



# GEF-6 REQUEST FOR ONE-STEP MEDIUM-SIZED PROJECT APPROVAL

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

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## PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

|                             |   |                              |         |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------|---------|
| Project Title:              | The Global Environmental Commons – Solutions for a Crowded Planet   |                              |         |
| Country(ies):               | Global  | GEF Project ID: <sup>1</sup> |         |
| GEF Agency(ies):            | IUCN (select) (select)  | GEF Agency Project ID:       |         |
| Other Executing Partner(s): | IUCN  | Submission Date:             |         |
| GEF Focal Area(s):          | Multi-focal Areas   | Project Duration (Months)    | 24      |
| Integrated Approach Pilot   | IAP-Cities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Commodities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Food Security <input type="checkbox"/> |                              |         |
| Name of Parent Program:     | [if applicable]   | Agency Fee (\$)              | 180,000 |

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

| Focal Area Objectives/programs    | Focal Area Outcomes  | Trust Fund | (in \$)               |              |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|                                   |  |            | GEF Project Financing | Co-financing |
| BD-4 Program 10 (select) (select) | Outcome 10.1 Biodiversity values and ecosystem service values integrated into accounting systems and internalized in development and finance policy and land-use planning and decision-making. | GEFTF      | 500,000               | 582,500      |
| (select) CCM-1 Program 2 (select) | Outcome B. Policy, planning and regulatory frameworks foster accelerated low GHG development and emissions mitigation  | GEFTF      | 500,000               | 582,500      |
| LD-4 Program 5 (select) (select)  | Outcome 4.2: Innovative mechanisms for multi-stakeholder planning and investments in SLM at scale s  | GEFTF      | 300,000               | 349,500      |
| IW-1 Program 1 (select) (select)  | Outcome 1.1: Political commitment/shared vision and improved governance demonstrated for joint, ecosystem-based management of transboundary water bodies.                                      | GEFTF      | 700,000               | 815,500      |
| (select) (select) (select)        |  | (select)   |                       |              |
| (select) (select) (select)        |  | (select)   |                       |              |
| (select) (select) (select)        |  | (select)   |                       |              |
| (select) (select) (select)        |  | (select)   |                       |              |
| <b>Total project costs</b>        |  |            | 2,000,000             | 2,330,000    |

### B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

**Project Objective: The project will design and catalyze the adoption of innovative, integrated and transformational solutions in key societal sectors to ensure a sustainable pathway for the future of the planet and for humanity.**

| Project Components/ Programs  | Financing Type <sup>3</sup> | Project Outcomes  | Project Outputs  | Trust Fund | (in \$)               |                        |
|---|-----------------------------|---|--|------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
|   |                             |   |  |            | GEF Project Financing | Confirmed Co-financing |
| 1. Science based assessment process to improve management of the Global Environmental Commons | TA                          | 1.1 Greater understanding of the main drivers of environmental degradation, links and synergies among them, their | 1.1 White paper analyzing planetary boundary concept, main drivers of boundary | GEFTF      | 255,000               | 585,000                |

<sup>1</sup> Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC and to be entered by Agency in subsequent document submissions.

<sup>2</sup> When completing Table A, refer to the excerpts on [GEF 6 Results Frameworks for GETF, LDCF and SCCF](#).

<sup>3</sup> Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

|   |    |   |  |       |         |         |
|---|----|---|--|-------|---------|---------|
|   |    | influence on planetary boundaries and potential solutions for sustaining the Global Commons   | transgressions and potential solutions for a crowded planet<br><br>1.2 White paper and WCC workshop analyzing how improved management and conservation of nature contributes to sustaining the Global Commons  |       |         |         |
| 2. "Global Environmental Commons – Solutions for a Crowded Planet" Science-Policy Dialogue and World Conference | TA | 2.1 Development and adoption of integrated, innovative and transformative solutions that can be mainstreamed into national and international policies<br><br>2.2 Increased high-level, cross-sector, international commitment for Global Commons agenda | 2.1 Advisory Board established to review white papers and advise on Conference<br><br>2.2 Implementation roadmaps for solutions<br><br>2.3 Adoption/endorsement of executive version of Global Commons white paper<br><br>2.4 Call To Action for Planetary Stewardship | GEFTF | 789,581 | 800,000 |

