



**REQUEST FOR CEO APPROVAL**  
**PROJECT TYPE: MEDIUM SIZE PROJECT**  
**TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF TF**

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**PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION**

Project Title: Participatory Sustainable Land Management in the Grassland Plateaus of Western Madagascar			
Country(ies):	Madagascar	GEF Project ID: <sup>1</sup>	5354
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01077
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Ecology, Environment, Sea and Forests (MEEMF) through National Association of Environmental Actions (ANAE), as co-executing partner.	Submission Date:	March 8, 2016
GEF Focal Area (s):	Land Degradation	Project Duration(Months)	48
Name of Parent Program (if applicable):		Project Agency Fee (\$):	150,568
➤ For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/> ➤ For SGP <input type="checkbox"/> ➤ For PPP <input type="checkbox"/>			

**A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK<sup>2</sup>**

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (\$)	Cofinancing (\$)
Land Degradation 1	Agriculture and Rangeland Systems: Maintain or improve flows of agro-ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities.	Country level policy, legal and regulatory frameworks that integrate SLM principles developed	GEF TF	1,584,931	5,345,800
<b>Total project costs</b>				1,584,931	5,345,800

**B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK**

**Project Objective:** To reverse land degradation and improve living conditions in the Bongolava Region of Western Madagascar through participatory sustainable management of the grasslands

Project Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Cofinancing (\$)
1. Institutional development and capacity building	TA	1.1. All the communal structures and stakeholders are capacitated and have decided to	1.1.1. Effective participatory SLM committees in 7 communes with equitable representation of	GEF TF	296,804	700,000

<sup>1</sup> Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

<sup>2</sup> Refer to the [Focal Area Results Framework and LDCF/SCCF Framework](#) when completing Table A.

		<p>implementsustainable land management (SLM) measures</p> <p><u>Indicator:</u></p> <p>7 communal SLM implementation plans approved at communal, district, and regional levels, with necessary resource commitment and priority measures effectively implemented.</p>	<p>women and vulnerable group</p> <p>1.1.2. Participatory diagnostics for an improved understanding of the threats, constraints, and opportunities in the 7 communes</p> <p>1.1.3. Adaptive SLM implementation plans for each of the 7 communes.</p>			
2. Implementation of sustainable land management practices	TA	<p>2.1. Land degradation reduced and living conditions improved across the project's intervention areas</p> <p><u>Indicators:</u></p> <p><i>Number of hectares brought under SLM</i></p> <p><i>Number of households implementing SLM</i></p> <p><i>Household incomes in the 7 communes</i></p>	<p>2.1.1. Implementation of agreed urgent measures</p> <p>2.1.2. Interim support to socio-economic activities (whilst waiting for benefits of SLM interventions)</p> <p>2.1.3. Local land users and land management committees trained in SLM and business development</p> <p>2.1.4. Context-appropriate SLM measures for agriculture, pastoralism, and energy production demonstrated and adopted</p>	GEF TF	972,540	3,995,800

			2.1.5. Participatory monitoring and evaluation system covering agricultural, environmental, and socio-economic parameters.			
3. Knowledge management	TA	3.1. Stakeholders are committed to SLM at all level  <u>Indicators:</u>  <i>Farmers in neighboring communes adopt SLM practices</i>  <i>Subsequent Bongolava Regional Development Plans incorporate and disseminate the SLM practices introduced under this project</i>	3.1.1. Project achievements released in the form of video, manuals, guidelines, maps, etc.  3.1.2. Strategy to expand measures across Bongolava Region.  3.1.3. Broad and high-level commitment to expanding and replicating measures.	GEF TF	178,082	450,000
Subtotal					1,447,426	5,145,800
Project management Cost (PMC) <sup>3</sup>				GEF TF	137,505	200,000
<b>Total project costs</b>					<b>1,584,931</b>	<b>5,345,800</b>

<sup>3</sup> PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project grant amount in Table D below.

**C. SOURCES OF CONFIRMED COFINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME (\$)**

<b>Sources of Co-financing</b>	<b>Name of Co-financier (source)</b>	<b>Type of Cofinancing</b>	<b>Cofinancing Amount (\$)</b>
National government	Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests (MEEMF) through the Secretariate General (SG)	In-Kind	400,000
National government	Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests (MEEMF) through the General Environmental Directory (GED)	In- Kind	1,500,000
National government	Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests (MEEMF) through the General Environmental Directory (GED)/ PIP Investment project	Cash	500,000
National government	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) including GSDM co-financing	Cash	1,206,000
National government	Ministry of Livestock (MINELPA)	In-kind	17,000
Local government	Bongolava Region	In-kind	400,000
Local government	Communal of Mahasolo	In-kind	8,100
Local government	Communal of Fihaonana	In-kind	8,000
Local government	Communal of Ankadinondry	In-kind	8,000
Local government	Communal of Ambatolamy	In-kind	5,800
Local government	Communal of Ambataratabe	In-kind	6,000
Local government	Communal of Tsinjoarivo Imanga	In-kind	7,900
NGO	FOFIFA	In-kind	350,000
NGO	ANAE	Cash	300,000
NGO	ANAE	In-kind	629,000
<b>Total Co-financing</b>			<b>5,345,800</b>

**D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY<sup>1</sup>**

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	(in \$)		
				Grant Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b) <sup>2</sup>	Total c=a+b
UNEP	GEF TF	Land Degradation	Madagascar	1,584,931	150,568	1,735,499
<b>Total Grant Resources</b>				<b>1,584,931</b>	<b>150,568</b>	<b>1,735,499</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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. PMC amount from Table B should be included proportionately to the focal area amount in this table.

<sup>2</sup> Indicate fees related to this project.

**F. CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS: ToR APPENDIX 7**

Component	Grant Amount (\$)	Cofinancing (\$)	Project Total (\$)
International Consultants	0	0	0
National/Local Consultants:	<b>114 973</b>	<b>31 862</b>	<b>146 835</b>
Total	<b>114 973</b>	<b>31 862</b>	<b>146 835</b>

**G. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A “NON-GRANT” INSTRUMENT? No**

(If non-grant instruments are used, provide in Annex D an indicative calendar of expected reflows to your Agency and to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Trust Fund).

**PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION****A. DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN OF THE ORIGINAL PIF<sup>4</sup>**

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

<sup>4</sup> For questions A.1 –A.7 in Part II, if there are no changes since PIF and if not specifically requested in the review sheet at PIF stage, then no need to respond, please enter “NA” after the respective question.

Since the PIF, the Malagasy government has aligned its NAP to UNCCD 10 Years Strategy and the relations between the proposed project and several additional national programs has been further developed. The following section outlines the primary relevant programs.

The project's operational elements facilitate the NAP by (i) developing the capacity of policy makers and land users to manage land sustainably, (ii) establishing an appropriate knowledge management system, and (iii) implementing emergency measures to counteract land degradation.

The project will contribute mainly to the strategic and operational goals of the aligned NAP with respect to the ten-year strategy of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)<sup>5</sup>. It will aim to improve the living conditions of affected populations through the implementation of actions to mitigate the socio-economic and environmental vulnerabilities of these populations to climate change (OS1). It will also strengthen productive capacity and the goods and services provided by improving the condition of land resources (OS2) through the application of an agroecological approach. Thus, these resources are exploited in a sustainable fashion and biodiversity will be preserved or regenerated (SO3). The project will also allow the establishment of a local permanent institutional structure, following a participatory process tailored to the implementation of measures for sustainable land management (SO4).

The framework is also in line with Madagascar's National Development Plan (NDP)—adopted in January, 2015—through its five strategic axes for action, which advocate good governance and inclusive, sustainable growth.

Multi-stakeholder discussions during the project-preparation phase have expanded the number of national policies relevant to the proposed project. The project contributes to the implementation of national plans and strategies for sustainable development as follows:

1. **National Environmental Policy.** Madagascar's Environmental Charter<sup>6</sup> (Law No. 90-033 of 21 December 1990) and its amendments define the National Environmental Policy and have dictated much of the national policies. The promotion of sustainable development, better management of natural resources, and the resolution of land issues are among the plan's objectives that are favorable to the fight against land degradation, desertification, and drought. Soil erosion and the loss of vegetative cover are also mentioned among environmental issues. In the three environmental programs--PE I, PE II, and PE III--the fight against land degradation through watershed management and the conservation of water and soil are listed among sector-based strategies.
2. **The Agricultural Sector Policy.** The proposed project is aligned with (i) the Letter of Development Policy (ii) the Rural Policy Brief for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries Sector, (iii) the Sector-based Program on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (PSAEP; signed June 13, 2014), (iv) the Letter of Development Policy for Watershed and Irrigated Perimeters (BVPI), (v) the National Strategy for Rice farming Development (NRDS), (vi) the National Fertilizer Strategy, and (vi) the National Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Training (SNFAR).

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<sup>5</sup> This NAP aligned to the 2008-2018 ten-year strategy has been validated on October 28, 2014, and the final version is expected.

<sup>6</sup> According to Article 2 of the Charter, "environment refers to the set of natural and artificial settings, including human settings and the social and cultural factors that are of interest to national development national."

For example, the Policy Guidance Note for the Sector-based Program on Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries (NOP PSAEP; ratified in October, 2014) fits well in the project, through its 2 specific objectives:

- (i) expansion of production areas while ensuring the sustainability of resources, and
- (ii) improved productivity through the development of applied research and the promotion of sustainable systems and competitive production.

Similarly, the Letter of Development Policy and Irrigated Perimeters Basins (BVPI) aims to:

- (i) increase the productivity of irrigated areas and surrounding watershed,
- (ii) improve compensation for producers' work and develop alternative sources of income, and
- (iii) operate in a sustainable manner the infrastructure and resources in soil and water.

Finally, for livestock in particular, the orientation policy for zebu breeding defines the strategy for the management of pastures.

