



# REQUEST FOR CEO APPROVAL

PROJECT TYPE: MEDIUM-SIZE PROJECT

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF

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## PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Closing the Gaps in Great Green Wall: Linking sectors and stakeholders for increased synergy and scaling-up			
Country(ies):	Regional (Great Green Wall Countries)	GEF Project ID: <sup>1</sup>	5811
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01286
Other Executing Partner(s):	IUCN	Re-Submission Date:	June 03, 2016
GEF Focal Area (s):	Land Degradation	Project Duration(Months)	36 Months
Name of Parent Program (if applicable):		Project Agency Fee (\$):	164,008
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>➤ For SGP <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>➤ For PPP <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>		

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

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (\$)	Cofinancing (\$)
<b>LD-4: Adaptive Management and Learning:</b> Increase capacity to apply adaptive management tools in SLM/SFM/INRM by GEF and UNCCD Parties	Outcome 4.2: Improved GEF portfolio monitoring using new and adapted tools and methodologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Output 4.1 All country investments in LD Objectives 1-3 are linked to UNCCD action programs and national reporting process</li> <li>– Output 4.2 GEF-financed projects contribute to SLM/SFM/INRM knowledge base</li> </ul>	GEF TF	1,726,400	12,035,943
<b>Total project costs</b>				1,726,400	12,035,943

### B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

<b>Project Objective:</b> Greater implementation of policies for sustainable land management in the Sahel (Great Green Wall (GGW) countries) through enhanced investment, intersectoral coordination, and engagement of marginalised groups.						
Project Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Cofinancing (\$)
<b>Component 1: Adaptive management &amp; Learning</b>	TA	Improved participation and knowledge of the developmental and environmental benefits of SLM including improved goals and indicators for enhanced monitoring and more	1.1. An 100% increase of governmental (ministries, departments) and nongovernmental actors actively engaged in SLM/GGW dialogue at different levels is obtained  1.2. A Framework of indicators	GEF TF	738,170	2,633,977

<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.

		coordinated implementation (at local, national, regional and global levels)	<p>and participatory approaches is established by partners for greater understanding and monitoring of landscape system dynamics and the linkages between livelihood and conservation objectives</p> <p>1.3 Learning and awareness-raising publications are developed and endorsed by at least 5 countries through participatory process and disseminated to improve understanding and monitoring of landscape system dynamics and the linkages between livelihood and conservation objectives</p> <p>1.4. 500 Government and NGO representatives trained in the use and interpretation of appropriate tools, including Total Economic Valuation of ecosystem goods and services</p>			
<b>Component 2: Participation, diversity and equity</b>	TA	More active networking within and between countries, including a greater engagement of marginalized groups, in GGW dialogue and implementation, with cross-linkages to other development issues and sectors	<p>2.1. 10 networks strengthened at national and regional level and more engagement of civil society (especially marginalized group organizations) in government consultations and dialogue on the Great Green Wall and other SLM issues in all countries</p> <p>2.2. Learning fora conducted for 11 countries to address specific challenges related to engagement of marginalized groups in SLM</p>	GEF TF	415,890	5,481,982
<b>Component 3: Investment for Policy Implementation</b>	TA	Greater capacity and dialogue between stakeholders to identify and attract appropriate investments for implementation of SLM policies and scale up of good practices	<p>3.1. Training workshops for 11 countries to strengthen capacity of different actors (government, nongovernment and private sector) to identify and address policy implementation and investment barriers and opportunities</p> <p>3.2. A set of guidelines for improved private sector engagement, including recognition of the role of local land managers as private investors and identification of suitable enabling and asset investments</p> <p>3.3. Local planning processes</p>	GEF TF	468,840	3,063,984

			are improved in 30 locations through better participation of different stakeholder groups and sectors and greater capacity of those groups to articulate SLM priorities and benefits			
			Subtotal		1,622,900	11,179,943
			Project management Cost (PMC) <sup>3</sup>	GEF TF	103,500	856,000
			<b>Total project costs</b>		<b>1,726,400</b>	<b>12,035,943</b>

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

Please include letters confirming cofinancing for the project with this form

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier (source)	Type of Cofinancing	Cofinancing Amount (\$)
International NGO	International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)	In-kind	450,000
International NGO	International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)	Cash	6,500,000
CSO	CARI/Réseau Sahel Désertification (ReSaD)	In-kind	95,000
CSO	CARI/Réseau Sahel Désertification (ReSaD)	Cash	105,000
Multilateral	Global Mechanism	In-kind	50,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Burkina Faso	In kind	450,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Burkina Faso	Cash	625,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Niger	In-kind	500,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Niger	Cash	600,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Mali	In-kind	10,800
National Government	GGW Agency of Mali	Cash	100,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Senegal	In-kind	500,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Senegal	Cash	250,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Sudan	In-kind	50,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Sudan	Cash	40,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Chad	In-kind	502,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Chad	Cash	640,000
National Government	GGW Agency of Mauritania	In-kind	68,143
National Government	GGW Agency of Mauritania	Cash	500,000
<b>Total Co-financing</b>			<b>12,035,943</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	Global	1,726,400	164,008	1,890,408
<b>Total Grant Resources</b>				<b>1,726,400</b>	<b>164,008</b>	<b>1,890,408</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.

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

**F. CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS:**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Grant Amount (\$)</b>	<b>Co-financing (\$)</b>	<b>Project Total (\$)</b>
International Consultants	293,000	68,333	361,333
National/Local Consultants	231,250	0	231,250
<b>Total</b>	<b>524,250</b>	<b>68,333</b>	<b>592,583</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, national communications, TNAs, NCSA, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, Biennial Update Reports, etc.

N/A

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

N/A

A.3 The GEF Agency's comparative advantage.

N/A

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

#### Introduction:

The Great Green Wall is a pan-African initiative to restore and sustainably manage land in the Sahel-Saharan region in order to address both poverty and land degradation. First envisioned by the former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, in 2005 and strongly championed by President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal, the Initiative gained significant momentum in 2007 with adoption of African Union Declaration 137 VIII, approving the "Decision on the Implementation of the Green Wall for the Sahara Initiative". In June 2010, Burkina Faso, Chad, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Sudan signed a convention in Ndjamena, Chad, to create the Great Green Wall (GGW) Agency. In more recent years the vision has evolved into an integrated ecosystem management approach.

The combination of high level political support and steadily improving technical awareness of how best to combat desertification has encouraged a number of major donors to back the Great Green Wall Initiative. The Global Environmental Facility granted \$100.8 million to the GGW participating countries to expand sustainable land and water management and adaptation in targeted landscapes and in climate vulnerable areas in West African and Sahelian countries. Other major donors include the World Bank and the European Union.

The Great Green Wall initiative has revived interest in Sustainable Land Management in the Sahel and north of the Sahara and has galvanised action to implement the UNCCD. The GGW has helped to shed a spotlight on recent innovations in SLM in the region and at the same time has leveraged a high degree of political will and leadership from member States. In response public finance for SLM actions has increased and several donors have also mobilised substantial investments, offering opportunities for rapid progress. However, degradation in the region is often the outcome of past policy and investment failures and there are concerns in some quarters that current strategies may not depart significantly enough from past mistakes.

#### The Global environment problems, root causes and barriers [as per the PIF]:

Land degradation contributes to loss of biodiversity, to climate change, and to poverty and food insecurity. It is a global problem and its ramifications are felt far beyond the boundaries of the degraded lands. Significantly more carbon is stored in soils worldwide than the combined total of atmosphere or biomass (Lal, 2008) and land degradation both releases huge quantities of greenhouse gases and diminishes the capacity of land to continue sequestering carbon. Land

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<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.

degradation also has a major impact on hydrological cycles, reducing infiltration and increasing run-off that contribute to cycles of flood and drought.

Vegetation cover and soil organisms play vital roles in water infiltration and therefore in maintaining soil moisture and aquifer recharge. As a consequence of land degradation, groundwater resources and especially those of the shallow unconfined aquifers can be seriously affected (FAO, 1993). Additionally, as land degrades and declines its relative value rises, driving speculation and accumulation of land in the hands of a few, with inevitable consequences for the poorest people and the poorest countries. The outcome has been a rise in the phenomenon of 'land grabbing': following the 2008 food crisis between 15 and 20 million hectares of farmland in developing countries had changed hands (von Braun and Meinze-Dick, 2009). Around the world, some 50 million people may be displaced within the next 10 years as a result of desertification (UNCCD, nd.).

#### The baseline scenario and associated projects

*In addition to what is included in the PIF, a full analysis of the baseline projects has been conducted during the PPG and presented below:*

**BRICKS:** The Building Resilience through Innovation Communication and Knowledge Services (BRICKS) project is a six-year regional knowledge and monitoring hub for a large US\$1.1 billion regional program of 12 World Bank financed country operations plus related partner-supported activities that together contribute to the region's and clients' Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) priorities. BRICKS is implemented by three regional organizations recognized as centres of excellence: the Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS) and West and Central Africa Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). These organizations facilitate technical knowledge exchanges and monitoring services among the 12 country investment operations in the broader World Bank/GEF Sahel and West Africa Program (SAWAP). Each organization is responsible for implementing discrete activities related to resilient and carbon-smart natural resources management in the Sahel and West Africa region, focusing on biodiversity, crop, range, forest, water resources, and disaster risk management in arid, sub-humid and humid landscapes. The project has three thematic components:

- Knowledge management, including networking for structural learning,
- Program monitoring support
- Project management support.

**SAWAP:** Sahel and West Africa Program (SAWAP) is a World Bank funded project to find effective solutions to improve resilience, reduce poverty, and ensure environmental security and sustainability in Africa. The Bank partnered with 12 countries and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to develop the \$1.1 billion SAWAP in support of the GGWSSI. These countries include Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan and Togo. SAWAP is reinforced by a regional hub project to facilitate south-south cooperation on knowledge and operational services among the country projects and the broader Great Green Wall partnership, BRICKS. Each organization involved in BRICKS delivers special services to the SAWAP portfolio to enhance quality and promote regional integration<sup>5</sup>.

**FLEUVE:** is an initiative elaborated by the Global Mechanism (GM) of the UNCCD and funded by the European Union, working in partnership with the FAO and its programme on the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI). Three networks of key CSOs, namely, ReSaD, RADD0 and Drynet are also co-partners in the initiative. The key objective of FLEUVE is to strengthen the capacities of key actors, including Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), private sector and local authorities to develop and help implement landscape level Integrated Investment Frameworks for sustainable land management (SLM). 5 micro-investment projects are currently being developed in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger and Senegal to help expand economic opportunities and improve the public and private investment climate for SLM for local communities. The project aims to inspire South-south learning, partnership and cooperation more broadly across the region and beyond, by providing a platform for disseminating and duplicating best practices and lessons learned on financing SLM.