|  |          |  |  |          |                  |                  |
|--|----------|--|--|----------|------------------|------------------|
| 3. Strategic outreach to create a movement for sustaining the Global Commons | TA       | 3.1 Increased awareness, engagement and support for Global Commons agenda among target audiences | 3.1 Communications strategy developed<br>3.2 Dissemination of white paper messages and conference outcomes<br>3.3 Youth engagement, targeted digital media campaign<br>3.4 Op-ed, web stories, blog posts and media briefings<br>3.5 Global Commons web platform and brand | GEFTF    | 347,500          | 340,000          |
| 4. Towards implementing Solutions for the Global Commons                     | TA       | 4.1 Implementation pathways for solutions enhanced   | 4.1 Implementation roadmaps for advancing solutions (i.e. short papers and/or dialogue processes with key stakeholders)<br>4.2 Feasibility studies for pilot interventions   | GEFTF    | 426,101          | 425,000          |
|  | (select) |  |  | (select) |                  |                  |
|  | (select) |  |  | (select) |                  |                  |
|  | (select) |  |  | (select) |                  |                  |
|  | (select) |  |  | (select) |                  |                  |
| Subtotal   |          |  |  |          | 1,818,182        | 2,150,000        |
| Project Management Cost (PMC) <sup>4</sup>                                   |          |  |  | GEFTF    | 181,818          | 180,000          |
| <b>Total GEF Project Financing</b>   |          |  |  |          | <b>2,000,000</b> | <b>2,330,000</b> |

For multi-trust fund projects, provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: ( )

<sup>4</sup> For GEF Project Financing up to \$2 million, PMC could be up to 10% of the subtotal; above \$2 million, PMC could be up to 5% of the subtotal. PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project financing amount in Table D below.

**C. SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE**

Please include confirmed co-financing letters for the project with this form.

| Sources of Co-financing   | Name of Co-financier  | Type of Co-financing | Amount (\$) |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------|-------------|
| GEF Agency                | IUCN  | In-kind              | 1,996,000   |
| Others                    | International Institute for Applied System Analysis - IIASA | In-kind              | 167,000     |
| Others                    | Stockholm Resilience Center - SRC                           | In-kind              | 167,000     |
| (select)                  |   | (select)             |             |
| (select)                  |   | (select)             |             |
| (select)                  |   | (select)             |             |
| (select)                  |   | (select)             |             |
| (select)                  |   | (select)             |             |
| <b>Total Co-financing</b> |   |                      | 2,330,000   |

**D. GEF/LDCF/SCCF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES), FOCAL AREA AND PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS**

| GEF Agency                   | Trust Fund | Country/Regional/Global | Focal Area           | Programming of Funds   | (in \$)                   |                              |               |
|------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
|                              |            |                         |                      |                        | GEF Project Financing (a) | Agency Fee <sup>a)</sup> (b) | Total (c)=a+b |
| IUCN                         | GEF TF     | Global                  | Biodiversity         | (select as applicable) | 500,000                   | 45,000                       | 545,000       |
| IUCN                         | GEF TF     | Global                  | Climate Change       | (select as applicable) | 500,000                   | 45,000                       | 545,000       |
| IUCN                         | GEF TF     | Global                  | Land Degradation     | (select as applicable) | 300,000                   | 27,000                       | 327,000       |
| IUCN                         | GEF TF     | Global                  | International Waters | (select as applicable) | 700,000                   | 63,000                       | 763,000       |
| (select)                     | (select)   |                         | (select)             | (select as applicable) |                           |                              | 0             |
| (select)                     | (select)   |                         | (select)             | (select as applicable) |                           |                              | 0             |
| (select)                     | (select)   |                         | (select)             | (select as applicable) |                           |                              | 0             |
| (select)                     | (select)   |                         | (select)             | (select as applicable) |                           |                              | 0             |
| (select)                     | (select)   |                         | (select)             | (select as applicable) |                           |                              | 0             |
| (select)                     | (select)   |                         | (select)             | (select as applicable) |                           |                              | 0             |
| <b>Total Grant Resources</b> |            |                         |                      |                        | 2,000,000                 | 180,000                      | 2,180,000     |

a) Refer to the [Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies](#).