3. **The National Forest Policy and Strategy for the Sustainable Management of Biodiversity**—which is currently being updated in partnership with FAO—is clearly linked to sustainable land manage (e.g., via habitat preservation and restoration) aims to:
  - (i) stop the process of forest degradation,
  - (ii) better manage forest resources for a better balance between resources and needs, and
  - (iii) increase the area and forest potential.
4. **The National Policy for Disaster Risk Management**—as implemented via the National Strategy for Disaster and Risk Management (NSDRM; currently being updated)—considers drought a natural hazard in the country. Despite some inconsistencies and slow development, the NSDRM is associated with drought-related initiatives, such as establishing an early warning system for drought risk and empowering people affected by desertification and drought.
5. **The National Policy on Land**—as implemented via the National Land Program—and the 2003 NAP identified land security among their priorities. Although considerable progress has been made regarding land registrations and cadasters, capacity-building is still needed to address the prevalent and problematic issue of land-grabbing. A policy reform program is now under development.
6. **The National Strategy for Research**, since May 2013, has had among its thematic priorities the promotion of sustainable agriculture and sustainable production and uses of energy and water.
7. **The National Energy Policy** aims to ensure a sufficient, reliable, low-cost energy supply through the promotion of renewable energy, reforestation for energy, and improved techniques of carbonization. The promotion of efficient practices partially meets the UNCCD's requirement on training and technology for the use of substitution renewable energy sources.
8. **The National Educational Policy on Environment for Sustainable Development** pertains to (i) public education and awareness, (ii) pollution and waste, (iii) the environmental hazards of mining, (iv) deforestation (including bush fires and illegal logging), (v) soil degradation, (vi) desertification, (vii) rational natural resources management, and (viii) management of marine and coastal areas (including the fight against marine and coastal erosion).

9. **The Policy on Integrated Management of Water Resources in Madagascar** helps to (i) ensure that water needs are met sustainably, (ii) establish the institutional framework for sustainable and integrated management of water resources, (iii) implement the Water Code, (iv) improve knowledge about water resources, and (v) strengthen the capacity of management structures and actors.
10. **The national strategy for the fight against climate change** advocates actions to ensure the resilience of the population through adaptation, namely the dissemination of technical and agro ecological and also mitigation through the concept of REDD + (Reducing Emissions due to Degradation and Deforestation).
11. The project will also help in the implementation of the **Regional Plan of Rural Development for Bongolava (2007)**, which has five goals, the fourth of which is the promotion of natural resources and the conservation of natural factors of production such as land and water. This project will contribute to the implementation of the four strategic axes of that fourth goal. The process of updating the plan began in the 1<sup>st</sup> week of August 2014<sup>7</sup>. The consistency of this project with respect to this plan will be detailed in the implementation of the project.
12. In line with the project contribution to the United Nations mandate in the country, it will make contribution to the newly adopted UNDAF 2015 – 2019 as it will contribute to its outcomes 1: The vulnerable population in intervention zones have access to revenues opportunities and employment and ameliorate their resilience and contribute to inclusive and equitable growth for a sustainable development. The project contribution to this outcome will be generated through the support of socioeconomic activities, organizational strengthening and capacity building activities.

The legal framework of actions is presented in the table below:

*Table 1: Legal framework*

Fields	Title (Policy, Program)	Legislation/ Features	Observations/ Comments
Specific to the fight against desertification	Ratification of the Convention	Law No. 022.69 of the September 4, 1996, and decree No. 772.97 of June 10, 1997	
	National Action Plan for the Fight against Desertification	2003	Alignment to the 2008-2018 ten-year strategy for the implementation of the CNULD underway
Environment	Charter of the Environment	Law No. 90.033 of the 21 december 1990	
	Letter of environmental policy	2003	Soil degradation, water issues and the degradation of marine and coastal zones are

<sup>7</sup> Information collected during the workshop to validate the domestic portion of the project document, on August 5, 2014.



<b>Fields</b>	<b>Title (Policy, Program)</b>	<b>Legislation/ Features</b>	<b>Observations/ Comments</b>
			mentioned as components of the environmental issue. Promotion of conservation and sustainable use of waters and soils
	Policy statement	January 2010	Management of the different sources of soil pollution, fight against bushfires and forest fires Control over soil erosion
	MECIE	Decree No. 99-954 of the December 15, 1999, modified by the decree No. 2004-167 of February 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2004	Prevention of environmental risks in the public and private investments and fight against pollutions Respect of the environmental terms and conditions
	Forest policy	Decree No. 97-1200 of October 2, 1997	
	Forest legislation	Law 97/017 of 7/16/97	
	System for forest exploitation	Decree No. 97-782 September 16, 1998	
	Local community management of wild fires	Decree No. 99/951 August 15, 1998	Fire management
	Reforestation	Decree No. 2000-383	Reforestation
Agriculture	Letter of rural development policy	2001/2004	The third orientation of the document aims to “enhance and promote agricultural production with optimal use and sustainable management of resources and infrastructure”
	Sector-based Program in Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries	Compact signed 13 June 2014	
	Letter of policy of development for Catchment Areas and Irrigated Perimeters	Institutionalization of the National Program Catchment Areas – Irrigated Perimeters in September 2006 (Decree No.	Three technical components: CA landscape development, Sustainable systems for agricultural production, and

<b>Fields</b>	<b>Title (Policy, Program)</b>	<b>Legislation/ Features</b>	<b>Observations/ Comments</b>
	(BVPI)	2006 – 644 of 9/5/2006).	Improvement of the Irrigated Perimeters
	National strategy of rice-farming development (SNDR)		Strategy launched in 2008 to ensure the development of rainfed rice, conserve natural resources and reduce the practice of "Tavy".
	National Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Training (SNFAR)	Adopted by the Government Council in April 2012	This strategy is designed to help ensure that future generations inherit a healthy soil, water, and biodiversity.
Mining	Mining policy statement	Decree No. 98-394 of May 28, 1998, defining the mining sector policy in Madagascar Interministerial Order No. 12032/2000 of November 6, 2000	Regulation of the mining sector for environmental protection  Application of the MECIE decree
Industry	Policy management and control of industrial pollution	Law No. 99-021 of August 19, 1999	
Energy	Policy being developed		Promotion of alternative energy
Environmental education/ awareness	National Policy on Education Relating to the Environment relayed by the Education Policy on the Environment for Sustainable Development (PErEDD)	Decree No. 2002 – 751 for the PERE Decree 2013-880 for the PErEDD	
Land	Letter of land policy	May 2005 (validated by the Government)	Land policy affords security and is therefore favorable to agricultural production, management, protection, restoration and renewal of natural resources
Risk and Disaster Management	National strategy of Risk and Disaster Management	2010 Update in progress	Creation of a National Early Warning System
Water	Integrated Management of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law No. 98,029: Water Code</li> <li>• Decree No. 2003.943: spills,</li> </ul>	

Fields	Title (Policy, Program)	Legislation/ Features	Observations/ Comments
	Water Resources	runoff discharges	

Source<sup>8</sup>

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

No changes from the PIF

#### A.3 The GEF Agency's comparative advantage:

No major changes from the PIF, however, it can be added that the project remains consistent with the objectives and expected outcomes of the current UNEP Medium Term Strategy (2014-2017) and related PoW and fits under the Ecosystem Management and Environmental Governance sub-programs. More specifically, it is link to the EA (A) "Use of the ecosystem approach in countries to maintain ecosystem services and sustainable productivity of terrestrial and aquatic systems is increased" of the Ecosystem Management Sub—Programme. It also links to the Environmental Governance SubProgramme particularly its Expected Accomplishment (c) Countries increasingly mainstream environmental sustainability in national and regional development policies and plans

#### A.4. The baseline project and the problem that it seeks to address:

There are no changes from the PIF regarding baseline projects. However, the following information—gathered and developed during the PPG phase—further clarifies the challenges this project aims to address.

#### ***The threats:***

As described in the PIF, Madagascar suffers from land degradation due to (i) abiotic factors, including erosion, and (ii) anthropogenic factors, such as inappropriate and unsustainable practices—particularly via development, burning, and denuding of slopes, hills, and plateau (a vast geographic type known as *tanety*).

The physical environment of the project area:

<sup>8</sup> Thematic Assessment report on the United Nations Convention on the Fight against Desertification in Madagascar, by Holy Raharinjanahary, July 2014.



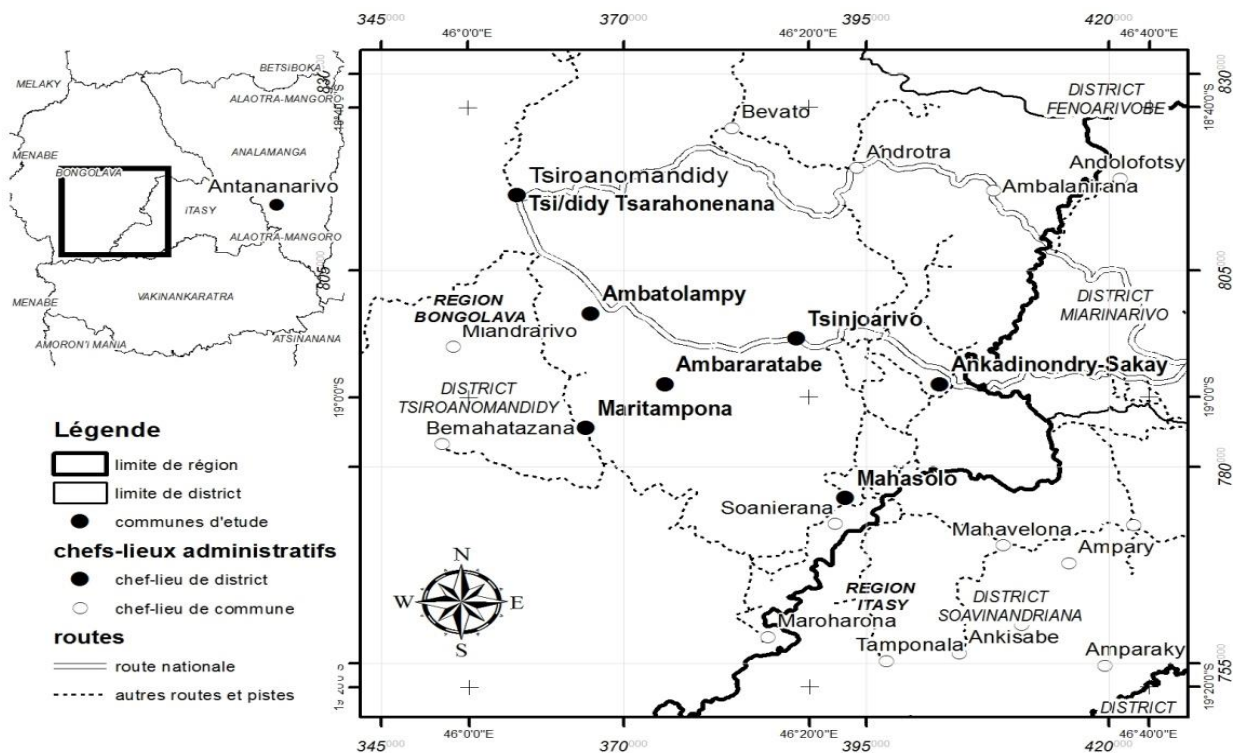


Figure 1: Project areas

Local consultations<sup>9</sup> in seven project-affected communes helped identify and further clarify problems facing the targeted local populations:

Table 2: Issues of land degradation at the level of the seven project-affected communes

Communes	Issues
Ambararatabe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bushfires,</li> <li>- Water erosion,</li> <li>- Invasion of invasive plants</li> <li>- Dissemination of the agricultural practices that are too restrictive (SCV)</li> <li>- Toposequence of the lands: land slope and fragile</li> <li>- Land property causing social conflicts and difficulties securing land</li> <li>- Soil impoverishment</li> <li>- Straying cattle</li> <li>- Manque of lands à exploiter à cause of the morcellement and the degradation</li> </ul>
Ambatolampy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Land problem related to the difficulty of securing land</li> <li>- Environmental degradation</li> <li>- Natural disasters (locust invasion, cyclone, pests)</li> </ul>

<sup>9</sup> Local consultations were held on the last week of February 2014 to cross-check the results of studies conducted by three consultants during the preparatory phase:

- Socio-economic study by John Chrysostom Rakotondravelo et al,
- Study the physical context and systemic eco values Lilia Rabeharisoa
- Study on the valuation of ecosystem services by Holy Raharinjanahary and al.

Communes	Issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bushfires and massive deforestation</li> <li>- Insecurity related to the phenomenon of "<i>dahalo</i>" (bandit raids, especially cattle theft)</li> <li>- No water control</li> <li>- Animal disease</li> </ul>
Ankadinondry Sakay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Non-enforcement of laws (bad governance)</li> <li>- Land security</li> <li>- Bushfires and unsustainable exploitation of forest resources</li> <li>- Illegal mining</li> <li>- Poor control of water</li> <li>- Straying</li> </ul>
Mahasolo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Depletion of water resources,</li> <li>- Insecurity</li> <li>- Land issues</li> <li>- Climate disturbance causing disruption of crop calendar</li> </ul>
Tsinjoarivo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No control over bushfires</li> <li>- Deforestation</li> <li>- Non-enforcement of laws</li> <li>- Misuse of land resources</li> <li>- Invasion of invasive plants</li> <li>- Nonexistent practice of pasture improvement</li> </ul>
Tsiroanomandidy Fihaonana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water erosion,</li> <li>- Persistence of bushfires</li> <li>- Soil depletion</li> <li>- Massive deforestation</li> <li>- No control of water management</li> </ul>
Maritampona	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water erosion,</li> <li>- Bushfires</li> <li>- Non-implementation of laws,</li> <li>- Invasion of invasive plants and pests</li> </ul>

*Source: Consultation locale ANAE, 2014*

### ***Barriers to Sustainable Land Management:***

#### *i) Weak local institutional and individual capacities:*

Taken note of the above mentioned environmental problems, local management approach is needed to (i) provide an appropriate basis for participatory land management, (ii) facilitate the understanding of local issues, and (iii) help ensure local ownership of the goals, leading to sustainable strategies and effective SLM application. Therefore, priority has to be building the capacity of target groups to create favorable conditions for the regeneration of land resources and protection of water resources. Local institutions must also be considered as part of the participatory management approach, to the extent that community rules such as the

*dina*<sup>10</sup> and the *valin-tànana*<sup>11</sup> are tools for effective and efficient management in rural areas. These norms frame the establishment of a participatory system of sustainable land management in the Bongolava region. According to local stakeholders<sup>12</sup>, the application of the *dina* is effective and makes up the collective codes of conduct of rural societies<sup>13</sup> or customary rules recognized by the Malagasy government according to the law 154-Order No. 2008-002 of February 27, 2008<sup>14</sup>.

Additionally, Bongolava does not receive sufficient support from Government and its partners in area of sustainable development. In this context, local institutions are generally unable to implement SLM independently. This situation is exacerbated by political crises that inhibit implementation of local developmental plans (e.g., regional and communal developmental plans).

Furthermore, land management in Madagascar is significantly affected by land-tenure insecurity and non-enforcement of laws. Land users are less likely to manage land sustainably due largely to insecure or uncertain land tenure, complex and non-transparent land-tenure laws, institutional weaknesses in the land-tenure system (e.g., monitoring, record-keeping, enforcement, dispute resolution, etc.), and socio-cultural considerations in rural areas that weaken the legitimacy of land-tenure claims.

ii) *Unsustainable practices and pressure on natural resources:*

According to the study conducted during the PPG, frequencies in the number of fires between 2001 and 2013 show a steady growth of bushfires in the seven communes. In 2003 and 2010, bushfires reached peak levels. The 2009 and 2010 peaks are directly related to the national political situation, reflecting political dissidence and evincing the lack of strong local leadership to channel social and political dissatisfaction more effectively. Beside the political causes, bushfires are thought to be caused primarily by: (i) grazing fire aimed at cattle protection against mosquitos, (ii) cattle rustlers (*dahalo*) attempting to cover their escape, and (iii) farmers attempting to fight locusts. However, although local farmers reported having lost most of their livestock since 2009 due to increased zebu thefts, fires do not seem to have decreased much.

Although several technical partners have successfully developed sustainable systems of resource management in Madagascar, these practices have not been widely adopted in Bongolava for various reasons. According to local farmers, adoption has been limited due to (i) the technical difficulty and high cost of adoption, (ii) the difficulty of access to inputs and means of production, (iii) the lack of relevant economic information, and (iv) the lack of monitoring and technical support.

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On the environmental and ecological perspectives, local populations of the 7 communes are highly dependent on natural resources. In general, resources are used directly. Soils are used as agricultural landscapes: rainfed crop plots, irrigated plots, and off-season crops. Water is used mostly for agricultural purposes, such as irrigation of rice fields. The vegetation is mainly for domestic (fuels) and animal (feed and fodder) uses. The results of the study<sup>15</sup> conducted during the preparatory phase of this project demonstrate this dependency. (See Table 3.)

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<sup>10</sup> A form of rules governing a community that regulates and is recognized in the community and by the State

<sup>11</sup> Form of community mutual support in rural communities

<sup>12</sup> During the validation workshop of the project document, August 5, 2014, in Tsironomandidy, Bongolava Region.

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.tropicalconservationscience.mongabay.com>

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.m.jwf-legal2.fr/gd/Lois-154.htm>

<sup>15</sup> Study to assess the ecosystem services, by Holy Raharinjanahary et al, March 2014, p.23



Table 3: Degree of dependancy on natural resources

Communes	Soil			Vegetation		Water				
	Rice field	Plateau x (Tanety)	Lowlands (Baiboho)	Savannah	Woodlands	Water - courses	Spring	Fish - pond	Mars h	Well
Ambararatabe	5	2	3	1	2	2	1	2		
Ambatolampy	5	3	4	3	2	3	4		5	
Ankadinondry	5	3	5	2	2	3	1			
Mahasolo	5	2	4	2	2	4	1			
Maritampona	5	2	5	1	2	4	3	2		2
Tsinjoarivo	5	2	4	2	2	4	1			
Tsiroanomandidy Fihaonana	5	4	4	3	2	4	2			
<b>Average</b>	5.0	2.6	4.1	2.0	2.0	3.4	1.9	2.0	5.0	2.0

1 = low dependence ; 5 = high dependence

Source: Village-level workshops, 2014

The levels of resource utilization were determined following a scaling from 1 to 5, indicating low and high resource dependence, respectively. When interpreting these results, it is important to consider that upstream and downstream resources are interdependent, such that the resource dependencies of some communities inherently depend on the resource dependencies of other communities. Moreover, ecosystem services and values differ by location and ecosystem type, so local capacities will have to be developed for commune-specific contexts.

On the social side, all seven project intervention communes occupy around 421,900 ha (4,219 square kilometers) and account for 56% of the area of the district of Tsiroanomandidy. In terms of population, the communes have a total of 141,874 people, represented by approximately 28,376 households with an average density of 33.63 people per km<sup>2</sup>, a lower density compared to the national average of 38.5 people per km<sup>2</sup>.<sup>16</sup> Most projected-affected people are farmers, representing 80% of the entire population. The labor force is about 50% of the entire population.

This population is very cosmopolitan, coming from different migration waves since the beginning of colonization. Three types of migration can be characterized: the migration from the surrounding areas of Soavinandriana, Miarinarivo Arivonimamo early in the twentieth century; migration from State programs focused on agricultural development activities, given the vastness of the area around Bongolava; the area was more conducive to the settlement of infrastructure and considered a favorable enrichment zone. The recent migration characterized by the arrival of migrants from the highlands and southwestern Madagascar, initially coming especially to look for salaried work before final settlement<sup>17</sup>.