**Action Against Desertification:** Action Against Desertification in support of the implementation of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI) and South-South Cooperation in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries is an initiative developed by FAO and funded by the EU-ACP, working in partnership with AUC, the

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<sup>5</sup> <http://greatgreenwallinitiative.org/projects>

ACP Secretariat, the GM-UNCCD, Royal botanic Gardens of Kew, Walloon Region. Countries of focus are Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal, Fiji and Haiti. BRICKs and FLEUVE partner organizations are indirect partners of the Action Against Desertification. The **overall objective** of the project is to contribute to: (i) poverty alleviation; (ii) ending hunger; and (iii) improving resilience to climate change in drylands and other fragile ecosystems in ACP countries, using a landscape approach. The **specific objective** of the project is to improve the condition and productivity of the agrosylvopastoral landscapes affected by Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD) in ACP countries through the implementation of the GGWSSI in six African countries and South-South Cooperation in ACP Countries. Three results are expected to be achieved by the end of this project, these are: (i) Enhanced enabling environment and capacity of relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations and stakeholders in ACP countries to carry out effective cross-sectoral work, planning, financing, budgeting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of sustainable land/forest management and restoration efforts at the landscape level; (ii) Local communities, governmental and non-governmental stakeholders (including youth, women and civil society) in selected landscape units have adopted and are using improved sustainable land/forest management practices and technologies, as part of the implementation of their Great Green Wall Action Plans and (iii) Knowledge and awareness are enhanced among key target audiences and stakeholders from the European Union and ACP countries regarding causes and appropriate measures for combating desertification and land degradation and improving resilience to climate change, while promoting sustainable livelihoods.

**PRAPS:** PRAPS (Regional Sahel Pastoralism Support Project<sup>6</sup>) is designed with the Objective to “to enhance livelihood resilience of pastoralists in cross-border drought prone areas of selected countries”. This will be achieved through a combination of (i) policy reforms, (ii) capacity building, and (iii) investments. Component 1: Enhancing production services for Animal Health (indicative US\$60 million). Drawing upon the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Component 2: Enhancing production services for Natural Resources Management (indicative US\$60 million). Component 3: Improving livestock sector competitiveness and market access (indicative US \$40 Million) Component 4: Strengthening the security of the assets, rights, and lifestyles of pastoral people, and providing access to basic social services and political inclusion (indicative US\$60 Million).

**Other Transboundary Projects:** Already a number of national and transnational baseline project under GGW have been put in place, which connect ecosystems through a landscape approach, such as the following:

- Burkina Faso-Niger: Municipalities of Dori and Tillabery “Support to trans-boundary local authorities of the Liptako Gourma for the implementation of the GGW”;
- Nigeria-Niger: Integrated trans-boundary and shared ecosystem management between Niger and Nigeria;
- Gambia-Senegal: Participation of local authorities in integrated watershed management (restoration of socioeconomic and environmental functions);
- Senegal: Ecotourism and management of communal protected areas;
- Algeria-Mauritania-Mali-Niger: Camel transhumance;
- Sudan-Ethiopia: Sustainable Watershed Management for Improvement of Livelihoods in Sudan & Ethiopia;
- Egypt-Sudan: Integrated ecosystem rehabilitation of transboundary area between Egypt and Sudan (Darb El Arba‘ine)<sup>7</sup>.

### **Transboundary Initiatives**

- Sixteen African countries are now implementing or launching national initiatives to scale up EverGreen Agriculture, which is a form of farming that integrates trees with annual crops to sustain vegetation cover on the land, while sustainably increasing food and fodder production, with the support of the EverGreen Agriculture Network, a broad alliance of governments, donors, research institutions, and development partners (EverGreen Agriculture, 2014).<sup>8</sup>
- The African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) has played a prominent role in the African response to climate change at the regional and sub-regional scale. In October 2013, AMCEN’s 5th Special Session emphasized the relationship of food security and climate adaptation, endorsing Ecosystem-based Adaptation and landscape approaches.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/praps>

<sup>7</sup> GGW NAP Ethiopia

<sup>8</sup> Mohan S 2013: Evergreen Agriculture Network Launched. <http://evergreenagriculture.net/evergreen-agriculture-network-launched/>

<sup>9</sup> GGW NAP Ethiopia

- The Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme process encourages countries to develop long-term visions for agricultural development, including strategies on production and natural resource conservation. The natural resources agenda includes reduced erosion, improved soil fertility, increased yields, greater food security, and enhanced rural livelihoods at the landscape scale, defined by natural, cultural, and administrative boundaries.<sup>10</sup>
- Emerging frameworks are integrating climate change planning and cross-sectoral landscape approaches into agricultural priorities. The United Nations Environment Programme’s Ecosystem-based Adaptation program (EbA), which is working to integrate its principles into national development and adaptation programs, has demonstrated how farmers can work to rehabilitate ecosystems, improve crop productivity, and ensure that farming systems are resilient to climate change<sup>11</sup>. Furthermore, the concept of climate-smart agriculture—with a landscape approach as one of its central pillars<sup>12</sup> (FAO, 2010)—is gaining momentum in climate policymaking communities, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations’ climate-smart agriculture sourcebook presents tools for its mainstreaming into policymaking (FAO, 2013).
- The DESIRE project has been a pioneer in linking successfully modern scientific and local traditional knowledge systems within integrated land conservation strategies and has in this way demonstrated the equitable integration of various stakeholders, their perceptions, perspectives and knowledge into land management systems.

### **National and Transnational Baseline Projects under the GGW:**

**Project “Promote climate resilience through improved investments into local adaptation”:** The general objective is to promote climate resilience of communities by increasing available finances to enable better investments into climate change adaptations in rural communities within LDCs. On the ground activities include the provision of micro-finances for the movement “Farmers without Borders (Mouvement des Paysans Sans Frontière, MPSF)” in Burkina Faso, the establishment of ecologic farms and nurseries and the production of non-timber forest products.

**Project “EPIC: Strengthening Ecosystem-Based DRR and CCA Strategies that contribute to poverty reduction in Burkina Faso and Senegal”<sup>13</sup>:** The project addresses the problem of recurrent extreme events – erratic rainfalls, droughts, floods, dust and high temperatures, and declining arable land area (urban expansion, soil salinity and aridity, locusts) through support of national and regional actors in diversifying strategies for prevention and adaptation to climate change impacts on livelihoods and natural resources in Senegal and Burkina Faso. In this way it is integrating CCA into poverty reduction policies in West Africa.

**Project “Projet d'appui aux populations vivant des forêts” (Project for Supporting forest's reliant population):** The project is outlined under the Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM) of the Forest Investment Program Indigenous peoples and local communities dedicated initiative (<http://www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/cif/DGM/About>). The project aims on the one hand at strengthening technical and management capacities, and skills of local communities living in and around forests in Burkina Faso and to strengthen their participation in REDD+ process at the local level, and on the other hand to supporting the development of economic activities and sustainable management of natural resources. The project emphasizes the need to strengthen the capacity of local populations to participate effectively in all phases of FIP and REDD+ processes and create investments clearly identified to increase the people's livelihoods which are also advantageous in terms of mitigating the effects of climate change and adaptation.

**Project: “PAGE: Partenariat pour la gouvernance environnementale en Afrique de l’Ouest”:** With PAGE, IUCN coordinates a multi stakeholder intervention together with intergovernmental institutions such as ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS and the Authorities of the Volta, Niger and the Senegal Basins, as well as with the Ministries of water, environment and sustainable development in West African Countries. The project pilots therefore cross-sectoral collaboration to reconcile the needs of development with environmental conservation. The PAGE has also reinforced the dialogue between institutional actors and civil society for integrating national with regional environmental policies and legislation.

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<sup>10</sup> <http://www.caadp.net/>

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.fao.org/climatechange/climatesmart/en/>

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.epicproject.net/> and [http://www.iucn.org/fr/nouvelles\\_homepage/?13034/Le-projet-CC-Asdi-fait-son-bilan-2012](http://www.iucn.org/fr/nouvelles_homepage/?13034/Le-projet-CC-Asdi-fait-son-bilan-2012)



In *Burkina Faso* the National Agency of the GGW is conducting projects and activities related to restorations, conservation, and natural resources management. And in connection with this project, the National Agency of the Great Green Wall in Burkina Faso will conduct activities such as:

- The establishment of GGW coordination bodies local level, regional and national level.
- The strengthening participation and consultation with different actors (civil society, Private sector, local communities, and state actors) for better coordination and activities implementation in the framework of the GGW
- Strengthen Sustainable Land Management activities with communities in agro-forestry and pastoral areas;
- Degraded land restoration;
- Increase communities' income by promoting income-generating activities.

Activities conducted in Burkina Faso in the framework of the GGW will contribute to the current project in component 1, 2 and 3.

The *Chad* National Great Green Wall Agency has developed with support from FAO, a national strategy and a 5 years action plan which aims at the development of agricultural, forestry and pastoral production systems in order to protect biodiversity, development of basic socioeconomic infrastructure and wealth creation through Alternative Income Generation Activities which will contribute to food security and economic growth. The strategy has six strategic axes which include: 1) Amelioration of production systems and natural resources management; 2) development of basic socioeconomic infrastructures and local governance; 3) Research and Development to support the natural resources management; and 4) Communication, awareness raising and Monitoring and Evaluation system which objective is to ensure stakeholders adhesion to the GGW initiative and ensure its effective implementation. The latter is directly in line with this GEF support and effort will be dedicated by the project to support the country in this direction.

In the framework of the GGWI implementation in *Mali*, activities are organized around:

- Capacities building of local actors
- Increase all actors participation in the GGWI implementation:
- Increase investment in GGWI implementation area

In the framework of this current project, the National Agency of the GGWI in Mali will contribute in Component 1 (Adaptive Management and Learning) through activities of: capacities building; GGW coordination bodies at national, regional and communal level; and capitalization and dissemination of knowledge related to sustainable land management in sustainable investment.

The National Agency of the GGW in *Mauritania* will implement activities as detailed in their strategic plan for 2015 to 2018. This strategic plan focus on: (i) Improving food security through sustainable management of production systems; (ii) Improving governance; (iii) Income generating activities development; (iv) research and knowledge management; (v) Capacity building of actors; (vi) Coordination and Monitoring Evaluation. Related to the current project, the National Agency of the GGW in Mauritania will implement activities that will directly contribute to Components 1 and 2. As activities related to component 3 of the project it will be identified investment options and promote income generation activities.

