is a key baseline to

²² <http://www.fao.org/wairdocs/LEAD/X6149E/X6149E00.HTM>

assess their impact on LD. The Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS) was developed in this framework by the Commission on Genetic Resources For Food and Agriculture²³ and is recognized by the CBD. DAD-IS contains a standardized set of data fields where breeds' adaptability is indirectly described as "production environment descriptors" (PEDs²⁴). PEDs represent a key baseline to assess breed suitability for a specific production environment, to plan breeds' conservation programme, to undertake socio-economic analysis of livestock systems, and to evaluate the system's agro-biodiversity. This activity also represented an important baseline to produce comprehensive and comparable descriptions of the relation between animal genetic resources and LD, and for potential of sustainable land and livestock management. The main ongoing baseline activity is the project: **"Strengthened national, regional and international levels to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity"** (FMM/GLO/006/MUL Baby 1, 2011-2014) that supports the data gathering process of the DAD-IS' modules for Kenya and Brazil.

The Agro-ecosystem Management unit²⁵ of the FAO Agricultural Plant and Protection Division implements pastoral projects in Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Angola, Niger and Mozambique, and six more national projects are currently in the pipeline. Projects are financed by the GEF TF and the LDCF to operationally address **pastoral land rehabilitation and climate change adaptation** through the expansion of existing community based networks (Farmer Field School) and by introducing a suite of integrated adaptive management practices, including the Agro-Pastoral Field Schools' method. All national projects focus on local agro-biodiversity, territorial management, closing the fertility gap, scaling-up of agro-meteo information, and policy support at national and district levels. These projects aim to increase the economic and ecological resilience and improve the livelihoods of tens-of-thousands of smallholder farmers and pastoralists in Africa in light of a variable and changing climate, impacting grassland biomass production and herder's livelihoods. In Burkina a solid baseline will also be represented by the collaboration between the SHARP project tool and the IUCN that applies the Tool Kit for Planning and Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Adaptation Capacity (TOP-SECAC). TOP-SECAC is a kit with 11 tools that can be used at various stages, such as the analysis of vulnerability and adaption capacities, planning of adaptation actions, and their monitoring and evaluation. The recently approved Angola LD project build in a complex land and resilience assessment system that links the CCA and the LD analysis, undertaken through SHARP and LADA, with innovative gender-focused spatial indicator and participatory household analysis.

Through GEF support, the FAO is implementing the **"Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems²⁶" (GIAHS)** (GCP/GLO/212/GEF) that are defined as "Remarkable land use systems and landscapes which are rich in globally significant biological diversity evolving from the co-adaption of community with its environment and its needs and aspirations for sustainable development" that integrates traditional herders' systems in Kenya, Morocco, Tanzania, Tunisia, India, Romania, and Russia.

The FAO also hosts the **Mountain Partnership Secretariat²⁷** (GCP/GLO/204/MUL), a United Nations voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of mountain people and protecting mountain environments around the world, it is financed by multiple donors with a total of USD 1 million per year. The partnership addresses the challenges afflicting mountain regions by tapping diverse and copious resources, knowledge, information and expertise. It stimulates concrete initiatives at all levels that improve livelihoods and environments in mountain regions. Currently 53 governments, 13 intergovernmental organizations and 162 major groups (including groups from civil society, NGOs and the private sector) are members. Pastoral issues are one of the major themes of the Partnership, including activities in Central Asia and in the Andes. Animal husbandry is recognised by the partnership as a traditional activity and a fundamental source of income and proteins for mountain communities who are among the poorest and most marginalised in the world. During its 4th global meeting held in Turkey in 2011²⁸ the partnership emphasized member countries' willingness to conserve mountain environments and to improve the livelihoods of mountain people.

²³ <http://www.fao.org/nr/cgrfa/en/>

²⁴ <http://dad.fao.org/cgi-bin/getblob.cgi?sid=-1,593>

²⁵ <http://www.fao.org/agriculture/crops/thematic-sitemap/theme/spi/en/>

²⁶ <http://www.fao.org/giahs/en/>

²⁷ <http://www.mountainpartnership.org/>

²⁸ http://www.mountainpartnership.org/fileadmin/templates/mountain_partnership/doc/Erzurum_Conclusions.pdf

Also, the FAO is designing a global system to assess forest degradation and provide guidance for forest and agro-forestry and degraded land restoration. This process called “**Enforcing Landscape Restoration**”, is based on the Aichi Targets and inserted in the framework of the commitment taken under the Bonn Challenge to restore 150 million hectares of forest by 2020, therefore including forests with pastoral land use. Moreover, within this framework, FAO and its partners are in the process of finalizing the development and publication of global guidelines for restoring the resilience of dryland forest landscapes. The publication aims at providing a common global framework for assuring successful planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of restoration of programmes and projects related to the restoration of forest/ agro-sylvo-pastoral landscapes and degraded lands.

The FAO is involved in regional programmes already operational in **East Africa** and in the planning phase in the Sahel, which directly addresses pastoralist’s resilience and livelihoods. In the East Africa, the World Bank has prepared a **Regional Pastoral Livelihoods Resilience Project (RPLRP)** which in its first phase will focus on three countries Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia. This project follows the Country Programming Papers for IGAD Strategic Plan for Drought Resilience and the Sustainability Initiative and the subsequent IGAD Regional Programming Framework. This project has five components; i) natural resources management, ii) market access and trade, iii) livelihood support, iv) pastoral risk management, and v) policy and institutional support. Furthermore, FAO-Kenya is managing the **Improved Community Drought Response and Resilience (ICDRR)** (OSRO/KEN/102/EC) that contributes towards improving response and resilience to drought for Adaptive Strategies for Sustainable Livelihoods in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands. It focuses on pastoralists’ livelihood through the following activities; i) preparation to drought response through community planning, ii) study of traditional herders’ institutions, iii) provide policy support to pastoral NGO and CSO, iv) improved access of vulnerability of pastoralist to livestock markets, and v) support linkages between the civil society and the local veterinary services. The GEF funded Transboundary Agro-ecosystem Management Project for the Kagera River Basin (**Kagera TAMP**) (GCP /RAF/424/GFF) works in Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, and Uganda with a budget of USD 6 million and focuses on the adoption of improved practices for the management of soil, water and vegetation through support from the decision making at the institutional and policy level. The project includes processes for planning, organization and decision making at community, district/provincial and regional / trans-boundary levels. The Kagera project has studied cross-border animal movement and has provided a series of recommendations for the SLM of watersheds involved in cross-border transhumance.