The vast expanse of previously fertile peneplains attracted migrants. However, because of the high intensity of prior migration waves, little if any land is available for settlement, purchase, or use by most recent immigrants. A relatively small number of immigrants from previous waves reserved many areas that they did not (or do not) use, such that the proportion of cultivated area has been fairly small. Cultivable reserves

<sup>16</sup> Source: Village workshops organized during the study to assess the ecosystem services, by Raharinjanahary Holy, TSIMAHALAHY Haritiana, RANDRIAMAHLEO Farasoamandimby / PCD / INSTAT 2013

<sup>17</sup> Summary of the history of the migration of the population in Bongolava, in the results of the socioeconomic study by Jean Chrysostome RAKOTONDRAVELO et al, p.10-11.



dwindled over time around the settlers' villages, so much that the inheritance system became the method for land acquisition.

On the economic front, the average annual income per *worker* is 2 million Ariary (approximate minimum: 100,000; approximate maximum: >20,000,000), while the average income per *laborer* is about 1.3 million Ariary<sup>18</sup>, which is below the poverty line of \$1.25/ day/ person (equivalent to about 1.37 million Ariary/ year).

Cattle husbandry is the most prevalent economic activity in the project-affected communes, but the practice suffers from many problems, such as (i) scarcity of natural pastures that are retreating and degrading due to repeated bushfires, (ii) lack of extension activities on improved techniques, and, since 2009, (iii) increasing armed thefts of cattle by the *dahalo*.

The few people relying on fish farming and handcraft are hindered by the scarcity of raw materials (*hisatra*, *satrana*, *vinda* etc.) linked to the degradation of vegetative cover due to erosion. Regional agriculture is heavily dependent on rainfall and farming techniques, but is poorly developed, including limited local access to inputs, limiting crop yields<sup>19</sup>.

Households' livelihood strategies are central in the land management process. Firstly, they depend heavily on natural resource exploitation, especially from the land. Secondly, development efforts have little chance of success and sustainability unless they improve the population's living conditions in the short-to-medium term.

Table 4 presents the economic distribution of the seven project-affected communes.

<b>Communes</b>	<b>Number of villages (fokontany)</b>	<b>Surface (km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>Number of habitants</b>	<b>Number of households</b>	<b>Average income per worker<sup>20</sup> (\$)<sup>21</sup></b>	<b>Average available income per capita (\$)/ year<sup>22</sup></b>
Ambararatabe	7	120	10,367	2,073	666	440
Ambatolampy	10	152	10,660	2,132	447	284
Ankadinondry Sakay	22	376	34,105	6,821	660	271
Mahasolo	16	934	32,434	6,487	880	542
Maritampona	7	410	6,619	1,324	589	305
Tsinjoarivo Imanga	10	450	15,317	3,063	388	167
Tsiroanomandidy Fihaonana	20	1777	32,372	6,474	800	338

Source: Socio-Economic Study by John Chrysostom Rakotondravelo et al, 2014

Economic performance is relatively poor because of the high population when compared to available resources. This socio-economic situation is also the result of waves of attacks by the *dahalo*, which have continued to intensify due to political conditions that have disincentivized livestock investments, particularly

<sup>18</sup> Result socioeconomic study by Jean Chrysostome Rakotondravelo et al

<sup>19</sup> Summary of results of the study on the assessment of the ecosystem services by Holy Raharinjanahary et al, p.11

<sup>20</sup> All types of exploitation included, except employer farms. Most households have 3-4 workers.

<sup>21</sup> 1 USD = 2,462.06 Ariary (MID rates by the Central Bank of Madagascar as of 08/08/2014)

<sup>22</sup> Global standard poverty line = \$1.25/ day = \$456.25/ year

in cattle. The significant decrease in cattle led to a decrease in cultivated areas, mainly in the *tanety*, which requires substantial additions of organic matter. The same socio-political conditions have also led to the abandonment of isolated villages, causing heavy land use in areas with a semblance of security, including in more secure larger cities. The local execution partner, ANAE, will continue to work closely with communities and local authorities to address the *dahalo* threat, such as through increased use of cattle branding and registrations. Those efforts are on-going in parallel with the proposed project.

Agronomic potential is estimated to be between 15-20% of the total land area. The area contains two major types of soil: lateritic and hydromorphic. Raised plateaux consist of humic ferrallitic soils that are rejuvenated but very fragile. The loss of vegetative cover on most of the soils of these plateaux has depleted them of organic matter and rendered them highly vulnerable to erosion. The soils are ferrallitic tan or brown red *tanety*, characterized by good exchange capacity, but the humus layer is shallow. The hydromorphic soils are characterized by the presence of iron and a low rate of decomposition and humification of organic matter. Their content in fertile elements is generally quite low. With good drainage and irrigation, they are suitable for rice farming and for dry off-season crops. Some flat areas have scarce alluvial soils, locally known as *baiboho*<sup>23</sup>, with light texture. The soils on the intervention areas are generally characterized by their structural weakness, exacerbated by abiotic and anthropogenic factors. The soil characteristics and exacerbating factors lead to significant land degradation. Land resources are being rapidly degraded, thus undermining the livelihoods of those who depend on them. Estimates of the resistance to erosion have shown that the ferrallitic soils that cover most of the local areas, have a high erosion potential of 4.50mm/ year. The characteristic of the soil also poses a threat if no correction is made. The soils are acidic (pH 4.5 to 5.5) and are unsuitable for grain crops such as rice and maize. The soils also generally have low organic carbon content (< 20 g/ kg). Agriculturally viable soils should contain at least 17.5 g/ kg of organic carbon (i.e.,  $\geq 30$  g/ kg of organic matter). These results show that this is a mineral soil with poor carbon content (0.005 – 0.015 by mass). The total nitrogen content, especially on slopes, is also very low (0.047 – 0.200%), further exacerbating problems from low levels organic matter and phosphorus.<sup>24</sup> These poor soil conditions are exacerbated by erosion. According to studies conducted in the context of this project, whereas run-off in savanna grasses ranges from 0.02 to 5%, run-off in much of the project areas is up to 16%, leading to significant erosion.

During local consultations, the communes suggested several solutions to overcome these obstacles. Table 5 lists their recommendations.

*Table 5: Solutions proposed by the beneficiary communes*

Communes	Solutions
Ambararatabe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishment of a management and control committee</li> <li>- Restoration of soil fertility by fallowing and crop rotation</li> <li>- Facilitating the process for land tenure security</li> <li>- Establishing an effective grazing and water management system</li> <li>- strengthening awareness activities (fire, law enforcement, community work, development of plots)</li> <li>- Support in the development of agricultural plots</li> <li>- Reforestation</li> <li>- Productive capacity building</li> </ul>

<sup>23</sup> The *baiboho* are recent alluvial soils.

<sup>24</sup> Summary of results of the study of the physical environment and assessment of the ecosystem services of lands in the Bongolava region (Middle West of Madagascar) for their participatory sustainable management, conducted by Lilia Rabeharisoa.

Communes	Solutions
Ambatolampy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Facilitating the process for land tenure security</li> <li>- Productive capacity building</li> <li>- Reforestation and fight against bushfires</li> <li>- Strengthening close supervision</li> <li>- grassroot accountability through participation approach</li> <li>- Awareness about the effects of climate change and the application of <i>dina</i></li> <li>- Communication on existing legislation</li> <li>- Behavior change according to irrational use of ressources</li> <li>- Enhancing the protection against erosion</li> <li>- Public involvement in of project impact assessment</li> </ul>
Ankadinondry Sakay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training in sustainable land management</li> <li>- Productive capacity building</li> <li>- Establishing a monitoring system for project actions at commune level</li> <li>- Enforcement of laws and regulations</li> <li>- Strengthening close supervision</li> <li>- Building spaces for exchange: communication tools, exchange visit, site demonstration of SLM practices</li> <li>- Development of plots</li> <li>- Reforestation: pink pepper</li> </ul>
Mahasolo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reforestation: fast-growing plants</li> <li>- Establishing a system to fight bushfires</li> <li>- Management of plots</li> <li>- Capacity building for producers in the SLM concept</li> <li>- Enhancing security: security forces, <i>dina</i></li> <li>- Capacity building for savings</li> <li>- Facilitating the process of securing land</li> </ul>
Tsinjoarivo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Behavior change according to rational use of ressources</li> <li>- grassroots awareness</li> <li>- Reforestation</li> <li>- Capacity building</li> <li>- Improving local living conditions through the strengthening of production capacity</li> <li>- Enforcing the <i>dina</i> and the laws</li> <li>- Establishing village nurseries</li> <li>- Training on plot management</li> <li>- Establishing an inclusive management committee: community, CTD</li> <li>- Institutional capacity building</li> </ul>
Tsiroanomandidy Fihaonana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishing village nurseries</li> <li>- Community involvement</li> <li>- Enforcing the Dina and the laws</li> <li>- Productive capacity building</li> <li>- Capacity building on plot development, crop rotation, innovative production practices</li> <li>- Water management capacity building</li> </ul>

Communes	Solutions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- strengthening spaces for exchange: communication tools, exchange visits, demonstration site on SLM practices</li> <li>- Community empowerment</li> <li>- Establishing a pasture management system</li> <li>- Establishing a community-based and representative management committee</li> </ul>
Maritampona	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Application of the Dina and existing laws on forestry and mining</li> <li>- Community reforestation</li> <li>- Behavior change</li> <li>- Awareness on sustainable land management practices</li> </ul>

Source: ANAE, 2014

iii) Lack of knowledge management and dissemination approaches:

The above local solutions suggest that the beneficiary communities are aware of the obstacles to overcome, namely unsustainable land-management practices, deficiencies in rural institutions, lack of awareness of nominal legal protections for resources, and non-participatory governance systems. However, efforts at sustainable resource management are often undercut by unsuitable technologies or very limited scientific information to facilitate their scaling-up.<sup>25</sup> Decentralized local governmental units (e.g., branches and regional districts), decentralized civil structures (e.g., communes and *fokontany*), and other sector-based local development actors do not have mechanism to generate and disseminate knowledge.

A.5. [Incremental /Additional cost reasoning](#): describe the incremental (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or additional (LDCF/SCCF) activities requested for GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF financing and the associated [global environmental benefits](#) (GEF Trust Fund) or associated adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF) to be delivered by the project:

As indicated in the PIF, the result of the project will ensure ecological integrity, reducing land erosion, increased revenue and decreased conflicts over scarce natural resources uses. Following the PPG process, more quantifiable GEF increment are indicated in the table below:

Ttable 6: GEB to be generated per component.