The National Agency of the GGWI in *Niger* is implementing activities such as: capacity building and multi-sectoral actors' participation in the GGWI implementation; reforestation; degraded land restoration through promotion of Sustainable Land Management good practices; and policy dialogue for sustainable investment in the GGW area. The National Agency of the GGWI in Niger has already organized a forum in 2013 that gathered Government representatives and CSOs to reflect on the implementation of the GGWI and to get all actors engaged. Currently its activities related to stakeholder engagement in the GGW focus on actors "concentration" to create a national alliance. Related to the current project, the national agency of the GGWI in Niger intends to contribute to the achievement of the project's outcomes through activities such as local actors' capacity building, participatory assessment of local communities, and partnership strengthening with private sector to increase finance options to support the implementation of the GGW.

The National Agency of the GGW in *Senegal* since 2009 has been implementing activities related to reforestation (13,000 ha of plantation and 13,000 hectares of defense layout for a total length of 150 km). In addition its activities are extended to income generation activities (vegetable farming, arboriculture, traditional agriculture etc.) for certain vulnerable groups. Since 2014 the National Agency of the GGWI in Senegal has initiated discussion with all stakeholders (Government, NGOs and local authorities) creating a multi-sectoral approach for decision making. The

National Agency of the GGWI in Senegal is currently establishing group municipalities interested in GGW for better coordination of activities. Related to the current project the National Agency of the GGWI in Senegal will contribute to the achievement of Outcome 3: “Greater capacity and dialogue between stakeholders to identify and attract appropriate investments for implementation of Sustainable Land Management policies and scale up of good practices”.

The National Agency of the GGWI in *Sudan* in the framework of its activities is implementing community based activities which includes the following:

- Afforestation and restoration in irrigated, rain fed, community and private forests. These areas were estimated to about 80,000 ha in 2015 and about 85,000 ha in 2016 and the same projected for 2017.
- Rehabilitation of 85,000 ha of rangelands every year by direct seeding or disbursement.
- Sand dunes fixation in northern States.
- Water harvesting to benefit from rain water for drinking and animals.

Through these activities the National Agency of the GGWI in Sudan will contribute to the current project and especially Component 1.

Survey conducted during the PPG phase indicated that all the remaining countries (Nigeria, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Djibouti) have National GGW Action Plans and national structures in charge of implementation of the GGW in their respective countries. Furthermore, these countries execute annual work plan with partners and national budget support. The baseline activities particularly in these countries will be updated during the inception workshop.

Barriers and Underlying Causes: None withstanding the baseline scenario, the following gaps have been identified in the PIF:

- Policies and investment plans have not been sufficiently updated to reflect emerging understanding of the drivers of degradation in the Sahel;
- Insufficient coordination and alignment of approaches between actors and sectors, including between agricultural development and environmental/conservation sector, which leads to weak synergy between different MEAs and development goals;
- Inadequate consultation and participation of key stakeholder groups from decision making, including Civil Society, Women’s Groups, pastoralists;
- Inadequate systems of monitoring, coordinated reporting, and knowledge sharing on SLM actions (or degrading practices) of different stakeholders.

The Great Green Wall has been conceived to address land degradation in the Sahel and Sahara region. Degradation in the region has many causes and the drivers and pressures are complex. Countries are addressing some of the pressures, such as changing agricultural practices or over-extraction of biomass, but in many cases resources are invested in restoration without adequately considering how to reduce on-going degradation processes. Investments to change agricultural practices, such as investment in agro-ecology approaches, are having a valuable impact, but implementation tends to focus at site level and ecosystem-wide impacts are not monitored. This can lead to unforeseen externalities that impact on other areas and other populations, weakening their resilience and livelihoods and potentially aggravating conflict. An example is the imbalance in investments towards crop cultivation versus pastoralism, leading to localization and privatization of water resources, restriction of access routes, loss of dry season pastures and drought reserves, and overall weakening of social ecological resilience in the rangelands.

Lack of understanding between conservation and livelihood needs can lead to short-term exploitation of ecosystems and biodiversity and to destruction of valuable resources and ecosystems. Inadequate attention to the synergies between environment and development can also lead to misallocation or misuse of resources. There is little application or knowledge of valuation tools for ecosystem services and as a result, under-representation of the real value of natural resources within the GGW zone is leading to inefficient investments and is likely to contribute to investments that undermine critical ecosystem services.

Responses to land degradation tend to focus on proximate causes (i.e. pressures) and less attention is given to underlying drivers. For example, land degradation investments focus on sustainable farm management and reduced pressure on pastures and woodlands, but less emphasis is placed on policy and institutional drivers of change, technological drivers and economic factors. This reflects the inadequacy of consultation with diverse stakeholder groups and between government sectors, and bias towards sectoral priorities, particularly in the agriculture sector.

Considering the major financial constraints faced by countries in the Sahel, there is a failure to prioritize investments that, by virtue of their multiple benefits, are among the most cost effective. Low coordination means that investments to deliver synergy towards environmental and economic goals—for example simultaneously to combat desertification, increase climate change adaptation and conserve biodiversity—are not favored, and in some cases are actively discouraged. This undermines the resilience of dryland ecosystems and increases people’s exposure to climate and other risks.

Weak consultation, networking and coordination lead to less effective reporting and loss of opportunities for complementary approaches. SLM practices are implemented without due recognition by governments, and lessons are being learned that are not adequately captured and built on. This allows bad practices and maladaptation to be sustained and leads to inefficient investment of scarce resources. Marginalized groups, including women and pastoralists, are at risk of further marginalization if mechanisms are not created to fast-track their input to decision-making processes. Furthermore, national reporting on GGW actions, including future reporting on progress towards Land Degradation Neutrality (SDG Target 15.3), is hampered by weak coordination of efforts and low capacity for knowledge sharing, for validation of good practices, or for identification of harmful practices.

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:

The GEF Alternative includes the incremental costs incurred in delivering: (i) multistakeholder engagement for improved identification of policy gaps and opportunities; (ii) better coordination and synergy between public sector departments and ministries; (iii) improved participation of marginalized stakeholder groups in decision-making processes; and (iv) improved reporting and knowledge sharing across actors and sectors.

#### Component 1: Adaptive Management and Learning:

*Outcome: Improved participation and knowledge of the developmental and environmental benefits of SLM including goals and indicators for enhanced monitoring and more coordinated implementation (at local, national, regional and global levels)*

Component 1 will improve coordination and synergy between public sector departments and ministries through collaborative action and cross-sectoral dialogue. This will enable more efficient use of financial resources allocated to GGWI and will accelerate GGW implementation. It will help avert conflicting investments, for example between land, water and biodiversity conservation. To improve the effectiveness of collaboration and dialogue, a wider range of non-governmental actors will be enabled to participate in GGW planning and implementation, which will further strengthen synergy and the potential to add value to different investments and approaches.

To improve adaptive management it will be necessary to build awareness of the integration of conservation and livelihoods: both the merits of such approaches and the practicalities of delivering integration on the ground and in policy. The GEF intervention will contribute to improve policy and practice in integrating development and conservation goals and ensuring ownership of these integrated goals by diverse actors. In support of this, improved local indicators and a monitoring framework will be used to demonstrate progress towards multiple complementary goals, and multiple stakeholders will be engaged in monitoring in order to reach greater consensus over suitable approaches and to get a more comprehensive measure of progress.

Through improved integration of indicators, environmental and development actions will contribute to sustainable development that provides both local and global benefits. These multiple values will be better understood as a result of implementing economic valuation studies on critical ecosystem services. These valuations will be used to improved recognition of the benefits to society of SLM, and to attract innovative investments and new investor groups.

The specific outputs for Component 1 are:

*1.1. An 100% increase of governmental (ministries, departments) and nongovernmental actors actively engaged in SLM/GGW dialogue at different levels is obtained.* To achieve this output the project will support national level dialogue between key ministries and nongovernmental partners. This will be achieved through facilitated participation

of partners in key events as well as support for country meetings in relation to the GGW that are implemented with the engagement of the key sectors and partners. The project will support dialogue under the framework of existing coordination mechanism(s), for example as defined in UNCCD National Action Programs or GGW Strategies, in order to strengthen those mechanisms as well as to ensure those mechanisms are transparent and suitably consultative. At the inception phase of the project, each country will be requested to present an analysis of existing relevant platforms in the country taking into account the past GEF investments, such as Country Strategic Investment Frameworks (CSIFs), Integrated Financing Strategies and Integrated Investment Frameworks (IFS and IIFs). The project will build its action on the most suitable platform in each country, reinforcing them and making them efficiently functional to contribute to the implementation of the GGW initiative. The different national experiences on this issue will be an opportunity for countries to learn from each other which may lead to some countries to agree to review their national mechanism under the project support.

*1.2. A Framework of indicators and participatory approaches is established by partners for greater understanding and monitoring of landscape system dynamics and the linkages between livelihood and conservation objectives.* Development of the indicator framework will be accomplished through an interactive process of informal consultation, expert engagement, and a regional validation meeting. The Framework will build on existing frameworks, particularly those most directly pertinent to the GGW, in order to seek harmonization. The approved framework of indicator will be tested in 3 pilot countries for monitoring and reporting of GGW activities.

*1.3. Learning and awareness-raising publications are developed and endorsed by at least 5 countries through participatory process and disseminated to improve understanding and monitoring of landscape system dynamics and the linkages between livelihood and conservation objectives.* The project will identify critical knowledge gaps through the inception meetings and through expert consultation and an IUCN expert will be identified to develop the synthesis study. This study will be reviewed by a group that includes key government and nongovernment partners in order to attain their endorsement. Existing studies that are pertinent to the GGW will be identified through the same process and will be translated in French and English as appropriate

*1.4. 500 Government and NGO representatives trained in the use and interpretation of appropriate tools, including Total Economic Valuation of ecosystem goods and services.* A number of training events will be held during the project, as determined at the inception meeting (where key capacity gaps will be prioritized/clarified). Regional training events will take advantage of the occurrence of other regional events – including project review meetings – in order to reduce costs and increase the extent of participation. Training will be carried out by appropriate experts identified within IUCN or the IUCN commissions. In addition to region-wide training events some events will focus on sub-regional training in order to target a greater number of trainees. These will be clustered into neighboring countries based on linguistic similarities.

## Component 2: Participation, diversity and equity

*Outcome: More active networking within and between countries, including a greater engagement of marginalized groups, in GGW dialogue and implementation, with cross-linkages to other development issues and sectors.*

Component 2 on participation, diversity and equity will strengthen the engagement of a more diverse range of stakeholder groups, leading to better identification of policy gaps and opportunities, improved consensus over suitable investments, and greater participation of marginalized stakeholder groups in decision-making processes. In combination with Component 1, this will lead to improved cross-sectoral and cross-cultural coordination that will enhance efficiency and the sustainability of GGW implementation. In particular it will contribute to more equitable outcomes and a greater balance between environmental outcomes and human well-being.