FAO-AGP is securing the EU financing of the global project “**Innovative Efficient Protein-Rich Food Sources**” that contributes to soil enrichment and management by working in the improvement of the symbiotic system legume-rhizobia, biological fertilizers, and water stress control systems under the CC conditions. The project that also works in Kenya- will improve rhizobia efficiency and water management in drylands and will have a direct link with agro-pastoral community’s livelihood. The analysis of wild crop species’ relatives will set a technical baseline to support the improvement and rehabilitation of highly palatable and protein rich grasslands.

The FAO will be launching the project “**Action Against Desertification for sustainable livelihoods and productive and resilient landscapes**” in mid 2014 covering **8 ACP countries** including **West African** countries. The project is financed by the EU with Euro 20 million (GCP /INT/157/EC) and has 21 millions co-financing. It is active in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Fiji, The Gambia, Haiti, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal with the objective of reinforcing sustainable land/forest management practices and technologies, as part of the implementation of their UNCCD national action plans and the Great Green Wall (GGW) National Action Plans. Indeed, this project in Africa is focusing on implementing the GGW national action plans developed and validated through the recently finalized first phase FAO programme of support to the GGW for the Sahara and the Sahel initiative in collaboration with the African Union Commission, the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and other partners with funding support from the EU and the UNCCD Global Mechanism. The initiative strongly focuses on improving resilience of natural and human systems in the drylands of Africa including grasslands and agro-sylvo-pastoral landscapes, contributing to food security, addressing Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD), poverty alleviation, climate change adaptation and mitigation and biodiversity conservation.

Additionally, the FAO is working in the framework of the Nouakchott Declaration on Pastoralism (October 2013). This declaration has set the objective of securing the livelihoods and the production means of pastoral populations, and aims at increasing the gross production of the breeding activities by at least 30% in 6 countries (Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad, and Burkina Faso) over the next 5 years in order to significantly increase the income of shepherds in the next 5 to 10 years. After the Nouakchott meeting, the follow up “*Projet Régional D’appui Au*

Pastoralisme Au Sahel” (PRAPS) is under preparation by WB/IDA and will start at the beginning of 2015. The project will be coordinated by the “Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse” (CILSS) as a loan to national governments with a total budget of USD 250 M for 6 years. The main technical aspects will involve animal health, natural resources management, market access, and land tenure. The FAO Technical Cooperation corporate programme is fully involved in the project preparation. Furthermore, FAO Regional Office for Africa in Accra is part of the Regional Steering Committee. Finally, the FAO is responsible for the preparation of a study to highlight the complementarities and synergies with existing initiatives, identify capacity building needs and policy convergence, and identify best practices (BP). The analytical work will support the preparation of the Nouakchott follow up programme and will represent an important lessons learned in West Africa pastoralism.

In Central Asia, several FAO activities focus on the pastoral areas development. The Turkey funded project “Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Mountain Watersheds in Central Asia and the Caucasus” (GCP /SEC/002/TUR) works in Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan with a budget of USD 0.3 million to assist the building up of the national capacities to improve the management of natural resources, to reverse the degradation, and to contribute to livelihood development in an integrated and participatory way. Additionally, the FAO provides technical assistance to the IFAD project “Livestock and Market Development Programme (LMDP)” supported through a USD 10 million loan to Kyrgyzstan.

The relevant baseline for the present intended project also includes important FAO initiatives related to decision support systems and data production that are relevant to pastoral systems.

The GEF funded global FAO project “Decision Support for Mainstreaming and Scaling up of Sustainable Land Management” will build on the LADA project results to improve the capability and the decision making of countries and regions engaged in the mainstreaming and scaling up of SLM to combat LD. The project, under preparation, has a budget of USD 6 million and will work in Argentina, Bangladesh, Bosnia, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Lesotho, Morocco, Nigeria, Panama, the Philippines, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey and Uzbekistan. One of the main outputs of the project will be to build one online and open access DLDD and SLM decision-support platform. The project executing partner is WOCAT, the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies which was initiated nearly 20 years ago and is now a thriving knowledge management hub for SLM, including pastoral areas management. The GEF UNEP/FAO LADA results are also a key baseline for the present project. At a national level a methodology was developed and guidelines prepared for the assessment and mapping of land degradation and land management practices at national and sub-national levels (Questionnaire for mapping, QM) in collaboration with WOCAT. National level assessments were completed in the 6 LADA countries: Argentina, China, Cuba, Tunisia, Senegal and South Africa. For the local level analysis a methodology was developed with LADA countries and the University of East Anglia for the assessment and mapping of land degradation and land management practices at local level including biophysical and livelihoods assessment. Assessments were conducted in all LADA countries in representative sites in order to test, develop further and validate the methodology in varied agro-ecological and socio-economic contexts. Some 3 to 6 local assessment reports were prepared by each pilot country. Additionally, an analysis of relations between biophysical and socio-economic aspects of land degradation was carried out in Senegal with support from the Free University of Amsterdam which will guide further applications to ensure a rigorous and triangulated data collection and analysis process using field observations and measurements, land users/household interviews and secondary information. At present the LADA method has been used or is intended to be used in at least 25 countries.