**E. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS<sup>5</sup>**

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

| Corporate Results  | Replenishment Targets  | Project Targets                 |
|--|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society | Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares  | N/A hectares                    |
| 2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)          | 120 million hectares under sustainable land management   | N/A hectares                    |
| 3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of   | Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins; | N/A Number of freshwater basins |

<sup>5</sup> Provide those indicator values in this table to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the projects per the *Corporate Results Framework* in the [GEF-6 Programming Directions](#), will be aggregated and reported during mid-term and at the conclusion of the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and/or SCCF.

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services   | 20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels                                  | <i>N/A Percent of fisheries, by volume</i> |
| 4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path  | 750 million tons of CO <sub>2e</sub> mitigated (include both direct and indirect)                                      | <i>N/A metric tons</i>                     |
| 5. Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern   | Disposal of 80,000 tons of POPs (PCB, obsolete pesticides)   | <i>N/A metric tons</i>                     |
|  | Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury  | <i>N/A metric tons</i>                     |
|  | Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)   | <i>N/A ODP tons</i>                        |
| 6. Enhance capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks | Development and sectoral planning frameworks integrate measurable targets drawn from the MEAs in at least 10 countries | <i>Number of Countries: N/A</i>            |
|  | Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries       | <i>Number of Countries: N/A</i>            |

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

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

**G. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)<sup>6</sup>**

Is Project Preparation Grant requested? Yes  No  If no, skip item G.

**PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS\***

| GEF Agency              | Trust Fund | Country/<br>Regional/Global | Focal Area           | Programming of Funds   | (in \$)       |                             |                 |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
|                         |            |                             |                      |                        | PPG (a)       | Agency Fee <sup>7</sup> (b) | Total c = a + b |
| IUCN                    | GEF TF     | Global                      | International Waters | (select as applicable) | 7,500         | 675                         | 8,175           |
| IUCN                    | GEF TF     | Global                      | Climate Change       | (select as applicable) | 7,500         | 675                         | 8,175           |
| <b>Total PPG Amount</b> |            |                             |                      |                        | <b>15,000</b> | <b>1,350</b>                | <b>16,350</b>   |

**PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION**

1. *Project Description.* Briefly describe: a) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; b) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, c) the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area<sup>8</sup> strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, d) [incremental/ additional cost reasoning](#) and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF/SCCF and [co-financing](#); e) [global environmental benefits](#) (GEFTF), and [adaptation benefits](#) (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

A. Global environmental problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

Despite the recognition that healthy ecosystems and a stable climate are crucial for sustainable development, human activity is driving widespread global environmental change and degradation. Now exceeding 7 billion

<sup>6</sup> PPG of up to \$50,000 is reimbursable to the country upon approval of the MSP.

<sup>7</sup> PPG fee percentage follows the percentage of the Agency fee over the GEF Project Financing amount requested.

<sup>8</sup> For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project’s consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives and programs, please also describe which [Aichi Target\(s\)](#) the project will directly contribute to achieving.

people, the world's human population is putting enormous pressure on the earth's finite resources and is projected to exceed 9 billion by 2050. The effects of climate change are already being felt, disproportionately by the world's most vulnerable societies. Water resources are being overexploited and degraded, deforestation rates remain high, and a quarter of the world's land has been degraded in just over three decades. Some have argued that planetary boundaries, defined as a safe operating space for humanity, are being transgressed (overstepped) along several dimensions, specifically with respect to climate change, rate of biodiversity loss, and changes to the global nitrogen cycle. For example, the current rate of species extinction parallels the mass extinction events seen in geologic history.

If trends continue unabated, further deterioration of the global environment can be expected, primarily as a result of population growth, the rising middle class, and urbanization. Feeding a growing global population will likely lead to increased conversion of natural landscapes to agriculture. Rising per capita income levels and a growing middle class is projected to increase global demand for food, water and energy by 35, 40 and 50 percent respectively by 2030, as well as stimulate a large increase in demand for buildings and transportation. Climate change, unsustainable wild harvest, and invasive species and diseases are expected to exacerbate environmental stress in many areas.