By engaging a wider range of actors in dialogue over GGW implementation and SLM the GEF intervention will support a stronger shift from unsustainable to sustainable technologies and land management approaches. It will accelerate the process of learning and adoption of good practices and will help to reduce wasteful or harmful land management investments. This will lead to greater economic and environmental benefits at the local, national, regional and global levels.

By building capacities and opportunities for integration the intervention will enhance the overall cohesion and coordination of GGW actions, leading to improved ecosystem management and more resilient dryland ecosystems and

livelihoods. In particular the intervention will strengthen the involvement of groups that are currently marginalized from GGW discussion and interventions, which will lead to more comprehensive country-wide impacts and to additional benefits on overall empowerment and governance of those marginalized groups.

The specific outputs for Component 2 are:

*2.1. 10 networks strengthened at national and regional level and more engagement of civil society (especially marginalized group organizations) in government consultations and dialogue on the Great Green Wall and other SLM issues in all countries.* In preparation of this project the key national and regional networks have been identified and others will be identified during project implementation. The aim is not to single out individual networks but to add value to existing networking by connecting networks at different levels and strengthening coordination. Much of the networking activities will be carried out through electronic fora and national and regional events, including those organized by the project. A GGW e-network will be established and used to improve communication throughout the GGW region. Network partners will also be supported to engage in GGW consultations with government, capitalizing on the space created under Component 1.

*2.2. Learning fora conducted for 11 countries to address specific challenges related to engagement of marginalized groups in SLM.* The project will organize a regional learning forum to focus on policy barriers and the engagement of marginalized groups in SLM and the GGW. A regional learning forum will also focus on sustainable pastoralism and will ensure better inclusion of rangeland issues in GGW dialogue and implementation. This output will lead to publication of a report on policy and other barriers to engagement of marginalized groups.

### Component 3: Investment for Policy Implementation

*Outcome: Greater capacity and dialogue between stakeholders to identify and attract appropriate investments for implementation of SLM policies and scale up of good practices*

Component 3, on investment for policy implementation, will support improved reporting and knowledge sharing across actors and sectors in order to achieve more consensus-oriented and evidence-based decision-making. Training and public awareness will strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to understand and adopt SLM practices and to achieve positive outcomes at the ecosystem scale. The GEF intervention will raise awareness of the diversity and magnitude of ecosystem services that are derived from sustainably managed drylands in order to promote more optimal investments in multiple goods and services, as an alternative development paradigm to the intensification of individual goods.

Action will target improving local-level participatory planning in order to connect local knowledge and expertise with higher level government interventions, to improve awareness of good practices, and to ensure greater local ownership of, and contribution towards, GGW goals. The intervention will strengthen knowledge on responsible investments and will support dialogue over how to protect against irresponsible investments by the private sector, and in the process will cultivate relationships between government and private businesses for enhanced investment. Training will focus on improving the skills of different actors to attract appropriate investments, including innovative investments that enhance the existing small-scale investments of land users (including investments of labor and social capital). With the incremental financing from GEF, the intervention will add value to current investments and policies, ensure that appropriate investments are more effectively monitored and that more safeguards are put in place to avoid the risk of malpractices.

By enabling investors—public and private—to be more responsive to local land users the incremental finance will ensure greater local ownership and greater harnessing of local knowledge, experiences and institutions. Investments in multiple sectors will be better coordinated, both safeguarding against negative outcomes and promoting synergies between sectors. Using appropriate tools the incremental finance will help identify high-value-for-money options for combined environmentally and economically sustainable development in the long term.

The specific outputs for Component 3 are:

*3.1. Training workshops for 11 countries to strengthen capacity of different actors (government, nongovernment and private sector) to identify and address policy implementation and investment barriers and opportunities.* Four multi-country trainings will be carried out on appropriate investment, policy barriers and private sector engagement. Eah

workshop will include more than one country stakeholders in order to ensure exchange of experience and effort toward possible harmonization of approaches.

3.2. *A set of guidelines for improved private sector engagement, including recognition of the role of local land managers as private investors and identification of suitable enabling and asset investments.* The project will engage IUCN secretariat staff, commission members and other experts in documenting regional experiences in appropriate investments in sustainable pastoralism, building on existing documents such as the “Minimum Standards in Sustainable Pastoralist Development” (IUCN & IFAD, 2010). This will also include a review of environmental economics of SLM and private sector engagement and publication of guidelines on private sector engagement in the GGW. For the products /outputs which will come out from these activities (report, guidelines, review documents, etc.), peer-review and publishing opportunities will be identified and considered. Peer review in scientific journals will be explored on key specific products related for example to private sector engagement, sustainable pastoralism, environmental economic of SLM etc.

3.3. *Local planning processes are improved in 30 locations through better participation of different stakeholder groups and sectors and greater capacity of those groups to articulate SLM priorities and benefits.* To deliver this output IUCN will identify 5 national/local NGO partners that are engaged in participatory rural development and will provide training to develop their capacity for influencing local public planning processes. The partners will be supported to organize community environmental action planning, based on existing methodologies (e.g. IUCN’s Community Environmental Action Planning” approach). Furthermore, IUCN will use its partnerships at the national level to identify entry points for influencing local government planning and will support local partners to strengthen their collaboration with local government.

The table below summarises the changes made, and the rationale for these changes, to the components and outputs in the PIF.

	<b>PIF</b>	<b>GEF CEO ER</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
<b>Outcomes</b>	<i>1.1. Improved goals and indicators for enhanced monitoring and more coordinated implementation (at local, national, regional and global levels)</i>	<i>1.1. Improved participation and knowledge of the developmental and environmental benefits of SLM including goals and indicators for enhanced monitoring and more coordinated implementation (at local, national, regional and global levels)</i>	The PIF outcome 1.1 and 1.2. have been merged to have the new outcome 1.1. to address the GEF comments during PIF approval
	<i>1.2 Improved knowledge and awareness of the developmental and environmental benefits of SLM and the synergy with other national strategic goals and targets</i>		
	<i>2.1 More active networking within and between countries to strengthen input to and ownership of local, national and regional policies and investments</i>	<i>2.1. More active networking within and between countries, including a greater engagement of marginalized groups, in GGW dialogue and implementation, with cross-linkages to other development issues and sectors</i>	Outcome reformulated taking into account outcome 2.1 and 2.2 of the PIF. Reducing the number of outcomes of component 2 from 2 to 1 to address the GEF comments during PIF approval
	<i>2.2. Increased engagement of marginalized groups in GGW dialogue and implementation, with cross-linkages to other development issues and sectors</i>		
	<i>3.1. Greater dialogue between stakeholders to identify broader consensus</i>	<i>Greater capacity and dialogue between stakeholders to identify and attract appropriate</i>	PIF outcome 3.1 and 3.2 are merged to come up with new outcome 3.1 to address the GEF

	<i>over investment priorities through more accountable local government planning and coordinated response.</i>	investments for implementation of SLM policies and scale up of good practices	comments during PIF approval
	<i>3.2. Increased capacity of stakeholders to identify and attract appropriate private sector actors and “enabling investments” for implementation of SLM policies and scale up of good practices.</i>		
<b>Outputs</b>	<i>1.1.1. Doubling in the number of public institutions (ministries, departments) engaged in SLM/GGW dialogue in participating countries, including representation from environment and agriculture-related ministries</i>	1.1. A 100% increase of governmental (ministries, departments) and nongovernmental actors actively engaged in SLM/GGW dialogue at different levels is obtained	Wording made more succinct and outputs 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 merged to address the GEF comments during PIF approval
	<i>1.1.2 Doubling of nongovernmental actors actively engaged in SLM/GGW dialogues at different levels</i>		Merged into output 1.1 of the CEO ER
	<i>1.1.3. Framework of indicator and participatory approaches established by partners for greater understanding and monitoring of landscape system dynamics and the linkages between livelihood and conservation objectives</i>	1.2. A Framework of indicators and participatory approaches is established by partners for greater understanding and monitoring of landscape system dynamics and the linkages between livelihood and conservation objectives	No change
	<i>1.2.1. 3 learning and awareness-raising publications developed through participatory process and disseminated to improve understanding and monitoring of landscape system dynamics and the linkages between livelihood and conservation objectives</i>	1.3. Learning and awareness raising publications are developed and endorsed by at least 5 countries through participatory process and disseminated to improve understanding of monitoring of landscape system dynamics and the linkages between livelihood and conservation objectives	Wording made more succinct and outputs 1.2.1 and 1.2.3 merged to address the GEF comments during PIF approval
	<i>1.2.2 500 Government and NGO representatives trained in the use and interpretation of appropriate tools, including Total Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Goods and Services</i>	1.4. 500 Government and NGO representatives trained in the use and interpretation of appropriate tools, including Total Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Goods and Services	No change
	<i>1.2.3 Publication by governments in at least 5 participatory countries of guidelines for integrating environment and development</i>	New 1.3 above	Merged into output 1.3 of the CEO ER
	<i>2.1.1. 10 networks established</i>	2.1. 10 networks strengthened	Wording made more succinct

<i>or strengthened at national and regional level, integrating representatives from the environment, development and relief sectors and bridging linguistic divides</i>	at national and regional level and more engagement of civil society (especially marginalized group organizations) in government consultations and dialogue on the Great Green Wall and other SLM issues in all countries	and outputs 2.1.1; 2.1.2 and 2.2.1 merged to address the GEF comments during PIF approval
<i>2.1.2. Civil Society representatives identified in all participatory countries to engage in government consultations and dialogue on the Great Green Wall and other SLM issues.</i>		Merged into output 2.1 of the CEO ER
<i>2.2.1. Representatives of principle marginalized groups (e.g. women, pastoralists, etc.) participate regularly in national and regional networks and public dialogue on SLM, GW and UNCCD</i>		Merged into output 2.1 of the CEO ER
<i>2.2.2. At least 10 learning fora to address specific challenges related to engagement of marginalized groups in SLM</i>	2.2. Learning fora conducted for 11 countries to address specific challenges related to engagement of marginalized groups in SLM	No change
<i>3.1.1. Local planning processes strengthened in 30 locations through better participation of different stakeholder groups and sectors and greater capacity of these groups to articulate SLM priorities and benefits</i>		Now output 3.3. of the CEO ER
<i>3.1.2. 10 training workshops to strengthen capacity of government and nongovernment actors to identify and address policy implementation barriers related to the GW</i>	3.1. Training workshops for 11 countries to strengthen capacity of different actors (government, nongovernment and private sector) to identify and address policy implementation and investment barriers and opportunities	Wording made more succinct and outputs 3.1.2 and 3.2.2 merged to address the GEF comments during PIF approval
<i>3.2.1. Publication of one set of guidelines for improved private sector engagement, including recognition of the role of local land managers as private investors and identification of suitable enabling and asset investments</i>	3.2. A set of guidelines for improved private sector engagement, including recognition of the role of local land managers as private investors and identification of suitable enabling and asset investments	No change. Language simplified for more clarity.
<i>3.2.2. 10 workshops with private sector representatives to validate Private Sector engagement publication and to build awareness of SLM issues and opportunities.</i>	Into new 3.1. above	Merged into output 3.1 of the CEO ER
	3.3. Local planning processes	Output 3.1.1 of the PIF.