The global FAO-Finland project “Strengthening Forest Resources Management and Enhancing its Contribution to Sustainable Development, Landuse and Livelihoods” (GCP /GLO/194/MUL) has a total budget of USD 20 million and supports countries to collect, analyze and use biophysical and socioeconomic data on their forest resources, including forests with pastoral land use. In Tanzania the FAO-FIN project has also backstopped the National Forest Resources’ Monitoring and Assessment (NAFORMA) project. NAFORMA has collected field inventory information on land cover, land use, trees and other vegetation for approximately 30 000 field sample locations, and conducted socio-economic interviews with roughly 3000 households. The general objective of the project is to enhance ecological, social and economic sustainability of forest and tree resources and increase their benefits for rural livelihoods, and their role in mitigation of, and adaptation to CC. The project has the following main components:

1. Policy and practice affecting forests and forestry are based on timely and reliable information on forest resources.

2. National Forest Programmes (NFPs) serve as an effective mechanism for integrating forestry into national development plans and processes.
3. Sustainable forest management more widely practiced meeting the climate change adaptation needs and leading to reduction in deforestation and forest degradation
4. Enhanced countries' capabilities to meet their international forest related commitments and negotiations.

Some of the baseline project will support the management of the intended project such as: i) the FAO Pastoral Hub co-financing USD 0.1 M, ii) The Mountain Partnership co-financing USD 0.1 M, iii) the Action Against Desertification programme co-financing USD 0.1 M, and iv) the AGP Regular Programme.

3) Proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes, and project components

The intended project will support the Pastoral Knowledge Hub to the creation of a coherent framework to design an endogenous assessment process of multiple benefits from grassland/pastoral lands that can feed the policy process implemented by the Pastoral Knowledge Hub. Data and methods developed under the present project will be used as a tool to help policy makers understand the importance and benefits of pastoralism and pastoralists' role as food producers and stewards of the environment. It will also strengthen the skills of pastoralists to articulate the economic, ecological and social benefits of their way of life and ensure their inclusion in national, regional and global policy making. Moreover, as identified in FAO's report *Pastoralism in the New Millennium*, information dissemination is a gap that needs to be filled. Most pastoralists, and many of those who make policy decisions at the local level, have extremely weak access to information, especially in electronic formats; drought alerts being one of them. Better technology and policies for pastoralism can flow from more accessible, better-presented information.²⁹ This will ensure improved natural resource management of ecosystem services in pastoral production system and in grassland areas, increase the quality of food production and increase animal and plants genetic diversity. GEF agency will provide USD 5.3 M as additional funding to the baseline project through various baseline activities.

The objective of the proposed project is to improve the capability and the decision making of pastoral, grassland, and agrosylvo-pastoral stakeholders in lowland and mountain areas to reverse land degradation (LD), enhance food security, be resilient to climate change, as well as to improve the conservation of biodiversity. In order to maximize impact and ensure the generation of positive effects both in environmental and socio-economic terms, increased participation of herders' communities and CSO will be centred in the participation of IUCN as executing partners, and the proposed indicator set will be tested in 9 countries mainly in Central Asia (Kyrgyzstan), Latin America (Argentina), and in Africa (Angola, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Lesotho, Morocco, Tanzania). The project has **three components**: (i) Design a holistic assessment process to estimate multiple benefits in grassland/pastoral areas and to support policy and investment decision making; (ii) Calibrate and test methods for LD and SLM assessment through pilot studies in grassland/pastoral areas; (iii) Project monitoring and dissemination of results.

The description of the technical project components is as follows:

Component 1: Design an integrated and participatory assessment process to estimate multiple benefits in grassland/pastoral areas and to support policy and investment decision making. The first component will design a procedure for local level pastoral and grassland LD/SLM analysis based on lessons learned from other pastoral and LD/SLM initiatives (IUCN, Pastoral Hub) with a special focus on mountain areas and agrosylvo-pastoral systems in selected countries. The assessment process will integrate findings from the LADA/WOCAT method and will take a landscape or territorial approach that should focus on characteristics that are relevant to the pastoral and semi-pastoral areas, such as: low input production, best use of local biodiversity (forage and breeds), community based management and use of generated goods and ecosystem services, collective and community based decision making, land and water access and user rights for small pastoralist and large scale herders, seasonality and longer term (several years) variability in climatic, biological and ecological cycles (to capture perennial grasses and drought and variation in stocking density due to livestock mobility). Assessment tools developed by the project will facilitate decision making and planning in pastoral areas, and will identify areas requiring policy and institutional support based on stakeholder's consultations and lessons learned from other partner initiatives. Stakeholders consultation will be organized at the local and national level based on results from the assessment process and will

²⁹ *Pastoralism in the New Millennium*, http://www.fao.org/docrep/005/Y2647E/y2647e14.htm#P19_3541

help identify gaps and opportunities for mainstreaming SLM into agricultural and pastoral sector policies, planning and programmes. The main objective of stakeholders' consultation will be to use field based data to address policy and institutional gaps to be focused to rehabilitate pastoral areas and improve utilization of SLM, proposing alternatives such as bylaws, service to market, fodder management, establishment of revolving funds, etc. The process will be proposed and evaluated through the Pastoral Hub and will be one of the main tool to influence policy decision making by members.

Component 2: Calibrate and test methods for LD and SLM assessment through pilot studies in grassland/pastoral areas. The second part of the activities will develop and test indicators for LD and SLM assessments through 9 pilot studies in grassland/pastoral areas of Africa, Latin America, and Central Asia. In Africa, a variety of pastoral systems will be involved in the testing including Northern, Western, and Eastern Africa. The plain and mountain areas specificities will be covered, as well as local and transboundary issues. In Latin America and Central Asia, one country having both plain and mountainous pastoral system will be used as pilot. The main indicators will focus on the holistic participatory assessments by stakeholders of land and water degradation and on the analysis of the provision of ecosystem services (particularly food production services, including cost of production) in a sustainably managed dryland environment. Indicators will include, but will not be limited to: a livelihood analysis, soil and grassland biodiversity, water holding capacity and water cycle improvement, meat and dairies quantity and safety, sustainable livestock management, livestock management in agro-forestry areas, analyses of the manifold relationships between livestock genetic diversity, LD and wild plant and animal species composition, biomass productivity assessment, land use change and crop encroachment and forest issues. The indicator system will be tested through IUCN expertise and contact in a series of globally important pastoral areas and countries and will also contribute to strengthening global awareness of the state of the world's rangelands through the IUCN-led Global Assessment of Sustainably Managed Rangelands. Indicators will be influenced by existing national reporting requirements (e.g. UNCCD indicators) and methodologies and therefore partnership with the relevant government agencies will be critical.