Project Components	Global Benefit
<b>COMPONENT 1: Institutional Development and Capacity Building</b>	<p>SLM plans adopted and operational in all 7 communes</p> <p>Increase resources in at least 5 of 7 communes to support SLM</p> <p>Priority SLM measures implemented in all 7 communes</p>
<b>COMPONENT 2: Implementation of sustainable</b>	At least 40% of locally managed lands under SLM

<sup>25</sup> Generally in Madagascar, the non-enforcement of laws governing the use and land-grabbing is a major impediment to the development of agriculture, but this is not specific to the region.

<b>land management practices</b>	<p>within each commune</p> <p>At least 20% of land users substantially implementing SLM (extensively or intensively) as result of training or awareness raising received</p> <p>Revenue of at least 20% of local community increased as result of the implementation of the SLM related income generation activities</p>
<b>COMPONENT 3 : Knowledge Management</b>	<p>SLM practices disseminated in 22 neighboring communes for scaling up</p> <p>SLM lessons learn document and adopted by 7 communes</p> <p>SLM practices have been incorporated into at least one Regional Development Plan, including plans and resources for scaling up</p>

Resource management is still not a priority in the region. This strategic gap leads to a loss to the region's economy, or even that of each household in the seven communes affected, due to non-functioning ecosystem services (supply, regulation, support, cultural and amenities). It is possible to determine the value of this loss of profits by assessing the values of these services, namely the direct and indirect use value as well as the non-use value. So, for these seven communes, the values of the ecosystem services are assessed as follows:

*Table indicating Estimated annual values of ecosystem services*

<b>Commune</b>	<b>Estimated Annual Value (\$<sup>26</sup>)</b>
Ambararatabe	20,645,654
Ambatolampy	25,251,015
Ankadinondry	68,489,805
Mahasolo	155,160,845
Maritampona	63,380,737
Tsinjoarivo	86,523,558
Tsiroanomandidy Fihaonana	244,503,958

*Source: Study on the evaluation of ecosystem services, Holy Raharinjanahary et al.*

According to this analysis, the seven communes will continue to lose about \$663,955,572 every year without GEF support for sustainable land management. For example, each year, the District of Tsiroanomandidy would lose \$22,145,571 worth of savannah<sup>27</sup>. If this project is implemented, the ecosystem services will improve, which will increase their value. It will be necessary to assess the ecosystemic values of the resources in the seven communes at the end of the project so as to facilitate the assessment of its impact. By assisting in the implementation of SLM, GEF support will positively affect the value of ecosystem goods and services, such as via (i) improved soil productivity in rain-fed agriculture, (ii) regenerated fertility of the *tanety* and rice

<sup>26</sup> 1 USD = 2,462.06 Ariary (Cour of the MID of the Banque Centrale of Madagascar the 08/08/2014)

<sup>27</sup> In the absence of data available at the 7 communes, the study is based on the number of livestock provided by the Ministry of Livestock that pertains to the District of Tsiroanomandidy. Since it is difficult to assess the percentage for each commune, we estimated the value of SE savannah for the entire district of Tsiroanomandidy.

fields, (iii) reduced costs for irrigated crops due to improved water management and shortened low-flow periods, (iv) improved quality and quantity of water for domestic use, (v) avoided drying-up of sources, (vi) avoided pollution due to erosion, (vii) reduced energy costs ( $\geq 1/3$  reduction) due to reforestation, and (viii) increased biodiversity through the restoration of natural habitat and ecological balance between farmers and their land.

Despite several initiatives in the region, Bongolava has not benefited much from consequent capacity building, financial investment, or many research works. However, it is possible to design and develop sustainable agricultural practices for the region's agro-ecological and socio-economic conditions. Considering this framework, the practices of unsustainable natural resources management will continue to predominate in Bongolava. This situation, combined with population growth in the area, later led to land degradation with its socio-economic and environmental impact.

## **ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO: PROJECT GOALS, COMPONENTS, AND EXPECTED RESULTS**

The alternative scenario presented at the PIF stage is still valid and no major changes are found necessary during the PPG period. Nevertheless, the table 7 below present some minor deviations from the PIF

GEF support will address the barriers of upscaling good SLM practices by catalysing a coordinated approach to defining, piloting and replicating sustainable land-use systems and practices that are adapted to the ecological and socio-economic conditions in Bongolava, and that lead to increased productivity, increased revenues and improved status of natural resources. The practices will also facilitate the resolution of conflicts. GEF support will catalyse the coordinated involvement and investment of members of the GSDM leading to an overall sizeable intervention that can make a real difference. GEF support will also facilitate upscaling and dissemination by integrating the sustainable practices into the large baseline of agriculture and rural development projects. The project objective is therefore to build stakeholders capacity to reverse land degradation and improve the living conditions in the Bongolava Region of Western Madagascar through participatory sustainable management of the grasslands

The project will focus primarily in seven representative communes in Tsiroanomandidy District, but will also work with concerned stakeholders up through the administrative levels (District, Region and National). GEF support will lead to three Outcomes in three Components:

The first Outcome will be *all concerned local stakeholders are able and committed to implementing sustainable land management (SLM) measures*. This will cover the seven communes. This Outcome focusses on the necessary institutional development, capacity building, data collection, analysis and participatory planning that will form the basis for the design of the technical interventions under Outcome 2. This component build on local and regional commitment to create an enabling environment for SLM in the region. Local and regional administration will provide cofinancing in term of facilities and necessary technical staff to ensure adequate structures are in place. Strategic partnership will be developed with GDSM group to increase the chance of success and durability of the enabling environment that will be in place. Subsequent to the rapid planning undertaken in the PPG, comprehensive participatory planning covering all social, economic, ecological, cultural and political aspects will be undertaken in the Outcome. This will include the establishment/support of organizational structures in each commune, and the development of a commune plans of action (Implementation Plans) to be implemented through Outcome 2. These will focus on land conservation and productivity and will be fully integrated into existing and pipeline Commune Development Plans (PCD) and Regional Development Plans (PRD). Through this integration, the background initiatives to support rural development and agriculture that without GEF support would not fully address sustainable land management, will be modified and will promote and contribute to conservation agriculture. The capacity built under this Outcome, at commune, district and regional level, will be the basis for sustainability of Project Outcomes.

The second Outcome will be *land degradation stopped and living conditions improved in the project intervention area*. This will cover the seven communes. This component will build on many baseline projects and activities supported by national partners and financed mainly by international donors. Baseline projects that will provide substantive cofinancing for this component will come from the projects and activities managed by the ministries of Agriculture (Amelioration of productivity, extension services staff, establishment of agricultural services centres etc), of Livestock production (Fodder production project, development of Cow production, etc) and National NGO active in the region and which include ANAE (project national co-executing Agency) and GSDM. Initially the component will support urgent priorities identified in Outcome 1 – with likely a focus on urgent measures to meet communities energy and water needs. Next, there will be two parallel sets of activities. The first will be the piloting of concrete agricultural, silvicultural and livestock raising practices that are socially, environmentally and economically sustainable. This will draw from the previous work of GSDM and the direct sowing measures. It may include new practices, new crops, diversification, implementing land/soil conservation measures, implementing water conservation, etc. Integrated pest and fertilizer management will be introduced. Through this participatory process, the capacity of local people to adapt and manage their own agricultural development will be built – to increase their own revenues in a socially sustainable manner whilst maintaining ecological integrity. These concrete activities on the ground will be focused around conservation agriculture through *direct sowing* onto permanently covered land techniques. In addition, this may include introducing new crops (including cash crops), integrated pest management, integrated fertilizer management, improving grazing, crop diversification, implementing land/soil conservation measures, implementing water conservation measures, implementing measures that help climate change adaptation, carbon storage, valorizing biodiversity, etc.

The practices introduced (previous paragraph) will take at least two years to yield results in terms of revenue – possibly four. In the meantime, it will be necessary for the project to provide socio-economic support to the commune. This will be met through the second set of activities.

Finally, the project will also establish through the component a participatory monitoring and evaluation system covering agricultural, environmental and socio-economic parameters in each commune. This output will not only empower the local stakeholders in assessing their progress toward sustainable local development but also it will give an opportunity for adaptive management toward sustainability and local development opportunities.

The third Outcome will be *project successes are made permanent and replicated*. This will focus on obtaining district, regional and even national commitment to the replication of project successes, replication to other communes and districts. Moreover, the general lessons learnt under the project may be applicable to other countries – and these will also be captured. Actions may include multi-media lesson storage, lobbying, public awareness raising and strategising. A large scale dissemination conference will be held. The baseline agriculture and rural development projects will serve as vehicles for the dissemination of sustainable agricultural practices. Furthermore, given the long term experience of GSDM and ANAE on promoting and piloting best practices, they will be a key role in assessing impacts and dissemination activities.

Table 7 summarizes the minor changes between the PIF and the current project structure.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> Table excludes minor changes in wording or syntax.

Project Element	PIF Version	Current Version	Justifications for the changes
Output 2.1.3.	Trained farmers, trained herders and trained members of the local land management committees (trained in new land management techniques and in business development).	Local land users and land management committees trained in SLM and business development.	Edited for simplicity and to clarify the nature of the “new land management techniques”.
Output 2.1.4.	Concreate, alternative, integrated, adaptive, eco-friendly and productive agricultural, herding and energy production practices developed and piloted.	Concreate and appropriate SLM measures for agriculture, pastoralism, and energy production demonstrated and adopted.	Edited for brevity and to clarify that the project is focused on tailoring, demonstrating, and encouraging adoption of SLM practices.
Outcome 3.1	Project successes are made permanent and replicated.	Stakeholders are committed to SLM at all level.	Edited to clarify the specific elements of this outcome. The “permanence” element has been more fully reflected in the indicators and deliverables for Output 3.1.3. <i>Broad and high-level commitment to expanding and replicating measures</i> —(e.g., via incorporation of SLM into the Regional Development Plan and commitments for reliable on-going resources).