The widespread refugee crisis currently unfolding across the Middle East may be a symptom of such drivers. Along with political unrest, these migrations are seemingly associated with unprecedented drought and an associated mass movement of people from rural to urban areas. Further 'ecological implosions' leading to large-scale movement of people across borders and continents in the next decades are likely to be set in motion. If climate extremes are to increase unhaltingly, the world is likely to witness hundreds of millions of 'climate refugees' on the move from flooded deltas in Asia, uninhabitable heat in the Middle East and droughts and floods impacting livelihoods in Africa.

Urgent action and finance is needed to curb further degradation of currently habitable and highly populated areas, prevent conversion of natural areas, and motivate large-scale investments in sustainability and resilience. The degradation of the global environment is increasingly jeopardizing the world's ability to realize global, regional and local development decisions. It is clear that societal decisions made in the next decade will determine the planet's future.

#### B. Baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in Sept 2015 hold the promise of a fresh start for the planet and will serve as a launch pad for concerted action to promote shared prosperity and well-being for all in the 21st century. A core component of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the SDGs recognize that the health of the Global Commons—all of the natural assets and systems that underpin human survival on the planet—is essential for a thriving world. The SDGs provide a guide for action in key areas requiring investment to transform economies to live and prosper within planetary boundaries. Indicators and mechanisms for tracking the SDGs and its sub-targets have not yet been finalized through the formal Interagency Expert Group process (this is anticipated in 2016), but the Sustainable Development Solutions Network has achieved substantial progress in demonstrating what these core indicators might look like.

More recently, at the COP21 climate negotiations in Paris, 195 countries adopted the first universal agreement to keep global temperature rise in this century to be below 2 degrees Celsius and to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 C above pre-industrial levels. The agreement seeks to address climate change with actions and investments towards a low carbon, resilient, and sustainable future. Countries agreed on a long-term direction to peak their emissions as soon as possible, and to steadily increase their ambition to address climate change with transparency and accountability. The agreement recognizes the need for adaptation to deal with climate impacts, and encompasses loss and damage to strengthen the ability to recover from climate impacts. What is also notable about the outcomes of COP21 is the global recognition of the need for integrated action across all sectors, including in terms of conserving and enhancing natural ecosystems, for successfully addressing climate change.

As these achievements exemplify, the baseline scenario shows encouraging progress in tackling rapidly mounting global issues. There is growing effort dedicated to negotiating international agreements, conventions and other specialized accords. In parallel, voluntary coalitions are emerging between select groups of nations, 6

the private sector, civil society organizations, environmental and humanitarian organizations, and international institutions to leapfrog the transition of economies towards more sustainable pathways. There is also increasing awareness and knowledge on how human development can work with nature, for example in establishing and managing protected areas and in valuing natural infrastructure as an asset that can enhance flows of ecosystem services, provide essential links in the food chain and increase resilience. Many of these initiatives offer the opportunity for successful platforms to be built and amplified nationally, regionally and globally.

The baseline situation also demonstrates that good progress has been made on the ground, much of it supported by GEF, to address addressing single sector objectives through single focal areas, such as conserving globally important biodiversity and reducing threats to freshwater. The magnitude of the current environmental crisis, however, demands solutions and long-term incentive structures link across sectors, go beyond territorial boundaries, and involve cooperative action at regional and global levels. A sustainable and prosperous future will require actions and commitment by stakeholders at all levels for a shift to a 'planet smart growth'.

### C. Proposed alternative scenario, brief description of expected outcomes and project components

The alternative scenario envisioned is the widespread awareness of the integral importance of staying within the safe operating limits for the Planet in order to provide for long term economic prosperity for all across the globe and catalyzing commitment and actions to adopt, finance and implement solutions that integrate different sectors (e.g. finance, energy, food, water, environment, social development) for more comprehensive impact; are innovative in bringing together different stakeholders (e.g. private sector and governments, NGOs and indigenous peoples, coalitions of nations that face similar challenges); and are transformative in that they can be brought to scale and mainstreamed into relevant national and international policies.