4) Incremental cost reasoning and expected contribution from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF/SCCF, and adaptation cofinancing

The main objective of the Pastoral Hub is that the involved pastoralist organizations will increase their technical and organizational capacity to participate and contribute effectively in decision-making processes at the national and global policy level resulting in improved policies, legislation and programmes related to pastoralism and food security. **Without GEF funding**, assessment expertise to establish a valid and innovative grassland and pastoral monitoring system driven by CSO and research organizations' need would be lacking. Without the GEF funds, pastoral network around the world would continue to use methods that are general and not focused on specific drought prone pastoral areas needs such as: encroaching crop and forest issues, issues linked to transhumance movement and cross border seasonal migration, pastoral activities food production and access to market, food safety concerns in international markets, livestock management in agro-forestry areas, impact of drought and LD in species compositions, impact of animal genetic resources in land degradation, traditional collective rights vs modern policies, etc.

With the incremental financing from GEF, the proposed intervention will expand the scope of the activities carried out by IUCN and by FAO in the global pastoral areas by focusing on producing evidence-based decision support tools which will prove to decision makers and local level planners the value of an adapted pastoral agro-ecosystem management. In particular this will represent an innovative step towards an ecosystem-wide / landscape approach to reduce LD processes and to contribute to increased collaboration and linkages between the ongoing FAO and other projects and programs and approaches and to a decrease in the vulnerability of small-farmers and pastoralists.

The incremental reasoning for each component is as follows:

Component 1: Design an integrated and participatory assessment process to estimate multiple benefits in grassland/pastoral areas and to support policy and investment decision making.

Baseline: The present component will be built on i) the Pastoral Hub that is strengthening pastoral networks and outreach, with a main focus to influence policies (co-financing USD 0.9 M); ii) IUCN activities that are mainstreaming sustainable pastoral livelihood in different areas (co-financing USD 0.25 M); and the iii) Mountain Partnership network that will expand the scope of the intended activities to a wider and different international arena (co-financing USD 0.2 M). The assessment of relationships between animal genetic resources and LD will be based on the experience of the DAD-IS data gathering requested by the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Furthermore, the component will be based on the geographical experience and tool developed by the FAO-Finland project of Forest Resource management (co-financing USD 0.75 M). At a sub-regional level, the project will build upon the Action against Desertification initiative that will support network activities in 8 countries of the Sahel. The Action Against Desertification project will also allow the alignment of the present project activities with UNCCD national action plans and the GGW National Action Plans, and will provide insights for the definition of an assessment process that takes into consideration transboundary issues (co-financing USD 0.4 M).

The **additional financing** from the GEFTF through **Component 1** (USD 950,000) will design a process to assess grassland and pastoral LD and existing SLM practices by designing a procedure to assess multiple benefits in grassland and pastoral systems based on requirements and suggestions produced by the Pastoral Hub Network and the IUCN consortium. Other cofinancing initiatives requiring similar data will share field experiences, lessons learned, and SLM Best Practices (BP) known data gaps information. The component will be incremental to the baseline activities as it will only focus on a specific assessment looking at agro-pastoral production or transhumance areas, based on the Pastoral Hub and other knowledge sharing platforms. The assessment process will take a landscape or territorial approach that shall focus on characteristics that are relevant to the pastoral and semi-pastoral areas, such as: low input production, best use of local biodiversity (forage and breeds), community based management and use of generated goods and ecosystem services, collective and community based decision making, land and water access and user rights for small pastoralist and large scale herders, seasonality and longer term (several years) variability in climatic, biological and ecological cycles (to capture perennial grasses and drought and variation in stocking density due to livestock mobility). A key activity will be the assessment of the socio-economic dimension of the pastoral systems. Finally, grassland and pastoral SLM assessment tools will be developed to reinforce capacities of grassroots organization to influence dry-land grassland and livestock sector policy development and planning. The design of the knowledge creation process will include inter alia; i) the preparation of a tool (questionnaire) designed for project analysis based on lessons learned from other initiatives such as i) LADA local, ii) SHARP, and iii) DAD-IS monitoring systems, ii) an analysis of tools and approaches to integrate local and wider geographical analyses, and iii) the development of a general SLM assessment decision support tool for consideration by those involved in developing and updating policies and to strengthen dry-grassland and livestock sector policy development and pastoral land resource planning. IFAD will be a key player in providing lessons learned from field investments and in supporting the establishment of an appropriate assessment process that can potentially be used in conjunction with IUCN or with pastoral associations in various national activities.

Component 2: Calibrate and test methods for LD and SLM assessment through pilot studies in grassland/pastoral areas.