A.6 Risks—including climate change, social, and environmental risks—that might prevent the project from achieving its objective, and measures that address these potential risks:

Table 8 describes two additional risks further clarified during the project’s preparation. (The risks identified in the PIF are still relevant—namely: land tenure, local poverty, and climate change.)

*Table 8: Additional risks clarified during the project’s preparation.*

Description of risks	Degree	Measures proposed
Crime, violence, and other civil insecurity negatively affecting project achievements, leading to phenomena of temporary or permanent migration.	Medium	The project will establish and strengthen the local institutional capacity to coordinate closely with police to reduce risks, especially via proactive, deterrent measures—e.g., supporting the increased use of registered cattle branding and identification, advocating coordinated herding arrangements (to reduce the prevalence of unattended cattle without increasing the necessary herding labor), etc. Increased support for <i>dina</i> and <i>dinabe</i> governance systems to ensure local and inter-communal mechanisms of coordination and punishment.
Ineffective stakeholder	Moderately	The project has always emphasized the participatory approach at



Description of risks	Degree	Measures proposed
involvement	low	the beginning of the preparatory phase and the approach shall remain the same throughout the implementation phase. The development of local skills and building their capacity will also motivate stakeholders in the project.
Political Risk	Medium	From the experience political situation in the country has not affected project execution as this is in the hand of technical department of the Ministry and partners organization. More over as the project executing agency is a CSO, this give another guarantee of the project not to be affected by potiltical situation which mostly occur at central.
Financial Risk: The project is very ambitious with limited budget	Medium	Even though most of the project activities will be soft (e.g. Training, assessments, establishing local comittees), the project will particularly for component 2 conduct prioritization exercise at inception. At middle term, an review of targets will be conducted to inform stakeholders decision on what to focus on for the rest of the project period

#### A.7. Coordination with other relevant GEF financed initiatives

In addition to the information provided in the PIF, the following tables provide and update of the ongoing projects and initiatives and areas of coordination with the project. Key partners of these projects/initiatives will participle in the project Steering Committee as need may be and there will be active collaboration with these partners on thematic activities.

**Table 9.A: Presentation of Key projects /initiatives and coordination with the project**

Projects/Initiatives	Donnors/Agency	Amount USD	Executing partner	Location	Key projects objectives and areas of coordination with UNEP/GEF LD MSP project
Adapting coastal zone management to climate change considering ecosystem and livelihoods	UNEP/GEF	5,337,500	MEESF	Menabe, Boeny, Vatovavy Fitovinany and Atsinanana	To reduce vulnerability of the coastal zone to climate variability and change through institutional capacity building, concrete coastal adaptation interventions and integration of

					<p>climate change into policy and planning</p> <p>The lessons learning from this project particularly on reinforcing the resilience of local communities and systems will be captured and adopted to the Grasslands Plateaux special condition</p>
Conservation of Key Threatened, Endemic and Economically Valuable Species in Madagascar	UNEP/GEF 5	5,650,000	MEESF	National	<p>Key Threatened, Endemic and Valuable Flora and Fauna Species are Conserved and Sustainably Utilized in the Local Socio-Economy</p> <p>Synergy will be developed between the 2 projects in such a way that endemic and threaten species in Bongalava are being key consideration in this LD project and coordination mechanism will be established to ensure the 2 projects are mutually supported</p>
A Landscape Approach to conserving and managing threatened Biodiversity in Madagascar with focus on Atsimo-Andrefana Spiny and Dry Forest Landscape	GEF/PNUD STAR 5 - BD	6,000,000	MEEMF Fondation Tany Meva SAGE	Atsimo-Andrefana region	<p>Capitalization and exchange of acquired between projects can refine the system to implement in the Bongolava region. The project already acquired form of capital gains capitalized for the project.</p>

Strengthening Capacities adaptation of rural communities of the regions of Analamanga, Atsinanana, Androy, Anosy and Atsimo Andrefana	GEF/PNUD LDCF	6,000,000	MEEMF/PNUD	Analamanga, Atsinanana, Androy, Anosy et d'Atsimo Andrefana region	Strengthening the resilience capacity of communities through the implementation of activities facilitating adaptation to climate change
Enabling Climate Resilience in the Agriculture Sector in the Southwest Region of Madagascar	GEF/BAD LDCF	6,272,000	MEEMF/MADR/BAD	Atsimo-Andrefana region	
Regional climate resilience in the forests and grasslands of southern Africa	GEF/FAO/LDCF	8,458,000	FAO	7 regions including Bongolava	
Sustainable land, natural resources and wood energy management for an integrated development in the South-West of Madagascar	GEF/PNUD/S TAR 6 – Multi-focal Areas (LD-BD-CC-SFM)	8,000,000	PNUD	Menabe-Atsimo Andrefana region	Environment and Energy – Strengthening capacity MDG 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger and MDG 7 – Ensure environmental sustainability Ensure environmental sustainability
Program to micro business support for rural and regional economic poles of Madagascar	IFAD	4,500,000	MADR / IFAD	Sud Est region	To create effective services to meet the needs of rural micro business. The project also focuses on the restructuring of traditional communities essential elements of the value chain for sustainable economic growth
Support of professional organizations and agricultural building services	IFAD	6,000,000	MADR / IFAD	Anosy, Haute Matsiatra, Androy, Ihorombe et Amoron'i	To strengthen existing structures by improving agricultural productive capacity,

				Mania Region	to increase the income of rural households
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*Table 9.B: Coordination with NON-GEF projects and initiativeS.*

Project/Initiative	Leads	Amount (USD)	Key areas of coordination
Public Investment Project (PIP) and other initiatives in the region	MEESF	2 400 000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination of activities (Component 4)</li> <li>• Harmonization of interventions (Component 1)</li> <li>• Technology in forestry and soil restoration supervision (Component 2)</li> <li>• Support for planning and monitoring evaluation (Component 4)</li> <li>• Support for the dissemination of acquired lessons (Component 3)</li> </ul>
Rural Development Project Agricultural Service Centre (CSA) Watershed protection (Maintenance Fund of Agricultural Hydro Networks -FERHA)	MADR	1 206 000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of rural development projects and watershed protection (Component 1 and 2)</li> <li>• Shares acquired lessons through the operationalization of the CSA (Component 3)</li> </ul>
Project in terms of resources and animal welfare	MINELPA	17 000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building (Component 1 and 2)</li> <li>• Support for the implementation of actions for sustainable land management (Component 2)</li> <li>• Coordination and harmonization of interventions (Component 1)</li> </ul>
GSDM SCRID ASARECA	FOFIFA	350 000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production of rain fed rice seeds (Component 2)</li> <li>• Improved forage and animal health (Component 2)</li> </ul>

The project through ANAE, Local project coordination Unit and MEEF and UNEP as necessary, will ensure collaboration with other projects and partners to ensure synergy, complementarity and exchange of lessons and experience. When necessary, agreement and MoU will signed with these initiatives to strengthen the collaboration. Join meetings and consultation with projects and other initiatives in the region will be conducted to ensure synergy and explore possible opportunities for joint efforts and resources. A platform for collaboration with these initiatives will be utilized if existing or otherwise suggested.

## **B. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NOT ADDRESSED AT PIF STAGE:**

**B.1** Describe how the stakeholders will be engaged in project implementation.

The project will be implemented in compliance with the procedures enforced by the Government of Madagascar and the UNEP. As the lead national project partner MEESF shall assume overall responsibility for the success of the project. Field activities will be executed with the coordination of ANAE as a CSO mandated and supervised by the Ministry who will appoint the UNCCD National Focal Point as project Director MEESF. Furthermore, at regional level the Regional Directorate of Environment and Forestry will assume the project supervision role. ANAE has several years of experience in the implementation of bilaterally, multilaterally, and internationally funded projects. ANAE has also been active in the regional promotion of SLM and environmental restoration for about twenty years. ANAE will manage the project and draft all the operational schedules and management mechanisms needed to achieve the project outcomes. UNEP will support the MEESF and ANAE as needed.

The project-preparation phase also reassessed the project's key stakeholders, resulting in a more extensive list of identified stakeholders, as presented in Table 10 below.

*Table 10: Analysis of key stakeholders*

Key stakeholders	Mandate	Role in project execution
Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Seas and Forests (MEESF) through the Secretariat General (SG) The Directorate General of the Environment (DGE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is the first entity in charge of protecting the environment in Madagascar, and coordinates all national efforts in the sector.</li> <li>• The Operational Focal Point for the GEF is hosted by MEESF.</li> <li>• The DGE is the direction that oversees the actions of the national focal point for land degradation.</li> <li>• This Ministry is the national project leadagency. Through the General Secretariat, the DPPSE and the national UNCCD focal point, will ensure project supervision and coordination with other national initiatives..</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It will support the achievement of project results by means of supervision and advises. In this context, its capacity will be strengthened technically. It will also support the dissemination of project results and will be part of the project steering committee</li> <li>• Co-financing of the project</li> <li>• Technical Support</li> <li>• Financial opportunities</li> <li>• Institutional support</li> </ul>
Ministry in charge of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Ministry in charge of Livestock (MINELPA); Ministry in charge of Landscape Development; Ministry in charge of Decentralization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All these ministries work in sectors related to sustainable management of land resources, such as agriculture, livestock, water and land. They are primarily responsible for managing these resources.</li> <li>• These ministries provide the definition of national strategies in their respective fields and coordinate their execution through major projects and programs carried out by national and international organizations.</li> <li>• Each of these ministries will support the project steering according to their mandates, by giving advice and sharing their experiences. They will strengthen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-financing the project Overall framework</li> <li>• Technical Support</li> <li>• Financial opportunities</li> <li>• Institutional support</li> </ul>