		are improved in 30 locations through better participation of different stakeholder groups and sectors and greater capacity of those groups to articulate SLM priorities and benefits	Wording made more clear
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The project incremental cost analysis is summarized in the table below:

Project	Baseline (without GEF support)	GEF Alternative	GEF Increment
<b>Component 1: Adaptive management &amp; Learning</b>	GGW institutions exist in countries but there is <b>low cross-sectoral collaboration</b> . This leads to inefficiency and trade-offs in GGW implementation, increases costs of implementation and reduces the attention to human well-being within the initiative.	<b>Improved collaboration and cross-sectoral dialogue</b> that will enhance efficient use of financial resources allocated to GGWI and accelerate GGW implementation	Multi-sectoral collaboration Efficient use of financial resources allocated to GGWI
	Efforts are made to engage some local stakeholders in GGWI implementation (especially in Senegal, Burkina Faso, and Niger). However, business as usual will lead to <b>overlook other important stakeholders in GGW implementation</b> , leading to misallocation of financial resources, low ownership of interventions by some communities or land users, and aggravated marginalization.	<b>Enhanced participation of non-governmental actors and better consideration of local stakeholders in GGW</b> planning tools that will substantially enhance the efficiency of GGW implementation, therefore accelerate implementation and reduce its costs.	Greater engagement of CSOs and locals stakeholders in the GGW  Efficiency of GGW implementation  In combination with Output 2.1. at least facilitating the realization of expected benefits for SAWAP
	There are ongoing activities to raise awareness of GGWI, but <b>GGWI is not developing as a multi-stakeholder partnership with shared goals and objectives</b> . As a result the GGW lacks visibility, it lacks systematic targets and monitoring, and it is perceived in some quarters as a government initiative rather than the collective endeavor of society. This leads to inefficient allocation or even waste of resources and weak implementation of the GGW with all its related costs for desertification and human well-being.	<b>Enhanced awareness for conservation needs</b> within the targeted GGW mosaic landscape for sustainable well-being and enhanced ownership of GGWI by multiple stakeholder groups.	Publications and knowledge sharing that will enable communities to attract financial resources for conservation, such as PES etc.  Improvement of the ecosystem health within the GGW  Short-term gains of exploitation of provisioning services versus values of long-term protection will lead to higher economic productivity.
	Indicator systems are under development for various initiatives but <b>indicators are insufficient for monitoring GGWI progress across sectors and in different contexts</b> .	<b>Complementary local indicator and monitoring framework in addition to global and regional indicator frameworks</b> that would allow an optimum	Indicator framework for better monitoring of GGW interventions at local, national and regional level  Linkage with local and

	UNCCD global indicators could create trade-offs between local and global scales in monitoring, apart from the lack of scientific feasibility of some indicators. Using alternative SAWAP indicators would allow to link the monitoring systems to common goals of the GGWI but fail to monitor aspects of local or national progress, leading to similar shortcomings	indicator framework which could relate local and national progress to monitoring of common goals, therefore link local and national planning with regional planning of the GGW, leading to much higher efficiency of resource allocation	national planning with regional planning of the GGW  Efficiency of resource allocation
	There are ongoing activities for reforestation and sustainable land management in most countries of the GGW. However, there is <b>little attention to the synergies between environment and development</b> , which again leads to misallocation of resources, and there is <b>lack of understanding between conservation and livelihood needs</b> , which can lead to short-term exploitation of ecosystems and biodiversity and to destruction of valuable resources and ecosystems.	<b>Improved balance between environmental and development actions</b> that will pave the way to sustainable development and an optimum way of accumulating and maintaining environmental and financial resources, which will also contribute to local, national, regional and global environmental and economic benefits	The full present and future value of provisioning, regulating, supporting and cultural ecosystem services will be generated
	There is <b>little knowledge of valuation tools for ecosystem services</b> . Under-representation of the real value of natural resources within the GGW zone will lead to inefficient investments and is likely to contribute to investments that undermine critical ecosystem services	<b>Better skills of valuation techniques for natural resources</b> that will lead to better allocation of resources and will attract investors, therefore in future will enhance synergies of ecosystem health and economic welfare within the GGW zone and contribute to greater economic local, national and regional benefits	Improvement of the ecosystem health and economic welfare within the GGW and growth of economic benefits
	<b>Cost of baseline activities related to Component 1 (Adaptive management &amp; Learning) in project area: 3,015,310 USD</b>	<b>Cost of project intervention related to Component 1 (Adaptive management &amp; Learning) in project area: GEF funds: 758,170 USD Co-finance: 3,015,310 USD Total: 3,773,480 USD</b>	<b>GEF Incremental Cost related to component 1 (Adaptive management &amp; Learning) in project area: 758,170 USD</b>
<b>Component 2: Participation, diversity and equity</b>	Strategic plans of most countries in project area have activities of sectoral linkages within vertical and lateral stakeholder integration. However these activities are not yet implemented and <b>lack of cross-sectoral and cross-cultural coordination integrating all stakeholders</b> will weaken the whole initiative and its implementation, since implementation efforts will remain uncoordinated and in disharmony, leading again to inefficient resource allocation endangering the implementation of the framework in	<b>Better cross-sectoral and cross-cultural coordination</b> that will enhance efficiency of GGW implementation through the creation of synergies, leading to more balanced outcomes in human well-being of the Initiative.	Increase of synergy in GGW intervention planning and implementation  Saving of expenses due to lack of cross-sectoral coordination and lack of understanding as a consequence from language barriers

	total.		
	Activities of awareness on SLM exist. However, <b>lack of networking of actors on SLM</b> will allow unsustainable land use technologies to persist and will lead to long-term damage of ecosystem values	<b>Multi actor dialogue on GGW implementation and SLM</b> issues that will result in a shift from unsustainable to sustainable SLM technologies with the resulting economic and environmental benefits on local, national, regional and global levels	Improved networking on SLM will result in a transformation of unsustainable land use systems into a resilient mosaic landscape, reducing losses due to desertification
	GGW countries include integration of all stakeholders in GGW implementation as an objective, but implementation of such objectives remains very low and <b>important stakeholder groups, including Civil Society and the private sector, continue to be peripheral</b> to GGWI discussions.	<b>Higher capacities of integration</b> that will enhance overall cohesion and coordination of GGW actions	Better integrated actions for improved ecosystem management, more equitable outcomes, and improved consensus on good practices  Increase of economic and ecological productivity
	<b>Continued exclusion of pastoralists, women and other vulnerable groups</b> will prevent the Great Green Wall from capitalizing on the high values these groups are creating and furthermore lead to conflicts or inertia.	<b>Integrated responses to desertification which include all stakeholder groups</b> within an area for women and pastoralists are the main actors in land use	Increase the social cohesion which the inclusion of excluded minorities  Coordinated actions within the GGW  Values from pastoralism within the GGW will be 2-10 times higher, incomes of women at least doubled
	<b>Cost of baseline activities related to Component 2 (Participation, diversity and equity) in project area: 5,863,315 USD</b>	<b>Cost of project intervention related to Component 2 (Participation, diversity and equity) in project area: GEF funds: 415,890 USD Co-finance: 5,863,315 USD Total: 6,279,205 USD</b>	<b>GEF Incremental Cost related to Component 2 (Participation, diversity and equity) in project area: 415,890 USD</b>
<b>Component 3: Investment for Policy Implementation</b>	Strategic national implementation frameworks in GGW countries include training stakeholders in relation to policies for land degradation and sustainable investments (e.g. Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Mauritania, Senegal). However, <b>low implementation of frameworks, plus low implementation of policies, is maintaining weak capacities of actors to address DLDD</b>	<b>Improved capacities to address barriers to SLM and halting desertification</b> by various trainings that will enable stakeholders to realize all values which will accrue from sustainable land management in drylands which will be much higher than the comparative costs occurring for the respective capacity building activities.  <b>Improved local planning and articulation of SLM priorities</b> that will lead to a more integrated implementation of the GGW and prioritization that will lead to optimum resource allocation.	Improvement of capacities to address barriers to SLM and increase values of sustainable land management
	Continued <b>lack of practical knowledge of SLM and good policies</b>	<b>Improved information of stakeholders about responsible</b>	Enhance responsible investment within the GGW

	<b>for investment</b> will further promote land degradation and desertification as a result of lack of investments and the related costs and detriments to human well-being. Additionally irresponsible and unaccountable investments could lead to the destruction of environmental resources and economic and social exploitation of communities	<b>investments and accountability</b> as well as their own role and rights within investment agreements will create synergies of private sector and land users.	SLM priorities integrated in local plans
	Without adequate policy, <b>irresponsible and unaccountable investors will take advantage of gaps in knowledge of local land users</b> and may impoverish or displace them. Business As Usual- will lead to continued unsustainable practices and misallocation of resources	<b>Improved skills in attracting appropriate investments</b> that will allow communities and land to benefit from responsible and accountable investments and enable communities to plan and control the use of financial resources leading to a community managed base for GGW implementation.	Increase investment in the GGW  Improve accountability of investment at community level
	<b>Cost of baseline activities related to Component 3 (Investment for Policy Implementation) in project area: 3,445,318 USD</b>	<b>Cost of project intervention related to Component 3 (Investment for Policy Implementation) in project area:</b> <b>GEF funds: 552,340 USD</b> <b>Co-finance: 3,445,318 USD</b> <b>Total: 3,997,658 USD</b>	<b>GEF Incremental Cost related to Component 3 (Investment for Policy Implementation) in project area: 552,340 USD</b>

A.6 Risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and measures that address these risks:

The risk analysis developed during the PIF stage was analysed and a comprehensive Risk analysis table developed and presented below.