Baseline: The present component will be built on i) IUCN local level activities with herders and agro-pastoralists in various countries; and in ii) the Pastoral Hub that will provide the global arena to discuss and implement the proposed endogenous monitoring system (co-financing USD 0.5 M); and iii) the FAO Protein Rich Food Sources initiative will provide guidance on the assessment of genetic degradation of plants in the project areas (co-financing USD 0.45 M). At the national level the component will be supported as follows:

- IUCN - Burkina Faso (co-financing USD 0.35 M)
- The Action Against Desertification programme - Burkina Faso, Niger (co-financing USD 0.45 M)
- Projet Régional D'appui Au Pastoralisme Au Sahel (PRAPS) - Burkina Faso, Niger (collaboration with FAO Technical cooperation and WB/IDA project)
- FAO-LDCF CCA project – Burkina Faso - project (collaboration)
- The FAO Protein Rich Food Source - Kenya (co-financing USD 0.45 M)
- FAO-Kenya project (co-financing USD 0.45)
- DAD-IS Kenya data (collaboration with the Commission on Genetic Resources For Food and Agriculture)
- The Mountain Partnership - Lesotho, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, and Argentina (co-financing USD 0.3 M)

- Kyrgyzstan - FAO-Turkish sub-regional programme (co-financing USD 25.000)
- Kyrgyzstan – IFAD (collaboration)
- Lesotho – IFAD WAMP project (collaboration)
- The FAO-Finland programme – Tanzania (co-financing USD 0.25 M)
- FAO-GEF LD Project Kagera TAMP – Tanzania (collaboration)
- FAO-GEF LD project - Angola (collaboration)
- FAO-GEF LD Decision Support for Mainstreaming and Scaling up of Sustainable Land Management – Argentina, Lesotho, Morocco (collaboration)

The testing of indicators will be supported by the IUCN, GEF LDCF projects, and the Action Against Desertification programme in Burkina. The recently started FAO-GEF LD project will support the indicator testing in Angola. The Action Against Desertification programme will also support indicator testing in Niger. The project *Régional D'appui Au Pastoralisme Au Sahel* (PRAPS) will collaborate in the activities in Burkina and Niger and will share lessons learned and BPs. The FAO-Kenya project and DAD_IS will support the testing of indicators in Kenya. The Kagera TAMP project will support the planning for the testing of indicators in Tanzania, in collaboration with the FAO-Finland programme that will provide guidance for the selection of sites for the testing of the indicators.

At the global level, various projects will provide key collaboration. The FAO-GEF LD project Decision Support for Mainstreaming and Scaling up of Sustainable Land Management which is currently under preparation will allow to insert the present activities into the framework of the LADA method at a global level. Also, it will provide guidance for selection of the project test areas in drylands of Argentina, Lesotho, Morocco. Mountain areas will also be taken into close consideration. The guidance for mountainous pastoral area selection for indicators testing will be provided by the Mountain Partnership in Lesotho, Morocco, Argentina and Kyrgyzstan. In Kyrgyzstan the FAO-Turkish project will also provide support to the selection of testing areas. The computer based online system used to support data collection will be provided by the FAO-Finland programme, that will also contribute in providing guidance for the area selection of the field indicator testing in Tanzania.

Key baseline is provided by the IFAD portfolio in various countries. In fact, in Kyrgyzstan and Lesotho IFAD projects have a full component dedicated to community-based pasture management and selected communities in IFAD intervention areas will be involved in indicators testing.

Different tests regarding transboundary LD impacts will be realised. The Action Against Desertification programme will work in trans-boundary agro-sylvo-pastoral landscapes between Burkina Faso and Niger bringing into the project the trans-boundary elements and issues related to the monitoring, management and restoration of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems by communities living across borders of Burkina Faso and Niger. The area will be defined in detailed during the project formulation and will include the region of Dori/Djibo from Burkina and Tera/Tillabery in Niger. A similar activity will be planned and developed at the boundary between Kenya and Tanzania during the project preparation phase with the help of the Kagera TAMP team (working in a different area of the country) in collaboration with other FAO pastoral projects in Kenya.

Finally, the FAO Protein Rich Food Source will set a technical baseline to support the improvement and rehabilitation of highly palatable and protein rich grasslands with indicator testing developed mostly in Kenya jointly with other countries yet to be selected.

The **additional financing** from the GEFTF through **Component 2** (USD 1,439,025) will support the development, testing, and piloting of innovative and participative indicators in selected projects. IUCN will be the executing entity for the component and will test the indicators. Pilot studies in grassland/pastoral areas will support the development of indicators that will focus on the self-assessments by stakeholders of land and water degradation and on the analysis of the provision of multiple ecosystem services (particularly food production services, including cost of production) in a sustainably managed dryland environment. Indicators will include, but will not be limited to; a livelihood analysis, soil and grassland biodiversity, water holding capacity and water cycle improvement, meat and dairies quantity and safety, biomass and soil carbon cycle, sustainable livestock management, livestock management in agro-forestry areas, biomass productivity assessment, land use change and encroaching crops and forest issues.

Relationship between livestock genetic diversity and LD will be analysed based on PEDs data collection in selected countries. Countries involved in the Global Mountain Partnership will mainly work in the highlands and mountainous grazing ecosystems.

Component 3 Knowledge management monitoring and evaluation

Baseline: The present component will be built on i) IUCN activities at a local level (co-financing USD 0.1 M), ii) the FAO Pastoral Hub (co-financing USD 0.1 M), iii) The FAO Protein Rich Food Source (co-financing USD 50,000), iv) the FAO-Kenya programme (co-financing USD 50,000), v) the Action Against Desertification programme (co-financing USD 0.1 M), and vi) the FAO-Turkey programme (co-financing USD 25,000).

The **additional financing** from the GEFTF through **Component 3** (USD 300,000) will ensure for a systematic results-based monitoring and evaluation of the project's progress. This will achieve project outputs and outcome targets that are established in the Project Results Framework, as well as promoting the wider dissemination of project information, data and lessons learned for replication in degraded areas. Project related "best-practices" and "lessons-learned" will be documented and published in full collaboration and by using recommendations driven by the Pastoral Knowledge Hub baseline structure.

5. Global Environment Benefits

The project will facilitate the identification of indicators and the development of effective participatory measurement of GEBs for rangeland areas on a global scale. The main asset of the project will be to provide herders with a method to self-assess their impact on grassland degradation and in the sustainable rehabilitation. Also, the project's result will serve national agencies, research institutions, training centres in applying locally adapted activities to maintain or improve the flow of agro-ecosystems services that sustain the livelihoods of communities.