The 25th anniversary of the GEF provides a milestone to take stock of what has been achieved and identify future pathways for safeguarding the Global Commons, including commitments embedded in the recent SDGs and COP21. The objective of this project is to design and catalyze adoption of innovative, integrated and transformational solutions in key societal sectors for sustaining the Global Commons, to ensure a sustainable pathway for the future of the planet and for humanity. It will combine a science-based analysis and approach with an innovative policy and world leader's dialogue to design solutions for addressing humanity's most pressing environmental problems.

To catalyze an agenda for safeguarding the Global Commons, the project will:

- Identify the priority issues facing the Global Commons and propose actionable solutions for a crowded planet with an emphasis on integration, innovation and transformation;
- Bring together intellectual and scientific leaders with 'dot connectors' who can translate and amplify the message to non-expert audiences;
- Leverage commitment and finance for the implementation of solutions by catalyzing a critical debate among leaders from within and outside the conservation community; and
- Release a Call to Action for Planetary Stewardship at a World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons.

The World Conference will tackle challenges fundamental to the future of the planet. For example, the COP21 climate agreement calls for the de-carbonization of the global economy, which can only be achieved through innovation and transformation. The need for global transformation as agreed in Paris will be reflected in the Call for Action for planetary stewardship and the solutions for a crowded planet derived through this project.

This project squarely addresses the five strategic priorities outlined in the GEF2020 strategy, and the recommendations emerging from the global dialogue will inform the directions for GEF-7 (2018-2022). IUCN, as the world's largest conservation union, has the breadth of thematic expertise and networks to facilitate this process in partnership with other like-minded global partners, including GEFSEC. IUCN will partner with the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and the Stockholm Research Center (SRC) and relevant Commissions Experts in applying systems analysis to research problems of a global nature and generate policy-relevant solutions.

The project will be implemented through four main components: (1) a science based assessment and preparatory dialogue process, (2) Science-Policy Dialogue and World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons, (3) strategic media outreach, and (4) implementation support. Ensuring integration across sectors, including in the selection of leaders attending the World Conference, will be a priority for all project components.

#### Component 1. Science based assessment process to improve management of the Global Commons

This first component will provide a strong scientific foundation for identifying solutions that can sustain the Global Commons. The assessment process will provide greater understanding of (a) the main drivers of environmental degradation, links and synergies among them, and their influence on planetary boundaries and (b) science-based solutions for safeguarding the Global Commons and avoiding transgression (overstepping) of planetary boundaries. The assessments will take the form of two white papers that will serve as an input into component 2 in a consolidated manner. In addition, component 4 will begin to develop in parallel with component 1, to ensure that the science-based solutions can be translated into practical and actionable solution pathways (Annex D).

The first white paper – the main paper – to be prepared by IIASA and SRC will identify the main drivers of the current environmental crisis, analyze current and future trends in these drivers in relation to planetary boundaries, and provide a Vision for managing the Global Commons based on the SDGs and other global commitments (Annex E). Based on this assessment, the paper will articulate Design Principles for Planetary Stewardship to be incorporated into a Call to Action, provide a finite number of science-based solutions for achieving a sustainability revolution.

The second paper to be prepared by IUCN will demonstrate how improved management of nature using modern conservation and assessment tools contributes to maintaining key aspects of the Global Commons. It will draw heavily on contributions from multiple IUCN Commissions, in particular SSC, WCPA, CEM and CEESP (Annex F). The paper will look at what conservation investments are already contributing towards sustaining the Global Commons, through a rigorous review of emerging approaches to measuring conservation success using counterfactuals. The findings from this assessment will also be folded into the Call to Action.

Further input into the science assessments will be solicited through a dedicated workshop focused on the Global Commons at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawai'i (1-10 Sept 2016). This workshop will focus the findings of the IUCN white paper into the overall Global Commons paper and further refine the science assessment, by bringing together the biodiversity conservation agenda into the Global Commons agenda. The WCC represents an unparalleled opportunity to raise awareness of this process and engage with stakeholders, bringing together several thousand leaders and decision-makers from government, civil society, indigenous groups, business, and academia to harness the solutions nature offers to global challenges. The WCC can be used as a vehicle for strengthening engagement of youth, faith-based communities and other key groups, through the relevant thematic groups of IUCN Commissions (e.g. WCPA Young Professionals Group and Specialist Group in Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas). In addition, the WCC is expected to draw substantial participation from the private sector.