### Table of risk and mitigation measures

Risk	Level	Mitigation measure
Inadequate access to government stakeholders and decision making processes may constrain efforts towards multi-stakeholder dialogue.	Medium	IUCN's role as a convenor will be used in countries that are IUCN State members to counter this. This will improve access to government partners and hence strengthen the multi-stakeholder dialogues.  The project will be used to illustrate the role Civil Society can play in partnership with government.
Some marginal groups might not be accepted in the networks. Particularly in countries with a history of conflict between pastoralists and farmers there are challenges with building a concerted voice.	Low	A principle of engagement with this project is equity. Whilst this constraint may be generally encountered, it will be carefully managed through project partnership agreements.  Where the voice of women is not well respected the project will demonstrate the value of women's knowledge and highlight their role as natural resource managers in order to build acceptance.
Insufficient Civil Society actors will be motivated to engage in the GGW and UNCCD processes	Low	The project will use appropriate awareness-raising materials, and ensure effective communication of evidence of progress/change, both within countries and regionally/globally
Emergencies emerge within target countries that derail other policy discourse and focus all attention	Medium	Whilst the likelihood of emergencies is high, the project is explicitly designed to demonstrate the value of appropriate SLM

on emergency response		approaches and therefore project partners will actively engage with other actors to ensure adherence to good practices
Despite advocacy for pastoralists, overarching political conflicts or farmer-herder conflicts might be too severe to mitigate	Low	The project is structured to mitigate this risk, with specific activities targeting general awareness of pastoralism and strengthening the engagement of pastoralists in dialogue. With its polycentric approach, the project might provide niches for pastoralists where they can adequately integrate into the GGW and benefit from it despite overarching conflicts. Lessons learnt from these efforts will also serve in other conflicts and other areas.
GGW investment opportunities may be unattractive to private sector actors, providing low returns or high transaction costs	Medium	The ecologic and economic valuation techniques and improved negotiation skills provided by the project will ensure that at least the number of investors or amount of investments will at least reach the targeted value. Evidence shows that investment opportunities are high, but the scarcity of private finance is nevertheless a frequent challenge. Activities in the project are designed to address this by identifying 'appropriate' investment options, which takes into consideration access to capital.
Market failures and other barriers to the GGWI may limit opportunities for capitalising on social and ecological values of SLM through innovations such as environmental performance vouchers and facilities for eco-risk capital and the sale of management rights.	High	The project includes activities that are designed to address this risk by identifying appropriate investments and initiating dialogue with private sector actors over how to address investment options.
Communication costs might be too high to afford a communication network which is dense enough to build a "critical mass."	Low	The project will assess the "critical mass" necessary to target as well as the appropriate communication channels, ensure highest efficiency of communication and allocate budgets accordingly.  Using IUCN's experience in establishing similar networks the focus will be on a low-cost self-sustaining network that sets realistic expectations around knowledge sharing and advocacy

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

This project is closely linked to two regional GEF-funded projects for the GGW implementation:

- 1) The Building Resilience through Innovation Communication and Knowledge Services (BRICKS)
- 2) SAWAP (Sahel and West Africa Program (of the GGWSSI))

As the Executing Agency of the Project, IUCN with support from UNEP will ensure coordination and synergy with the above projects and initiatives. In this perspective, African Union Coordination of the Great Green Wall initiative has been actively involved during the PPG stage and it is agreed that they will ensure proper coordination and collaboration of this project and other GGW initiative. The African Union Coordination of the GGW will liaise also with the African Agency of the GGW. The two AU bodies will integrate project activities and outcomes in its Communication strategy and ensure a coherent implementation of initiatives linked with the GGW. There will be exchange of information for better action. The CSO, who are playing an active role in this project will use the networks to conduct advocacy and lobbying and will serve as channel for information sharing.

National GEF projects in support of the GGW, including LD and other projects that may not have an explicit GGW link, will be connected through partnership with national governments and engagement with national GGW Coordination mechanisms. Indeed, an explicit outcome of this project is to strengthen national coordination through existing mechanisms and national GEF projects offer an important entry point. The project will consult extensively in the inception phase of the project to identify opportunities for improving coordination, for ensuring a thorough identification of stakeholders, and to make sure effective coordination. Country activities under this project will involve

staff working on existing GEF projects and regional activities will similarly ensure that national GEF partners are engaged and can participate.

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

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

Stakeholder Participation in the Great Green Wall Initiative is the major goal of the project. Stakeholder participation within this project is based on the same principles of polycentrism and multi-stakeholder involvement.

The project will strengthen networks and networking in participating countries and at regional level through organization of public fora, awareness raising, and through capacity building activities with partners already active in GGW and UNCCD implementation. This work will include existing self-organization centres. The initiative will bring new actors into these networks including those in the conservation sector and those in both the development and the relief sector; actors whose work has significant implications for sustainable land management. Furthermore, IUCN will work through state members to strengthen links between government sectors and to enable focal points to UNCCD and the GGW to better understand the state of activity and progress in their countries; this element responds directly to concerns raised by GGW focal points at the BRICKS inception meeting (March 2014). IUCN will strengthen links with marginalized groups in networks and dialogue on SLM through existing structures including the World Initiative for Sustainable Pastoralism and the World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples. Through IUCN members in non-francophone countries this initiative will improve links between GGW members, strengthening exchange of experiences as well as the effectiveness of regional policies. Specific activities will target women as natural resource managers who increasingly play a leading role as men take on more off-farm (off-land) roles. In addition to the above mentioned approach, the partners engagement in the project will be based on the following criteria:

1- Pre-identified project partners: During the PPG phase, partners CSO recognized to have the capacity and experience to execute agreed activities are already identified as project executing partners based on their commitment to the project expressed through their strong participation in consultation process. These organizations have materialized their commitment through the letters of support. However, there will be possibility to adjust and adapt the list of partners during project execution so as to ensure a transparent process of partners' involvement and experience and capacity of partners leverage to support implementation.

2- Non-identified project partners: Considering the nature of the work to be done, the experience and capacity of other partners will be assessed based on the expression of interest to be made public through appropriate means in line with IUCN procedures as Executing Agency but also with due respect of universally accepted rules of transparency.

3 - CSOs engagement in the project through their participation in learning fora and trainings: These events will be open to participants who will be identified as relevant during the identification by the project team, national Great Green Wall coordination and from the guidance received by the project steering Committee. Consideration will be given to:

- Representation of women
- Representation of minorities groups
- Geographical balance
- Strategic added value to the GGW initiative
- Demonstrated commitment to the issues under discussion (including the GGW)

The role and responsibilities of the majors stakeholders are summarized in table below:

Stakeholders	Role/Responsibilities in the project
1- IUCN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executing Agency (EA) of the project;</li> <li>• Ensure project activities implementation coordination;</li> <li>• Lead on technical coordination and providing administrative backstopping for the project</li> <li>• Run the project on a day-to-day basis and guide the long term strategic positioning of the project in the wider GGWSSI</li> </ul>
2- African Union commission on the GGW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure coordination with AU programmes and other projects and Programme of or related to the GGW</li> <li>• Integrate project activities and outcomes in its Communication strategy</li> <li>• Ensure a coherent implementation of initiatives linked with the GGW</li> </ul>
3- Pan African Agency GGW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support coordination and cross-linkages between actions and initiatives in the countries of the GGW</li> </ul>
4- National Agencies GGW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support coordination and cross-linkages between actions and initiatives in the countries of the GGW</li> </ul>
5- Civil society network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocacy and lobbying</li> <li>• Redistribution of information</li> <li>• Alert and monitoring of activities implemented in the framework of the GGW initiative</li> <li>• Capitalization of good practices and sharing of knowledge</li> </ul>
6- Private Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the project by valuing NTFP and developing agro-sylvo-pastoral micro-enterprises within the GGW countries</li> <li>• Support local development strategies within the GGW countries</li> </ul>
7- Other Initiatives (BRICKS; SAWAP; FLEUVE; Action against Desertification; PRAPS; etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share information for better action within the project area</li> <li>• Integrate project activities in their communication strategy</li> <li>• Co-organize events with regional impact</li> </ul>

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):

This project will strengthen the effectiveness of SLM interventions on the ground and in policy and will improve synergy between multiple sustainable development targets and MEAs. The project will link stakeholders to improve recognition of and support for the multiple benefits of SLM including poverty reduction and food security, conservation of biodiversity, and protection of ecosystem services, which include watersheds and hydrological cycles as well as soil carbon sequestration and mitigation of climate change. These multiple benefits will be better measured and understood leading to more favourable broad-based enabling investments.

*Summary Table indicating the GLOBAL Environment and Social Benefit*

Project Outputs	Global Environment and Social Benefit
	<p>As this project address GEF 5 <b>LD-4: Adaptive Management and Learning:</b> Increase capacity to apply adaptive management tools in SLM/SFM/INRM by GEF and UNCCD Parties, it will contribute to generate the following GEB and Social Benefits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improved provision of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem goods and services</li> <li>2. Reduced GHG emissions from agriculture, deforestation and forest degradation and increased carbon sequestration</li> <li>3. Reduced vulnerability of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem to</li> </ol>

	<p>climate change and other human-induced impacts.</p> <p>The socio-economic benefits listed are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sustained livelihoods for people dependent on the use and management of natural resources (land, water and biodiversity)</li> <li>2. Reduced vulnerability to impacts of climate change of people dependent on the use and management of natural resources in agricultural and forest ecosystems.</li> </ol> <p>The above GEBs will be achieved through the project outputs below:</p>
1.1. A 100% increase of governmental (ministries, departments) and nongovernmental actors actively engaged in SLM/GGW dialogue at different levels is obtained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Output 1.5 and 3.4 Information on SLM and INRM technologies and good practice guidelines disseminated</li> <li>• Output 4.1 Country investments in LD are linked to UNCCD action programs and national reporting process</li> <li>• SLM dialogue platform established/strengthened at national and regional level with increased diversity of sectoral stakeholders</li> </ul>
1.2. A Framework of indicators and participatory approaches is established by partners for greater understanding and monitoring of landscape system dynamics and the linkages between livelihood and conservation objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Output 4.1 Country investments are linked to UNCCD action programs and national reporting process</li> </ul>
1.3 Learning and awareness-raising publications are developed and endorsed by at least 5 countries through participatory process and disseminated to improve understanding and monitoring of landscape system dynamics and the linkages between livelihood and conservation objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Output 1.5 and 3.4 Information on SLM and INRM technologies and good practice guidelines disseminated</li> <li>• Output 4.2 GEF-financed projects contribute to SLM/SFM/INRM knowledge base</li> </ul>
1.4. 500 Government and NGO representatives trained in the use and interpretation of appropriate tools, including Total Economic Valuation of ecosystem goods and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Output 3.2 INRM tools and methodologies developed and tested</li> <li>• Output 3.3 Appropriate actions to diversify the financial resource base</li> </ul>
2.1. 10 networks strengthened at national and regional level and more engagement of civil society (especially marginalized group organizations) in government consultations and dialogue on the Great Green Wall and other SLM issues in all countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Output 1.5 and 3.4 Information on SLM and INRM technologies and good practice guidelines disseminated</li> </ul>
2.2. Learning fora conducted for 11 countries to address specific challenges related to engagement of marginalized groups in SLM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Output 1.5 and 3.4 Information on SLM and INRM technologies and good practice guidelines disseminated</li> </ul>
3.1. Training workshops for 11 countries to strengthen capacity of different actors (government, nongovernment and private sector) to identify and address policy implementation and investment barriers and opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Output 1.5 and 3.4 Information on SLM and INRM technologies and good practice guidelines disseminated</li> </ul>
3.2. A set of guidelines for improved private sector engagement, including recognition of the role of local land managers as private investors and identification of suitable enabling and asset investments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Output 3.3 Appropriate actions to diversify the financial resource base</li> <li>• Output 1.2 Types of Innovative SL/WM practices introduced at field level</li> </ul>
3.3. Local planning processes are improved in 30 locations through better participation of different stakeholder groups and sectors and greater capacity of those groups to articulate SLM priorities and benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Output 3.1 Integrated land management plans developed and implemented</li> </ul>