Additionally, the project will design a tool to directly support policy processes and to drive investments. Although evidence of the sustainability of the pastoral land management undertaken by herders already exists, policy makers are often not taking this knowledge into appropriate consideration. A tool for mainstreaming pastoral land community-based management into the local level decision making and planning processes will therefore constitute a GEB itself.

Furthermore, the project will focus on both small scale and landscape level management indicators, at least 20 INRM tools will be assessed and a tool for evidence based selection will be developed. Also, a key GEB will be represented by at least one test on transboundary landscape management indicators that will be undertaken at least in West Africa.

The method developed by the project will support the assessment of multiple GEBs of sustainable rangelands management including but not limited to: climate change mitigation by holding soil carbon and promoting sequestration; climate change adaptation through greater resilience in pastoral social ecological systems; biodiversity conservation through maintaining diverse rangelands and habitat; protecting water sheds which reduce the risk of drought; reducing environmental refugees; and reducing poverty.

6. Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

The project will develop a participatory innovative method to assess pastoral areas grassland LD rates, causes, and impacts and to estimate impact of SLM. These methods will be innovative by introducing the existing LADA, SHARP, and DAD-IS monitoring systems to include more detailed aspects related to land assessment in specific livestock based conditions. Further to evaluating existing SLM and LD status and trends, the project will be innovative by i) increasing the pastoralism knowledge base, ii) exploring innovative tools in collaboration with national and international scientific partners, and iii) promoting the participation and role of pastoralists in the formulation and implementation of public policies related to the four pillars of food security: availability, access, utilization and stability.

Additionally, the project's innovation will be based on supporting an intersectoral approach to identifying areas requiring institutional and policy support at the local and national level. This will allow shifting from local level analysis to higher level planning and policy making.

In addition, FAO as a knowledge based organization is well positioned to facilitate the exchange of scientific practices across regions and across stakeholders. FAO's comparative advantage regarding innovation in land assessment includes its outreach; its technical expertise; and potential usage of innovative information systems. Further to that, the new assessment system will be innovatively developed as it will benefit from the FAO Knowledge Hub role as a neutral forum for dialogue between civil society, governments, the private sector and other partners.

Finally, impact assessment is required to justify investment in SLM, but inadequate institutional and human capacity often hampers efforts to assess and monitor the extent of the land degradation in pastoral areas and to identify root-based solutions and local innovations for SLM. Many practitioners in the field have limited access to land resources planning tools and to information about effectiveness of traditional and innovative SLM approaches and technologies that would enable good practices to be sustained and upscaled. The project will focus on these stakeholders needs to propose an innovative self-assessment method that will help improving their knowledge base and that will feed the existing policy system.

Several components of this project will enable sustainability. A strong element to ensure sustainability is the provision of participatory tools strengthening pastoralist associations and organizations. Through the project, pastoralists and their organizations will be enabled to technically and organizationally contribute and influence national policies and programmes on land, pastoral production and dry grazing land emergency preparedness. Increasing and making available knowledge constitute the core elements of sustainability for the project.

Based on the collaboration with various cofinancing projects, attention will also be paid to the broadening of the communities' participation, and particularly to the participation of women and youth.

Sharing knowledge and creating an informed constituency ready to respond to increasing climate change demands and to possible crises is critical to ensure sustainability of the project's results.

Furthermore, fostering and strengthening partnerships with and between development and pastoralist organizations across regions facilitates the establishment of networks for further collaboration and knowledge sharing beyond the duration of the project.

At the smaller scale, the project will pay special attention to the assessment of the causes and impacts of LD on vulnerable groups, such as female headed households, and identify gender sensitive SLM solutions.

Environmental sustainability will also be ensured through positive impacts of SLM on a range of ecosystem services that will be assessed at demonstration sites, and in the longer term on larger areas through upscaling of best practices.

Scaling up

The project is based on strong and well known monitoring systems that have already been scaled up by other programmes at a global level. The LADA method is already used in at least 20 countries and will soon be scaled up by the global project FAO/GEF LD "Decision Support for Mainstreaming and Scaling up of Sustainable Land Management". SHARP is being presented to the international scientific audience and is being used in Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Angola, Niger and Mozambique, and six more national projects are currently in the pipeline. The DAD-IS developed by the Commission on Genetic Resources For Food and Agriculture, is recognized by the CBD, and its application at global level has already started. Basing the activities on well recognised methods will allow for the rapid scaling up of the monitoring and assessment system that the project proposes thanks to the support of partners, countries, and scientific institutions.

In addition, the Pastoral Knowledge Hub will be the main baseline for scaling up the present activities, as it will allow to present results within a global arena, to share lessons learned rapidly, and to include all interested parties in baseline activities and to expand the number of pilot areas.

Additionally, interactions with well funded projects and programs at international and national level, and a decentralized approach to land resources assessment and decision support can catalyze investments from multiple sources, including local communities, national governments, NGOs, and international institutions.

Finally, the results of the present GEF project will be scaled-up by GEF itself. Being the project based in LD-4 GEF5 objective, it will focus in contribute to adaptive management through innovative tools and methodologies that will be likely used by other GEF projects in other countries.

A.2 Stakeholders. Identify key stakeholders (including civil society organizations, indigenous people, gender groups, and other as relevant) and describe how they will be engaged in project preparation.

Pastoralist associations, mountain communities, organizations, movements and networks are the target groups and beneficiaries. The pastoralist organizations, as key stakeholders, have the knowledge and experience to reach out to other pastoralist communities and groups to promote their growth and development. Particular attention to women pastoralists will be paid.