Key stakeholders	Mandate	Role in project execution
and Ministry in charge of water resources	the project's institutional sustainability. In this context, they will receive the technical training provided under the project and will provide support in disseminating the results.	
Decentralized Government Departments working in the field of sustainable management of land resources, represented by the regional directorates (DREF, DRDR, Regional Directorate of Livestock, DIRTOPO, DIREAU...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These offices are primarily responsible for implementing the actions related to their sector in the Bongolava region.</li> <li>• They represent Government's technical offices and support capacity building and provide technical advice at region and communal levels Specifically, as a MEESF decentralized office, the DREEF of Bongolava will be involved in managing the project during its design, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of project activities. The project will support targeted capacity building of the DREEF's technical capabilities.</li> <li>• The other offices will be part of the project steering committee according to affected resources. They benefit from the strengthening of their technical capacity and provide support upon disseminating the results.</li> <li>• These decentralized offices will technically facilitate the implementation of project activities on the field.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-financing of the project</li> <li>• Technical Support</li> <li>• Financial opportunities</li> <li>• Institutional support</li> </ul>
Projects and Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of state programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cofinancing of the project</li> <li>• Funding opportunities for the plans established,</li> <li>• Strengthening the project results</li> </ul>
Groupeement Semis Direct de Madagascar (GSDM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The GSDM includes international and domestic organizations involved in the dissemination of conservation agriculture in Madagascar.</li> <li>• It will facilitate trade between SCV operators, one of the sustainable land management practices. Some members will benefit from targeted technical capacity building from the project to strengthen the ecoagriculture ownership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-financing of the project through the members' activities and participation</li> <li>• Support the dissemination of SCV best practices</li> <li>• Channels for awareness on the concept of SLM</li> </ul>

Key stakeholders	Mandate	Role in project execution
	and dissemination.	
Bongolava region through its General Secretariate and the Department of Regional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The region is primarily responsible for the overall planning of regional development. For this purpose, the region is supported by the Department of Regional Development. This Department guides the achievement of short, medium and long-term regional development plan (RDP).</li> <li>The Region will be included in the project steering committee. It will support the planning, monitoring and evaluation of project results. It will support the institutional sustainability of the project activities by including them into the Regional Development Plan (RDP).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-financing of the project</li> <li>It will facilitate the implementation process for the project activities at the regional level</li> <li>It will receive targeted technical training and will help disseminate the project results.</li> <li>Technical Support</li> <li>Financial opportunities</li> <li>Institutional support</li> </ul>
District of Bongolava	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First entity in charge of compliance with the population's civil rights through administrative facilitation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It will facilitate the administrative process for the project including to issues related to land tenure</li> <li>Co-financing of the project</li> <li>Formalization of the structure created in the context of project</li> </ul>
Decentralized local authorities (communes and fokontany)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social mobilization, definition of the Commune Development Plan (CDP) and search for funding opportunities for the plan through collaboration and partnership</li> <li>These authorities will ensure the effective participation of local communities through community mobilization</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They will facilitate the effective internalization of the SLM concept through its regulation</li> <li>They will support the planning, monitoring and evaluation of project results</li> <li>They will enjoy targeted technical and institutional capacity from the project.</li> <li>Co-financing of the projectOverall framework</li> <li>Technical Support</li> <li>Financial opportunities</li> <li>Institutional support</li> </ul>
National Environment Office (ONE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ONE is primarily responsible for implementing the environmental impact assessments for major projects as well as their monitoring.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It will ensure the implementation of some project activities, such as the development of monitoring indicators related to the environment, and provides technical</li> </ul>

Key stakeholders	Mandate	Role in project execution
		<p>guidance to streamline the framework of interventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical support</li> </ul>
Local civil society organizations (NGOs, associations working in the field of land resource management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These organizations are partners on the ground in implementing the development activities, depending on their competence and capacity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They will support the project in advocacy and especially in disseminating project achievements</li> <li>• Technical support</li> </ul>
Local grassroots community (traditional authorities, grassroots organizations)	Leaders of opinion and change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They will ensure the effective involvement of local communities in the project</li> <li>• They will support the information and awareness actions.</li> <li>• Sustainability of project activities</li> </ul>
Private sector (rice mill, seed producers, veterinary, etc.) and social sectors	Economic and social development at the local level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They will facilitate the supply</li> <li>• They will build the project's capacity through their actions</li> <li>• They will support in information, awareness, communication and integration</li> <li>• Economic sustainability of the project</li> </ul>
Research centers (FOFIFA LRI)	Technical innovation and knowledge management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research centers will ensure a better understanding of the practices advocated in the project to promote the technical sustainability of the project results</li> <li>• They will endorse the relevance of the disseminated techniques as part of the project</li> <li>• They also will breathe innovation through documentation and sharing of study results</li> </ul> <p>Recognition of project results</p>
Gendarmerie and Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They ensure public order</li> <li>• They secure assets in the region</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil stability for sustainability and security of project assets.</li> </ul>

To ensure project sustainability, the project will help to reinforce SLM practices across social and institutional levels, including households, communes, districts, and regions. The completion of all project activities will



address these four levels from the bottom up to facilitate ownership. This approach will be enhanced by providing all the stakeholders with the information and knowledge they need to adapt to various challenges and opportunities, such as climate change, land degradation, and loss of biodiversity.

The project will also strengthen institutional sustainability by ensuring the involvement of local public and private institutions throughout the project and integrating SLM considerations into decision-making processes.

Powers and decision-making authority associated with the project reside in:

- Decentralized governmental offices, the national police, and the regional, municipal, and local authorities for policy decision
- The *fokonolona*, which makes up the "decentralized territorial authority" at Fokontany level, draft the *dina* or collective agreements initially for community work and the implementation procedures. Since the phenomenon of *dahalo* increased in 2009, the *dinabe* was specifically set up to restore security. It is a convention involving several communes, unlike the *dina* that applies locally only. The *Dinabe* determine the decision-making process and the implementation procedures for community activities, especially those related to security. Along with the *dinabe*, some execution and control structures were established, represented by the *Voromahery*, made up of elected representatives from each small village. The *Voromahery* are primarily responsible for ensuring the safety of villages and livestock<sup>29</sup>.
- These local institutions will be represented on the steering committee at the regional level, and on the SLM committee at the local level. The steering committee will be created to control project actions and ensure their effectiveness. The SLM committees will be involved in the planning and execution of this project. These local committees will anchor the project in the local governance systems in these areas, thus ensuring the continuity of operations even after the project is completed.
- The technical and organizational capacities of stakeholders' institutions will be strengthened as needed. For example, stakeholders will work to strengthen local laws as needed to facilitate and encourage SLM practices. Similarly, the project will formalize expectations and the commitment of participants with an SLM code of conduct. Furthermore, in each of the project's seven communes, the project will aim to raise the SLM awareness of members of the commune development councils, who will also be asked to (i) consider integrating SLM activities into the communes' action plans and (ii) issue formal endorsements or commune orders to facilitate and strengthen SLM initiatives—particularly those of this project.
- In order to buttress the project's socio-economic and environmental sustainability, the project will improve the rational management of water resources and soil. Dissemination of an agro-ecological approach will lead to an overall improvement of farms, the restoration of former slash-and-burn plots, and increased agricultural yields, which create favorable conditions for sustainable agriculture and improved living conditions for the population. Therefore, this approach will reduce further agricultural encroachment into forests by improving agricultural efficiency on currently cultivated land (i.e., supplanting extensive agriculture with intensive agriculture).
- The project will achieve financial viability by aligning the SLM plans<sup>30</sup> and its actions with the RPD and the CDP. The involvement of decentralized government offices will also facilitate the integration

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<sup>29</sup> According to the study on the "assessment of the ecosystem services" by Holy Raharinjanahary and al, p.21.

<sup>30</sup> A plan which consider both the ecological and socioeconomic conditions of a given territory for the implementation sustainable activities to restore lands and support communities need.

of project activities into their annual budget plans. Enhanced exchanges will lead indirectly to the search for additional financial partnerships.

Stakeholder empowerment and commitment at all levels, both men and women, have been and will remain *the* key strategic element in the project implementation. In this context, their involvement in the whole project design and implementation process is paramount.

The purpose of the awareness actions carried out under the project will be to provide all stakeholders or the larger public with an overview of the project to be implemented, and achieve behavioral change.

It will focus on the need to establish a participatory management system to ensure project success. That will be a way to communicate the achievements of the first project by organizing special days for outreach and awareness. It will also facilitate the collection of comments from all project stakeholders.

In this specific context, the launching workshops in which participants are more targeted, public outreach days will be held at the region and at the seven communes directly affected by the project.

**B.2 Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the Project at the national and local levels, including consideration of gender dimensions, and how these will support the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF):**

Apart from those mentioned in the PIF, the particular outcome expected from the project is to improve target communities' resilience to cope with the effects of drought, land degradation, and climate change. The project will contribute significantly to these outcomes through community land management resulting in, among other, the introduction of agro-ecological techniques to maintain soil moisture, mitigate drought, reduce greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere, and sequester carbon in the soil. These techniques also ensure the improvement and rational use of fertility, which then becomes a means to fight land degradation. These agroecological technic put emphasis on land rehabilitation which exclusively involved women as the main actors for the field activities which generate revenue for these vulnerable group, In addition these ecological technics will help to produce more food and in good quality which will help to ameliorate the living condition of women as mothers and children thus fighting malnutrition.

Reduced use of fires for pest control and residue removal will decrease emissions, sequester carbon in the soil, and build soil fertility. (Improved soil carbon also traps soil-borne and water-borne chemicals, such as the POPs targeted by the Stockholm Convention.) Moreover, the introduction of a participatory management system means maintaining ecological balance, which helps mitigate drought. Furthermore, by improving agricultural efficiency, the project will decrease deforestation resulting from agricultural encroachment. Indeed, the forest plays an important role in improving rainfall and protecting the ozone layer through the sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions (namely CO<sub>2</sub>).The project allows local population even vulnerable community to increase the fertility of the main productive capital including soil. Moreover, the participatory and inclusive approach of the project facilitates the participation of everyone. On these activities special attention will be given to women participation and support women led livelihood options.A quick analyse of the different consultation meetings indicated more than 43% of participants are women and that more than 60% representative of institutions are women. This gives clear indication that the current project design has due consideration to women intrests. Furthermore, during the project activities, gender consideration in the preparation and execution of the activities will be considered and indicators will be monitored with specific gender consideration.