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

This project has identified a specific gap in implementation of the GGW related to the low engagement of a wide range of stakeholder groups and the limited emphasis on integrating environmental and development outcomes. The project provides a cost effective way to address these dual challenges by linking them in an integrated approach. By making the case for SLM as a way to deliver multiple economic, environmental and social goals it will be possible to convince disparate actors of the relevance of the GGW to their own institutional mandates. Conversely, by engaging actors from a diverse range of sectors and with diverse institutional mandates it will be possible to develop more consensus-oriented approaches for GGW implementation and deliver ecosystem-based approaches that achieve optimal outcomes that are in the greatest interest of the wider society.

The project relies on IUCN's unique added value as a convener of both government and nongovernmental institutions and other actors. This enhances cost-effectiveness by creating new avenues for dialogue and partnership building and access to decision-making processes that are currently non-consultative. In particular it gives the GEF a unique opportunity to convene the environmental and agricultural sectors, along with other natural resource sectors, to ensure more comprehensive planning of interventions at the ecosystem scale for more resilient development.

The GEF support will increase the cost-effectiveness of other investments, including by participating governments who will benefit from improved collaboration, better coordination, and fewer harmful investments. Economic valuation of ecosystem services will assist in identifying investments that generate optimal aggregate returns across a number of goods and services, thereby justifying greater investment of scarce funds in sustainable practices that provide multiple benefits to society.

Furthermore, the project will allow generating the full values accruing from pastoralism, SLWM and the labour input of women. It will furthermore ensure higher equity of value distribution. It is assumed that expected financial outputs of Component 1 and 2 will be at least 2 – 3 times higher than project costs. Finally, Component 3 of the project will ensure that more investments will be generated. If the project would only attract investments of about USD 500 000 per partner country, cost effectiveness of only Component 3 would be 3 – 4 times higher than project costs. *Cf. Appendix 2 of the current document.*

Substantial investments are already being made in the GGW and it is already evident that there are policies and practices that have contributed to land degradation that continue to be implemented under the new efforts. Many stakeholders remain on the periphery of GGW implementation and their land use systems or management practices are overlooked in GGW strategies. Reporting on progress tends to be limited to a few direct interventions led by a few government agencies and many relevant examples of progress go unreported; indeed, some governments raised their concern that GGW agencies are not even aware of relevant investments in other government ministries, let alone the work of nongovernmental organisations and the private sector. The GGW is explicitly an integrated approach to capture the economic, social and environmental benefits of sustainable land management, just as the UNCCD is explicitly a convention that spans the development and environment sectors. However, in practice policy and practice remain fragmented and the environmental benefits of SLM are under-reported or completely overlooked. Opportunities for synergy between the 3 Rio MEAs are poorly exploited and the multiple benefits of SLM are routinely under-reported.

### **B.4. Communication, awareness raising and visibility**

The project will take all necessary measures to ensure the visibility of GEF financing. Such measures will be in accordance with the need to give adequate publicity to the action being implemented as well as to the support from the GEF and partners agencies. Therefore, a budgeted communication and visibility plan will be outlined in the

project annual work plans. This will include, inter alia, the compulsory use of the GEF and partners agencies logo on all material, publications, leaflets, brochures and newsletters, websites, business cards, signage, supplies and equipment, display panels, commemorative plaques, banners, promotional items, photographs, audiovisual productions, public events and visits and information campaigns.

The project will aim to raise the SLM awareness of members of the national and regional stakeholders be requested to (i) consider integrating SLM activities into their sectoral activities and (ii) issue formal endorsements or decision to facilitate and strengthen SLM initiatives—particularly those related to the GGW. Stakeholder empowerment and commitment to SLM at all levels, both men and women will remain *the* key strategic element in the project implementation. The awareness actions carried out under the project will be to provide all stakeholders or the larger public with an overview of the project results and the necessary behavioral changes. There will be a focus on the need to establish a participatory management system to ensure success of SLM and GGW initiatives. To communicate the achievements of the different SLM initiative, there will be organization of special outreach and awareness activities which will encourage and facilitate collection of comments from stakeholders.

In order to contribute significantly in the knowledge management process and lessons learning, the project key products (reports, guidelines, review documents, etc.) will undergo peer-review and publishing opportunities will be identified and considered for wider sharing. Peer review in scientific journals will be explored on key specific products related for example to private sector engagement, sustainable pastoralism, environmental economic of SLM etc.

### **C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M & E PLAN:**

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 monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan is consistent with UNEP procedures and the GEF Monitoring and Evaluation policy.

Project 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 (PIR) 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 Annex 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 Annex 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.,

The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) 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.

## Costed M&E Workplan

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget from GEF (USD)	Budget co-finance (USD) (Cash & In-kind)	Time Frame
Inception Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	51,100 <sup>14</sup>	61,500	Within 2 months of project start-up
Inception Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	0	15,000	1 month after project inception meeting
Measurement of project indicators (outcome, progress and performance indicators, GEF tracking tools) at national and regional level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	0	21,000	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>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	0	135,000	Within 1 month of the end of reporting period i.e. on or before 31 January and 31 July
Project Steering Committee meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	51,360	136,500	Once a year minimum
Reports of PSC meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	0	15,000	Annually
PIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	0	100,500	Annually, part of reporting routine
Monitoring visits to field sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	15,400	0	As appropriate
Mid Term Review/Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	21,000	62,250	At mid-point of project implementation
Terminal Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	21,000	62,250	Within 6 months of end of project implementation
Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ Finance &amp; administrative Officer</li> </ul>	22,500	0	Annually
Project Final Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	0	135,000	Within 2 months of the project completion date
Co-financing report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project Manager</li> </ul>	0	150,000	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>▪ Project Manager</li> <li>▪ IUCN project Technical adviser</li> </ul>	5,000	250,000	Annually, part of Semi-annual reports & Project Final Report
<b>Total M&amp;E Plan Budget</b>		<b>187,360</b>	<b>1,144,000</b>	

<sup>14</sup> This amount will cover participation from 11 GGW countries national and CSO representatives, communication/media coverage and other meeting cost.

## **Project Inception Phase**

A Project Inception Workshop (IW) will be held within the first three (3) months of project start-up with the participation of the full project team, relevant counterparts, co-financing partners, and the UNEP Focal Point, as appropriate. A fundamental objective of the IW will be to help the project team to understand and take ownership of the project's goal and objectives, as well as finalize preparation of the project's first annual work plan on the basis of the project results framework and the GEF Tracking Tool. This will include reviewing the results framework (indicators, means of verification, and assumptions), imparting additional detail as needed, and on the basis of this exercise, finalizing the Annual Workplan (AWP) with precise and measurable performance indicators, and in a manner consistent with the expected outcomes for the project. Specific targets for the first-year implementation progress indicators together with their means of verification will be developed at the inception workshop. These will be used to assess whether implementation is proceeding at the intended pace and in the right direction and will form part of the Annual Work Plan.

Additionally, the purpose and objective of the IW will be to: a) introduce project staff to project stakeholders that will support the project during its implementation; b) detail the roles, support services, and complementary responsibilities of UNEP staff in relation to the project team; c) provide a detailed overview of UNEP-GEF reporting and M&E requirements, with particular emphasis on the Annual Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs) and related documentation, the Annual Project Report (APR), mid-term review, final evaluation and financial reporting. Equally, the Inception Workshop will provide an opportunity to inform the project team on UNEP project-related budgetary planning, budget reviews including arrangements for annual audit, and mandatory budget re-phrasings. The IW will also provide an opportunity for all parties to understand their roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's decision-making structures, including reporting and communication lines and conflict resolution mechanisms.

The Terms of Reference (ToRs) for project staff and decision-making structures will be discussed again, as needed, in order to clarify each party's responsibilities during the project's implementation phase. A report on the Inception Workshop is a key reference document and must be prepared and shared with participants.

## **Monitoring Responsibilities and Events**

A detailed schedule of project review meetings will be developed by the project management in consultation with project implementation partners and stakeholder representatives and incorporated in the Project Inception Report. Such a schedule will include: a) tentative timeframes for Project Steering Committee meetings (and other relevant advisory and/or coordination mechanisms); and b) project-related M&E activities.

Day-to-day monitoring of implementation progress will be the responsibility of the Project Manager (PM) based on the project's Annual Work Plan and its indicators. The PM will inform the UNEP, on behalf of the Executing Agency of any delays or difficulties faced during implementation so that the appropriate support or corrective measures can be adopted in a timely and remedial fashion. The PM will fine-tune the progress and performance/impact indicators of the project in consultation with the full project team at the IW with support from UNEP Task Manager.

At the inception workshop, specific targets for the first-year implementation progress indicators together with their means of verification will be developed. Targets and indicators for subsequent years will be defined annually as part of the internal evaluation and planning processes undertaken by the project team. Measurement of impact indicators related to global benefits will be done during the annual evaluation.

Periodic monitoring of implementation progress will be undertaken by the UNEP Task Manager through six-monthly exchanges with the project implementation team, or more frequently as deemed necessary. This will allow parties to take stock of and to troubleshoot any problems pertaining to the project in a timely fashion to ensure the timely implementation of project activities. The UNEP Task Manager, as appropriate, will conduct yearly visits to the project's field sites, or more often based on an agreed upon schedule to be detailed in the project's Inception Report/AWP to assess first-hand project progress. Any other member of the Steering Committee can also take part in these trips, as decided by the Steering Committee and as determined by project resources. A Field Visit Report will be prepared by the UNEP Task Manager and circulated no less than one month after the visit to the project team, all Steering Committee members, and UNEP-GEF.