Additional consultations with specific target groups may also be needed, for example at upcoming COPs and with multi-lateral development banks, in transitioning from component 1 to component 2 of the project.

#### Component 2. "Global Environmental Commons – Solutions for a Crowded Planet" Science-Policy Dialogue and World Conference

To catalyze an agenda for action to safeguard the Global Commons—an agenda that calls to action agencies, policy makers, the private sector and the public at large—two linked meetings will be organized, a Science-Policy Dialogue and a World Conference.

The process leading to the World Conference will be overseen by an Executive Organizing Committee (EOC)—rather than one agency—to allow for a more diverse and participatory process. An external Advisory Board (10-15 members) will be established to guide the EOC, and among other tasks, review the scientific assessments, advise on the overall directions, agenda, and invitees for the Science-Policy Dialogue and the World Conference, and act as a sounding Board for the Call for Action (TORs attached in Annex G). The



Advisory Board will be composed of recognized global leaders in science and policy, 'dot-connectors', private sector champions, innovators and leaders from the NGO community. Members will be called in their personal capacity based on expertise rather than institutional affiliation, allowing the process to foster innovative, scalable and transformative solution pathways.

The Science-Policy Dialogue will bring together 150 of the world's top scientists, lead thinkers, and champions from policy leads to practitioners, civil society and the private sector in a wide variety of fields to translate the science-based solutions identified by component 1 into innovative, large-scale policy solutions spanning key sectors. The Science-Policy dialogue will be held over 3 days in Washington, DC. Plenary sessions will bookend parallel, participant driven workshop processes, each exploring one of the solutions and discussing implementation roadmaps for each. Day 1 will begin with high-profile keynote talks to set the stage and present the outcomes of the white papers. The afternoon and second day will convene three parallel panel discussions to critically examine each of the three solutions and identify actionable pathways and enablers for action. The third day will bring the three solution tracks together to debate interconnectivity and provide the elements for formulation of a Call to Action for Planetary Stewardship . The output of the Science-Policy Dialogue will be draft implementation roadmaps of three Solutions for a Crowded Planet and adoption of an executive version of the Global Commons white paper or release of a multi-author paper targeted to a top-tier journal (e.g. Science, Nature or similar standing).

Subsequently, the World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons will bring together a selected group of ~150 participants representing thought and action leaders from the private sector, heads of state and of key ministries, heads of influential institutions, 'dot-connectors', and other visionaries, including representative experts from the Science-Policy Dialogue. The leaders will be invited with view of representation of all regions and drawn from a wide range of sectors, including finance, energy, food, water, environment and social development. Recognizing the importance of the recent Papal Encyclical, the project will also strive to engage key faith leaders who can be agents for positive environmental change.

Through facilitated debates and dialogues in a highly interactive setting, the Conference will refine the solutions with the aim of detailing and adopting the Call to Action for Planetary Stewardship . The Call to Action will raise the profile for the Global Commons agenda and aim to leverage additional commitments for the identified solutions, as well as finance for the Global Commons.

Component 3. Linking science and action: Strategic outreach for creating a movement for the Global Commons

Building on the scientific foundation laid by the assessment process, this component will support a sustained media effort to reach specific stakeholder groups and raise awareness of the dimensions of environmental sustainability, the interrelatedness of these, and the role of stewardship for the Global Commons as an enabler of sustainable development. Without a wider awareness of the relevance of the Global Commons agenda to various global, regional and local stakeholders, no accelerated action or finance can be expected in a timeframe or scale that enables transformative change. A communications strategy will be developed to guide the effort and will build on early formulation of the key messages to be socialized, disseminated and replicated throughout the process. The media and content will be tailored to various stakeholder groups and aimed to create widespread commitment to the implementation roadmap for the identified solutions.