The study demonstrated that 6 out of the 7 communes involved in the project have more than 50 gullies (*lavaka*). By promoting SLM practices, the project will reduce erosion and improve productivity while generating social and environmental benefits. It should be noted that for rain-fed farming, productivity in yields fell by 50% over the past decade. For irrigated agriculture, the implementation of the project can recover 15% of plots left fallow due to the degradation of land resources which will have a great social impacts as there a natural division of labour between men and women in irrigated agricultural and other production system. The men are in charge the land preparation while the women are in vcharge of sowing, harvesting and postharvesting activities. Since these diffrents groups are involved at all stages of the rural production system, they will be equally involved in the project activities and the training and local organization will take note of the gender special needs.

### B.3. Explain how cost-effectiveness is reflected in the project design:

This project is highly cost-effective as it will help at the same time to address the issue of SLM in participatory maner leading to ecosystem restoration before a critical level is reached; but also to conserve the region ecosystem services. During the PPG phase, it is estimated that implementation of this project will help to make savings of \$ 663,955,572 annually in terms of values of ecosystem services, and \$ 22,145,816 in values of savannas..

The project cost effectiveness is also demonstrated as it will generate multiple environmental and socioeconomic benefits. It is estimated that 50% of the arable lands are *tanety* in the Bongolava region. Thes e *tanety* are particularly vulnerable to water erosion. Therefore, if corrective actions are not taken, production losses from food crops, reforestation, tree crops, etc. will lead to considerable economic losses. The GEF investment, will therefore not only help to achieve SLM but also to avoid economic losses which will otherwise create various social negative consequences.

### **C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M &E PLAN: (FULL DESCRIPTION OF M&E ACTIVITIES IN ANNEX G)**

The project will follow UNEP standard monitoring, reporting and evaluation processes and procedures. Reporting requirements and templates are an integral part of the UNEP legal instrument to be signed by the executing agency and UNEP. The project M&E plan is consistent with UNEP procedures and the GEF Monitoring and Evaluation policy.

Project monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will serve to: (a) monitor and report on implementation progress, including the tracking of activities and financial resources, as agreed in semi-annual work plans and related budget plans, (b) proactively identify implementation gaps over the course of the project implementation that require corrective actions, and (c) assess and report on progress towards, and final achievement of planned outputs, outcomes, targets and indicators as outlined in Annex A: Project Logical Framework.

When appropriate and possible, other stakeholders (NGOs and Civil Society Organizations, private sector and community members) will participate in monitoring activities and mechanisms, and be invited to provide views and perceptions during evaluations.

The M&E plan includes an inception report, project implementation reviews, quarterly and annual review reports, and mid-term and final evaluations.

The project's M&E plan will be presented and finalized in the Project Inception Report following a collective fine-tuning of indicators, means of verification, and the full definition of project staff M&E responsibilities.

The project Logical Framework presented in Appendix A includes SMART indicators for each expected outcome as well as mid-term and end-of-project targets. These indicators, along with the key deliverables and benchmarks included in Appendix I, will be the main tools for assessing project implementation progress and whether project results are being achieved. The means of verification are summarized in Appendix H.

M&E related costs are fully integrated in the overall project budget, with all costs for collection of monitoring information being embedded in the activities.

### Template for Costed M&E Workplan

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget from GEF	Budget co-finance	Time Frame
Inception Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project Management Unit (PMU)</li> <li>UNEP</li> </ul>	\$5,000		Within 2 months of project start-up
Inception Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PMU</li> <li>UNEP</li> </ul>	None		1 month after project inception meeting
Measurement of project indicators (outcome, progress and performance indicators, GEF tracking tools) at national and global level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PMU</li> <li>Executing agencies and consultants</li> </ul>	None (included in management budget)		Outcome indicators: start, mid and end of project Progress/perform. Indicators: annually
Semi-annual Progress/ Operational Reports to UNEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PMU</li> </ul>	None		Within 1 month of the end of reporting period i.e. on or before 31 January and 31 July
Project Steering Committee meetings and Local Coordination Committee meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PMU</li> <li>UNEP</li> <li>National partners</li> </ul>	\$20,000		Once a year minimum
Reports of PSC meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PMU</li> </ul>	None		Annually
PIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PMU</li> </ul>	None		Annually, part of reporting routine

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget from GEF	Budget co-finance	Time Frame
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNEP</li> </ul>			
Monitoring visits to field sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PMU</li> <li>• UNEP</li> <li>• National partners</li> </ul>	None – covered by field costs of project.		As appropriate
Mid Term Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PMU</li> <li>• UNEP</li> <li>• External consultants</li> </ul>	\$15,000		At mid-point of project implementation
Terminal Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PMU</li> <li>• UNEP</li> <li>• External consultants</li> </ul>	\$20,000		Within 6 months of end of project implementation
Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PMU</li> </ul>	\$15,000		Annually
Project Final Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PMU</li> <li>• UNEP</li> </ul>	None		Within 2 months of the project completion date
Co-financing report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PMU</li> </ul>	None		Within 1 month of the PIR reporting period, i.e. on or before 31 July
Publication of Lessons Learnt and other project documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PMU</li> <li>• UNEP</li> </ul>	\$15,000		Annually, part of Semi-annual reports & Project Final Report
<b>Total M&amp;E Plan Budget</b>		<b>\$90,000</b>		

The Project Management Unit (PMU) will be responsible for data collection and upstream reporting of monitoring information and overall progress towards achieving results to the Steering Committee and the UNEP/GEF on a semi-annual basis. Additional Project monitoring will be provided by UNEP with support from the Task Manager Biodiversity/Land Degradation within the UNEP/ UNEP Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI) in Nairobi.

The monitoring and evaluation plan will be reviewed and revised as needed during implementation of the project's M&E system. Revisions will also ensure that all stakeholders understand their roles and responsibilities with respect to monitoring and evaluation. The project management unit is in charge of the daily project monitoring, but other project partners will also have the responsibility to collect specific information to monitor the project indicators. It is the responsibility of the project's operational national director to report to UNEP on any delays and difficulties encountered during the implementation, so that corrective measures and appropriate support can be adopted in a timely manner.

The project steering committee will receive periodic reports on the progress and achievements and shall convey to UNEP any necessary or suggested revisions to the logical framework and monitoring and evaluation plan. Via the Task Manager, the project control will ensure compliance with UNEP's and GEF's

policies and procedures. The Task Manager will also review the quality of draft project results, give feedback to project partners, and review the procedures to ensure the quality of the technical and scientific publications.

Project supervision will take an adaptive management approach. The Task Manager will develop a project supervision plan, which will be communicated to all partners during the inception workshop. The Task Manager supervision will be focused on monitoring outputs without neglecting the monitoring of the project's financial management. The steering committee will assess the progress of the project delivery s at an agreed interval.

The risks and assumptions will be regularly monitored by the project's partners and UNEP. Risk assessment and rating is an integral part of the technical report. The project established coordination and delivery mechanisms will also be monitored and. Key financial parameters will be monitored quarterly to ensure the cost-effectiveness of the way financial resources are used.

The GEF tracking tools are attached as Annex J. These will be updated at mid-term and at the end of the project and will be made available to the GEF Secretariat along with the project PIR report. As mentioned above, the mid-term and terminal evaluation will verify the information of the tracking tool.


### **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 Point endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this form. For SGP, use this [OFP endorsement letter](#)).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Mrs Christine Edme	Director General of Environment GEF Operational Focal Point	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY	30/05/2015

### **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 CEO endorsement/approval of project.*

Agency Coordinator , Agency Name	Signature	Date (Month , day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Brennan Van Dyke, Director, GEF Coordination Office, UNEP		March 8, 2016	Adamou Bouhari,  Task Manager Biodiversity/Land Degradation	+25420762386 0	Adamou.Bouhari@unep.org

Annex A: Logframme (Separate document)

**ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS** (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

GEF Secretariat Comments	UNEP and Partners responses	References
Please clarify the output 1.1.2 "participative understanding of the baseline". It is expected that the baseline will be defined during the project preparation (PPG).	The output 1.1.2 is reformulated to clarify what is really expected, which is understanding of treats, constraints and opportunities related to SLM	Annex A Logframe output 1.1.2
We suggest to maintain the three indicators for the component 2: Nb of ha under SLM, Nb of persons trained, and change in household revenues in the 7 communes.	The three indicators are maintained. Targets are set in relation to these indicators	Annex A Logframe outcome 2.1. Indicators
At CEO endorsement, we expect some metrics, baseline values, and targets (Number of hectares under conservation agriculture, Nb of beneficiaries, carbon measurements, soil fertility, income increase, for instance).	The baseline section is now strengthen with metrics	Section A.4 CEO Endorsement document.
Some risks are mentioned. A comprehensive risk assessment is expected at CEO endorsement.	Additional Risk are now identified in addition to those already in the PIF	Table 8 Section A.6 of the CEO endorsement document
At CEO endorsement, please detail the mode of coordination with other related initiatives	The section on coordination with other related initiatives is now strengthening with details table on ongoing initiatives and how the project will coordinate with those.	Table 9.A and 9.B section A.7 of CEO Endorsement.
At CEO endorsement, confirm UNEP cofinancing	UNEP Cofinancing letter provided	Cofinancing letters package
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Confirm cofinancing at CEO endorsement;</li> <li>- Detail implementation arrangements and develop operational partnerships;</li> <li>- Provide a comprehensive risk analysis;</li> <li>- Provide a Monitoring Plan, with indicators, metrics, baseline values, and targets.</li> </ul>	<p>Confirmed cofinancing letters provided</p> <p>Detailed implementation arrangement provided</p> <p>Risk analysis amended as indicated above</p> <p>M&amp;E plan provided</p>	<p>Cofinancing letters package</p> <p>Annex H</p> <p>Table 8Section A,6</p> <p>Annex G</p>

**Annex C : Status of PPG implementation (Seperated document)**