Annual monitoring will occur through the Project Steering Committee (PSC) meetings. This is the highest policy-level meeting of the parties directly involved in the implementation of a project. The project will be subject to Project Steering Committee meeting at least once every year.

The first such meeting will be held within the first twelve (12) months of the start of full implementation. The Project Manager will prepare an Annual Project Report (APR) and submit it to UNEP GEF Task Manager at least two weeks prior to the PSC for review and comments. The APR will be used as one of the basic documents for discussions Project Steering Committee meeting. The Project Manager will present the APR to the PSC, highlighting policy issues and recommendations for the decision of the PSC. The Project Manager will also inform the participants of any agreement reached by stakeholders during the APR preparation on how to resolve operational issues. Separate reviews of each project component may also be conducted if necessary. UNEP has the authority to suspend disbursement if project performance benchmarks are not met. Benchmarks will be conveyed by UNEP to project stakeholders at the IW, based on delivery rates and qualitative assessments of achievements of outputs.

The Terminal PSC Review is held in the last month of project operations. The Project Manager with guidance from UNEP is responsible for preparing the Terminal Report and submitting it to UNEP GEF. It shall be prepared in draft at least two months in advance of the PSC meeting in order to allow review, and will serve as the basis for discussions in the PSC meeting. The terminal PSC review considers the implementation of the project as a whole, paying particular attention to whether the project has achieved its stated objectives and contributed to the broader environmental objective. It decides whether any actions are still necessary, particularly in relation to sustainability of project results, and acts as a vehicle through which lessons learned can be captured to feed into other projects being implemented.

### **Project Monitoring Reporting**

The Project Manager, with guidance from UNEP-GEF team, will be responsible for the preparation and submission of the following reports that form part of the monitoring process and that are mandatory.

- A **Project Inception Report (IR)** will be prepared immediately following the IW. It will include a detailed First Year/AWP divided in quarterly timeframes detailing the activities and progress indicators that will guide implementation during the first year of the project. This work plan will include the dates of specific field visits, support missions from the UNEP Task Manager or consultants, as well as timeframes for meetings of the project's decision-making structures. The IR will also include the detailed project budget for the first full year of implementation, prepared on the basis of the AWP, and including any M&E requirements to effectively measure project performance during the targeted 12-month timeframe. The IR will include a more detailed narrative on the institutional roles, responsibilities, coordinating actions, and feedback mechanisms of project-related partners. In addition, a section will be included on progress to date on project establishment and start-up activities and an update of any changed external conditions that may affect project implementation. When finalized, the IR will be circulated to project counterparts who will be given a period of one calendar month in which to respond with comments or queries. Prior to the IR's circulation, the UNEP/GEF will review the document.
- The **Annual Project Report (APR)**. An APR will be prepared on an annual basis prior to the PSC Review, to reflect progress achieved in meeting the project's AWP and assess performance of the project in contributing to intended outcomes through outputs and partnership work. The format of the APR is flexible but should include the following sections: a) project risks, issues, and adaptive management; b) project progress against pre-defined indicators and targets, c) outcome performance; and d) lessons learned/best practices.
- The **Project Implementation Review (PIR)** is an annual monitoring process mandated by the GEF. It has become an essential management and monitoring tool for project managers and offers the main vehicle for extracting lessons from on-going projects. Once the project has been under implementation for one year, a PIR must be prepared by the project management and submitted by UNEP to the GEF. The PIR should then be discussed in the PSC meeting so that the result would be a PIR that has been agreed upon by the project counterparts and the UNEP. The individual PIRs are collected, reviewed, and analyzed by the UNEP Operational Focal Point prior to sending them to the GEF by UNEP-GEF Coordination Office.
- **Half year (July–December) Progress Reports** outlining main updates in project progress will be provided every six months to the UNEP/GEF Task Manager. The January – June progress report stands as the PIR described above.
- **Specific Thematic Reports** focusing on specific issues or areas of activity will be prepared by the project team

when requested by UNEP-GEF or the project implementing partners. The request for a Thematic Report will be provided to the project team in written form by UNEP and will clearly state the issue or activities that need to be reported on. These reports can be used as a form of lessons learned exercise, specific oversight in key areas, or as troubleshooting exercises to evaluate and overcome obstacles and difficulties encountered. UNEP is requested to minimize its requests for Thematic Reports, and when such are necessary will allow reasonable timeframes for their preparation by the project team.

- **A Project Terminal Report** will be prepared by the project team during the last three (3) months of the project. This comprehensive report will summarize all activities, achievements, and outputs of the project; lessons learned; objectives met or not achieved; structures and systems implemented, etc.; and will be the definitive statement of the project's activities during its lifetime. It will also lay out recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replicability of the project's activities.
- **Publications/Technical reports.** The project intends to publish some documents covering specific themes. In the Inception Report, the project team will prepare a draft list of publications that are expected during the course of the project, and tentative due dates.

Where necessary, this publications list will be revised and updated, and included in subsequent APRs. Publications may also be prepared by external consultants and should be comprehensive and specialized analyses of clearly defined theme of research within the framework of the project. These publications will represent, as appropriate, the project's substantive contribution to specific issues, and will be used in efforts to disseminate relevant information at local, national, and international levels.

### **Independent External Evaluation.**

The project will be subjected to at least two reviews/evaluations as follows. A Mid-Term Review will be undertaken at the mid-point of the project lifetime. The Mid-Term Review will determine progress being made towards the achievement of outcomes and will identify course correction if needed. It will focus on the effectiveness, efficiency, and timeliness of project implementation; will highlight issues requiring decisions and actions; and will present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation, and management. Findings of this review will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project's term. The organization, ToRs, and timing of the mid-term review will be decided after consultation between the parties to the project document. The ToRs for this Mid-Term Review will be prepared by the UNEP based on UNEP Evaluation Office guidance. The management response of the review will be uploaded to the UNEP corporate systems as necessary. The GEF Tracking Tool for the project will also be completed during the mid-term review cycle.

A Final Evaluation will take place three months prior to the terminal Steering Committee meeting, and will focus on the same issues as the Mid-Term Review. The Evaluation will also look at impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental goals. The Evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow-up activities and requires a management response. The ToRs for this evaluation will be prepared by the UNEP Evaluation Office in consultation with the UNEP Project Task Manger. The GEF Tracking Tool will also be completed during the final evaluation.

### **Audit Clause**

IUCN will provide the UNEP with certified periodic financial statements, and with an annual audit of the financial statements relating to the status of UNEP/GEF funds according to the procurement policy and procedures.

### **Learning and Knowledge Sharing**

Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention zone through a number of existing information sharing networks and forums. This includes networks, forums and events organized by the project itself as well as project-sponsored events (e.g. side events) at national and international fora. In addition, the project will participate, as relevant and appropriate, in UNEP-GEF sponsored networks, organized for Senior Personnel working on projects that share common characteristics.

UNEP-GEF Coordination Office has established an electronic platform for sharing lessons between the project managers. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to project implementation though lessons learned. The project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects.

Identifying and analyzing lessons learned is an on-going process, and the need to communicate such lessons as one of the project's central contributions is a requirement to be delivered not less frequently than once every twelve (12) months. UNEP-GEF shall provide a format and assist the project team in categorizing, documenting, and reporting on lessons learned. Specifically, the project will ensure coordination in terms of avoiding overlap, sharing best practices, and generating knowledge products of best practices in the area of L-SLM.

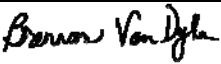
**PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)**

**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)
n/a	n/a	N/A	N/A

**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		June 3, 2016	Adamou Bouhari  Task Manager  BD/LD &RFP	+254207623860	Adamou.Bouhari@unep.org

**Annex A; Project Logframe – See Annex A in separate attachment**



**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).

Comments from GEF secretariat have been addressed at PIF stage. However, one comment, from comments of the 28 of May 2014 was stipulating that “the result framework is still very dense with 6 outcomes and 14 outputs. During the PPG, explore the possibility to simplify it, notably after discussing with other initiatives and projects.” To address this concern, during the stakeholders meeting on January 2015, reformulation of outcomes and outputs of the project was discussed based on initiatives and projects ongoing in the project area. Developing then the full project document, for each component, one outcome was defined taking into account the two previous outcomes. Currently, the project has 3 outcomes instead of 6.

The same process led to the formulation of outputs. The current project has 9 outputs instead of 14 as in the PIF.

Outcomes and outputs have been simplified in terms of number and formulation.

**ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS<sup>15</sup>**

A. PROVIDE DETAILED FUNDING AMOUNT OF THE PPG ACTIVITIES FINANCING STATUS IN THE TABLE BELOW:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: <b>100,000 USD</b>			
<b>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</b>	<b>GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Amount (\$)</b>		
	<b>Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Amount Spent To date</b>	<b>Amount Committed</b>
<b>Activity 1: Adaptive management and learning</b>	<b>16,400</b>	<b>16,775</b>	<b>0</b>
Consultant study (Assessment of significant knowledge gaps in GGW implementation and review of relevant knowledge products, and assessment of GGW reporting procedures in participating countries (Baseline study))	16,400	16,400	0
<b>Activity 2: Increased engagement of diverse stakeholders including marginalized groups, currently-disconnected branches of Civil Society, and different linguistic groups</b>	<b>52,625</b>	<b>52,625</b>	<b>0</b>
Stakeholder analysis	6,800	6,800	0
Regional Stakeholder Workshop (venue and meeting costs)	45,825	45,825	0

<sup>15</sup> If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue undertake the activities up to one year of project start. No later than one year from start of project implementation, Agencies should report this table to the GEF Secretariat on the completion of PPG activities and the amount spent for the activities.

<b>Activity 3: Stronger investment for policy implementations through awareness of policy and investment options and improved analysis of suitable investor groups</b>	<b>14,700</b>	<b>14,700</b>	<b>0</b>
Consultant study ( Review of policies that impact on GGW implementation, development of policy review framework for full project implementation, identifying policy opportunities as well as barriers or policy gaps (Baseline study))	14,700	14,700	0
<b>Activity 4: Institutional Analysis and assessment of partnerships</b>	<b>16,275</b>	<b>16,275</b>	<b>0</b>
Institutional Analysis and assessment of partnerships	16,275	16,275	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>0</b>

**ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used)**

Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Trust Fund or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)

**Other Annexes**

Annex F 1: Detailed GEF budget

Annex G: M&E Plan and budget

Annex H: Implementation Arrangement

Annex I: Key deliverables

Annex J: Tracking Tools

Annex L: Cofinancing Letters

Annex M: Environment and Social Safeguards

Annex N: Acronyms