The communications strategy, to be developed early in the project, will focus on leveraging the mutual interests and communication channels of relevant GEF partners (especially those with representation on the advisory board), and the socialization and dissemination of key, newsworthy messages (i.e. links to climate sinks, ecosystem management, environmental security), the release of timely relevant reports (i.e. the two main position papers) and main conference outcomes (i.e. endorsement of solutions for a crowded planet, high-profile announcements of new commitments and finance for planetary protection). As IUCN and GEF work closely together on outreach efforts, mobilization of IUCN Commissions and Members will be one effective avenue to amplify messages.

Supporting communication activities could include for example:

- Press releases and associated media outreach associated with the white papers, Science-Policy Dialogue and World Conference
- Participation of 15-20 journalists from developing countries in either or both conferences
- Media briefings in Washington DC and Geneva
- Op-ed signed by GEF CEO and IUCN DG in a newspaper or magazine that reaches target audiences (e.g. Guardian, other major newspaper, OECD Observer)
- Series of articles, blogs and op-eds from well-known people in key media outlets
- Series of short videos raising the profile of Global Commons, video capturing the World Conference
- Global Commons microsite on GEF and/or IUCN websites, or potentially a stand-alone web platform, for profiling the solutions
- Targeted digital media campaign raising the profile of Global Commons with defined audiences
- Support for project on IUCN and GEF social media platforms and leverage of partner platforms
- Development of strategic media partnerships/support for Global Commons (i.e. Earth Journalism Network/InterNews) with financially supported journalist “training” at events
- Unique brand for the Global Environmental Commons Conference (campaign/movement) to be used for all communications products

Youth engagement will be a priority, for example through the development of a possible awareness raising competition and “showcasing best GEF projects” with Connect-4-Climate. And, where possible, celebrities and “ambassadors” will be engaged to communicate the Global Commons story in imaginative ways. Efforts to engage youth will draw on work by the IUCN Commission on Education and Communications and the IUCN World Commission for Protected Areas, particularly their #Natureforall and Inspiring a New Generation initiative. It will also be important to identify and develop areas of cooperation with The Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability, particularly in the context of the IUCN World Conservation Congress which will in part focus on youth leadership for sustainable development.

#### Component 4: Towards implementing Solutions for the Global Commons

In this component, the project aims to advance the identified implementation pathways for safeguarding the Global Commons through the identification of actionable steps, continuing outreach and keeping the Conference process momentum towards creating a sustained political and societal movement in support of the Global Commons agenda. This will involve looking at the universe of geopolitical entities and examining where conditions would be right to implement the solutions and at what scale (local, national, regional, global), through both the public and private sector. The project will take stock of targeted previous interventions to understand approaches that have been effective, define enablers who can advance implementation roadmaps for the solutions, and design feasibility studies for pilot interventions.

This process of moving from assessment to action will be initiated early and will parallel components 1 and 2. It will involve initially the key institutions represented by the EOC and the Advisory Board —such as IUCN, GEF, IIASA, SRC, World Resources Institute (WRI) and World Economic Forum (WEF)—with a view of widening this expertise to more partners as the process proceeds. For example, it is anticipated that further refinement will be needed to elaborate the ‘science based solutions’ (component 1) and translate these into actionable solution pathways addressing political/governance, economic and other societal drivers in preparation of the Science-Policy Dialogue (component 2). Processes that are anticipated to be supported as a transition from the science assessment to a broader interactive science-policy dialogue may take the form of short papers suggesting pathways and scenarios for specific solutions and/or include dialogue processes with key stakeholders that need to be brought into the process or among groups of change agents (e.g. such as private sector partners).

#### D. Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions

This project will provide a more holistic and integrated view of the issues and the possible ways of addressing threats to the Global Commons. In the baseline scenario, main drivers of environmental degradation continue to be assessed in an isolated manner and lack of an integrated approach is prevailing. Through component 1, the project will build on the most recent research on sustaining the Global Commons in order to build a synthetic corpus of the drivers of environmental degradation, how those link together and their influence on planetary boundaries. This assessment will provide the foundations of potential integrated solutions, which will go beyond the business as usual scenarios by being more integrated and holistic. It is expected that action will be reflected on the ground by reaching out and communicating the main recommendations and outcomes of components 1 and 2 to main stakeholders involved in safeguarding the Global Commons (governments, private sector, international organizations, and scientific community).