Various pastoralists network will be the main stakeholders of the project. WISP (World Initiative for Sustainable Pastoralism) a global initiative that supports the empowerment of pastoralists to sustainably manage drylands resources will be one of the main partner of the project through IUCN. WISP is a catalyst for fostering partnership between pastoralists, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international organizations and the private sector. Rangelands Observatory, a tool to monitor land use and investment, launched by the International Land Coalition will also benefit from the project. The World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples (WAMIP), reinforced by IUCN in West Africa and in West Asia (through a new initiative to develop a network of Bedouin pastoralists) will also be a beneficiary. WAMIP seeks to articulate their specific issues, needs, deliver their policy messages and receive technical assistance. Pastoralists have also become one of the constituencies within the Committee on World Food Security’s Civil Society Mechanism.

The main herder’s ethnic groups that will benefit from the project include:

- Mukubal - Angola
- Indigenous mapuche – Argentina
- Peul, Tamasheq and Bellah – Burkina Faso
- Tuareg, Fulanis - Niger
- Nilotic (Masai, Samburu), turkana – Kenya
- Basotho - Lesotho
- Kyrgyziz - Kyrgyzstan
- Berber - Morocco
- Masai, Nyamwezi, Bantu groups - Tanzania

A.3. Risks. Indicate risks, including climate change risks, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design (Table format acceptable).

| <i>Risk</i> | <i>Risk rate</i> | <i>Mitigation</i> |
|--|------------------|---|
| Divergent Priorities of Project Partners with regard to pastoral land resources assessment | L | Project partners, e.g. FAO, IUCN, the Pastoral Hub, and GEF land degradation task force etc... will undertake consultations to reach consensus on key issues during project implementation. Also, a project task force will be established and will meet regularly to coordinate the various initiatives. |

| | | |
|---|------|---|
| Climate change impacts on land resources and pastoral management systems could mean that assessment results are quickly outdated | L | The project will design a self-assessment tool that will be easy to use and readily available for local users that can repeat the analysis as appropriate and at a low cost |
| The catalytic effect of the project on grassland/pastoral areas SLM investments is not realized | M | Ensuring mainstreaming into on-going national initiatives may constitute a medium challenge. Grassland SLM assessment tools will be developed in conjunction with local level partners to maximize the effect on sector policy development and planning. Also, partnership building capacities and lobbying activities are a core advantage of the baseline "Pastoral Hub". |
| Reluctance to participate in the project activities by pastoralists and slowness of local institutions to agree on project activities | L/VL | The risk of reluctance of stakeholders is low as FAO activities are well distributed and known in the area. Nevertheless it will be addressed through local participation in project implementation, and areas where income has been generated or losses reduced from partners SLM activities that are being demonstrated and replicated. |

A.4 Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF financed and other initiatives

The project draws on lessons learned, tools, and predictions from a number of FAO-supported projects and initiatives. The FAO/GEF global project "Decision Support for Mainstreaming and Scaling up of Sustainable Land Management" is expected to start this year with the objective to improve the capability and the decision making of Countries and Regions engaged in the Mainstreaming and Scaling Up of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) to Combat Land Degradation, as well as to enhance Food Security, mitigation and adaptation to Climate Change, and preservation of Biodiversity by applying the LADA method. The project involves various countries that are included in the present project such as Argentina, Lesotho, and Morocco, and will be key collaborators. WOCAT methods and tools will represent a solid methodological baseline to the present activity. WOCAT Secretariat will also be a key collaborator of the proposed project. WOCAT is the executing entity for the project "Decision Support for Mainstreaming and Scaling up of Sustainable Land Management" and will support the further development of tools and methods for assessing LD / SLM

The GEF-funded and FAO-implemented Kagera TAMP project will continue operating until mid 2015 and will be one of main collaborating entity. The project has assessed pastoral movements at the borders of Tanzania and has applied various LADA and WOCAT tools such as LADA/WOCAT Questionnaire for Mapping, "LADA Local" assessment, WOCAT Questionnaires for Technologies and Approaches.

FAO AGP is developing a series of GEF LDCF and LD projects in Africa. The "Land rehabilitation and rangelands management in small holders agropastoral production systems in Southwestern Angola" has been approved in January 2014 and will contribute to assess pastoralism LD and SLM impacts and livelihoods through the "LADA local" method. Additionally, the project will contribute to integrate a deeper climate resilience analysis in the "LADA local" method. The project LDCF "Integrating climate resilience into agricultural and pastoral production for food security in vulnerable rural areas through the Farmers Field School approach" is expected to start in September 2014 in Burkina Faso and will contribute to analyse farmers and herders climate resilience through the use of the SHARP tool. The SHARP tool will also be used in conjunction with the IUCN community planning tool TOP-SECAC.

B. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

B.1 National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under the relevant conventions, if applicable, i.e. NAPAS, NAPs, NBSAPs, national communications, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, Biennial Update Reports, etc.

Tapping into pastoralists' knowledge of sustainable methods of utilizing certain types of ecosystems, such as deserts, steppes and certain mountain areas is a critical piece that can contribute towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. As the UN moves forward with the forthcoming post-2015 development agenda

which will include environment sustainability as a key area of work, targeting this group would be of high importance.

After a decade of implementation, the UNCCD adopted a 10-Year Strategy (2008-2018) to enhance the implementation of the Convention at its 8th Conference of the Parties (COP) in 2007. The Strategy recognises that limiting factors have prevented optimal deployment of the Convention and that chief among these factors are insufficient financing, a weak scientific basis, insufficient advocacy and awareness among various constituencies, institutional weaknesses and difficulties in reaching consensus among parties. COP8 invited GEF to take the strategy into consideration when planning and programming for the next replenishment period. Additionally, the Strategy promotes awareness of and inclusion of local populations, particularly women and youth, and civil society organizations in its implementation.

International organizations have increased interest in and support to pastoralists. The African Union endorsed a policy framework for pastoralism in 2011, which aims to secure, protect and improve the lives, livelihoods and rights of African pastoralists³⁰. At the global level, international conventions such as the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries³¹, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples; and the UNECSO Declaration on Cultural Diversity provide a legal framework through which many pastoralists can advocate for their rights. Furthermore, several strategic priorities of the FAO 'Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources'³² refer to pastoralists, their breeds and the ecosystems in which they are managed.

Although non-binding, a series of declarations such as the *DANA Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation* (2002)³³, the IUCN's *Bangkok Resolution on Mobile Indigenous Peoples and Conservation* (2004)³⁴, the *Wilderswil Declaration on Livestock Diversity* (2007)³⁵, the *Segovia Declaration of Nomadic and Transhumant Pastoralists* (2007)³⁶ and the *Mera Declaration of Women Pastoralists* (2010)³⁷, provide inputs into shaping policy; influencing a global debate; and awareness raising. Moreover, as the development of conservation areas are increasingly becoming a threat to the livelihoods of pastoralists at the last World Parks Congress participants agreed to *Recommendation 5.27 on Mobile Indigenous Peoples and Conservation*³⁸ which sets out a series of recommendations for nomadic and pastoralist groups.

B.2 GEF focal area and/or fund(s) strategies, eligibility criteria and priorities

The project is consistent with the GEF Land Degradation focal area strategy and will contribute to the LD-4 objective: Adaptive management and learning: Increase capacity to apply adaptive management tools in SLM/SFM/INRM by GEF and UNCCD Parties. In particular the project's overall objective is aligned with the LD Outcome 4.2: Improved GEF portfolio monitoring using new and adapted tools and methodologies.

B.3 The GEF Agency's comparative advantage for implementing the project

³⁰ <http://www.future-agricultures.org/events/future-of-pastoralism/7521-au-policy-framework>

³¹ Ratified by 22 countries.

³² <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/a1404e/a1404e00.htm>

³³ <http://www.danadeclaration.org/>

³⁴ http://intranet.iucn.org/webfiles/doc/IUCNPolicy/Resolutions/2008_WCC_4/English/RES/res_4_053_mobile_indigenous_peoples_and_biodiversity_conservation.pdf

³⁵ <http://viacampesina.org/en/index.php/main-issues-mainmenu-27/biodiversity-and-genetic-resources-mainmenu-37/421-wilderswil-declaration-on-livestock-diversity>

³⁶ <http://www.danadeclaration.org/pdf/SegoviaDeclaration.pdf>

³⁷ <http://foodgovernance.com/2010/11/26/mera-declaration-of-the-global-gathering-of-the-global-gathering-of-women-pastoralists/>

³⁸ <http://www.danadeclaration.org/pdf/recommendations27eng.pdf>

The project is part of FAO's strategy to improve the governance of food security and is aligned to ensure the achievement of FAO's five strategic objectives. This will be done by increasing the knowledge base about pastoralism, exploring innovative tools and promoting the participation and role of pastoralists in the formulation and implementation of public policies related to the four pillars of food security; availability, access, utilization and stability.³⁹ The FAO is a critical partner for pastoralists, not only as an interlocutor with governments, but also as a provider of normative advice and technical expertise in the field where it designs and implements its country programming frameworks and the *Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Forests and Fisheries*. The *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources* makes references to pastoralists, their management of breeds and ecosystems, their traditional knowledge, and the *Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* has a standing agenda item on small-scale livestock keepers and pastoralists. For these reason the FAO is now establishing a Pastoral Knowledge Hub based on the request of civil society. The proposed project is aligned with FAO's comparative advantage in the area of capacity building, providing technical analysis and assessments in relevant areas such as sustainable crop and animal production and land/range management, policy support, and agrobiodiversity conservation. FAO has considerable technical experience and many field projects in a number of areas covered under this project (agricultural production and food security, CC, LD, agrobiodiversity, capacity building, development of community-based capabilities and rural development, forage production and grassland management). FAO has a comparative advantage in global grassland that has been endorsed by various donors and Governments in various regions. FAO's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Protection, Agricultural Plant Production and Protection Division (FAO-AGP) has a long experience managing grassland management projects using agro-ecosystem management and landscape approach in all world regions. FAO-AGP is now completing the implementation of a tool for climate resilient self-monitoring system for farmers and herders to facilitate grassroots technical options prioritization in GEF projects. As per GEF expertise, FAO-AGP is implementing or planning to implement five GEF CCA projects in rehabilitating pastoral areas of Africa (Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Senegal) one LD GEF project in pastoral areas of Angola, eight national POPs projects (one ended), and four regional POPs projects (one ended) and is therefore managing approximately USD 71 M approved portfolio from LDCF or GEFTF representing the 21% of FAO total GEF portfolio (the present list does not include projects that are developed in conjunction with UNEP as implementing agency). Further to that, other AGP projects are under preparation in Chad, Uganda, Angola, Burundi, Central Africa Republic, and Mauritania). The GEF project will be supported by a task force that will include the i) Natural Resources Department, Land and Water division, leading LD/SLM assessment in FAO through the experience of the LADA project and other global activities under development, ii) the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the Animal Production and Health Division that leads the Pastoral Knowledge Hub and supports assessment of animal genetic resources through DAD-IS, and iii) various teams within the FAO Forestry Department focusing on landscape management of agro-sylvo-pastoral system in the framework of the Great Green Wall, Mountain areas Initiative, and global forest monitoring system.

³⁹ CFS 2012/39/4 "Food and nutrition security exists when all people at all times have physical, social and economic access to food, which is safe and consumed in sufficient quantity and quality to meet their dietary needs and food preferences, and is supported by an environment of adequate sanitation, health services and care, allowing for a healthy and active life."

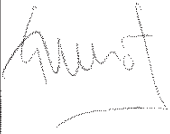
PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Points endorsement letter(s) with this template. For SGP, use this OFP endorsement letter).

N/A, GLOBAL PROJECT

| NAME | POSITION | MINISTRY | DATE (MM/DD/YYYY) |
|------|----------|----------|-------------------|
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| | | | |
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B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

| This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF criteria for project identification and preparation. | | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| Agency Coordinator, Agency name | Signature | Date (MM/DD/Y YYY) | Project Contact Person | Telephone | Email Address |
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