#### E. Global environmental benefits

GEF investments are predicated on the delivery of global environmental benefits in biodiversity, climate change mitigation, international waters, land degradation and forests, and chemicals and waste. These investments respond to the challenges laid out by the multilateral environmental agreements – the three Rio Conventions – the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) for biodiversity, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) for climate change mitigation, and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) for land degradation – as well as a range of other conventions (e.g., the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance for international waters, the Stockholm, Basel, and Rotterdam Conventions for chemicals and waste, etc.) and international instruments (e.g., the UN Forum on Forests for forests). Increasingly, GEF is seeking to deliver multiple environmental benefits through integrated investments across the various dimensions of the global environment.

Biodiversity loss, water scarcity, land degradation, climate change and pollution continue to accelerate, and there is a pressing need to act to prevent surpassing tipping points and to prevent these major environmental problems from becoming catastrophic. The solutions that emerge from the Global Commons dialogue process will squarely address the underlying drivers of environmental degradation. If implemented and properly resourced, will generate a cascade of global environmental benefits by reducing the impact at each step in the causal chain of environmental degradation. For example, a solution focused on sustainable food systems, which could reduce demand for commodities such as beef and palm oil that result in widespread land clearing and biodiversity loss, could deliver global environmental benefits such as conserving globally significant biodiversity, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and improving the provision of ecosystem services.

#### F. Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Given business-as-usual development scenarios, safeguarding the Global Commons will not be possible without innovative and large-scale policy solutions that span across sectors, go beyond country-by-country approaches, and can be mainstreamed into global, national and local policy. Generating and catalyzing support for transformational solutions is the *raison d'être* for this project. The solutions developed have to be real game changers and substantially shift the direction in how the world is addressing the global environmental commons throughout economic systems. Solutions must squarely focus on sustainability and have the ability to be rapidly scaled up if there is to be any hope in halting rapid global environmental degradation and avoiding the crossing of tipping points, after which recovery would be impossible and/or extremely costly.

2. *Child Project?* If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.

N/A

3. *Stakeholders.* Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from [civil society organizations](#) (yes  /no ) and [indigenous peoples](#) (yes  /no )? If yes, elaborate on how the key stakeholders engagement is incorporated in the preparation and implementation of the project.

Engaging stakeholders across multiple sectors is essential for developing and catalyzing an agenda for action to safeguard the Global Commons. This project will directly engage thought and action leaders from government, the private sector and leading civil society organizations. Stakeholders from civil society

organizations including the media and think tanks will be engaged as participants in the Science-Policy Dialogue and World Conference, in outreach efforts, and in developing an implementation strategy. Component 3 is entirely focused on outreach and engagement, not just to deliver key messages but also to provide avenues for people not attending the meetings to give input (e.g. through social media). Key groups will be targeted including youth, local and indigenous community representatives, and faith-based groups. Finally, by using the World Conservation Congress as a key step in the global dialogue process, the project will directly reach thousands of additional stakeholders from civil society, academia and the private sector.

4. *Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.* Are [gender equality and women's empowerment](#) taken into account (yes  /no )? If yes, elaborate how it will be mainstreamed into project implementation and monitoring, taking into account the differences, needs, roles and priorities of women and men.

Given that half of the world is female, addressing our most pressing environmental challenges must consider the different roles, rights, knowledge and responsibilities of women and men. Women are often the primary users and stewards of natural resources yet with unequal access to collateral and hence credit for developing livelihoods. The sustainable solutions developed by this project will take into account these differences between women and men, along with their unique knowledge and capacities.

Following IUCN's gender mainstreaming strategy, the project will seek to ensure gender balance as much as possible in each aspect of the project, including on the Advisory Group and scientific assessment teams, among conference participants, and in the keynote speakers selected for both the Science-Policy Dialogue and the World Conference. IUCN and partners will ensure that the project features no all-male panels during sessions of either conference.

5. *Benefits.* Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels. Do any of these benefits support the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) and/or adaptation to climate change?

As a global initiative focused on the underlying drivers of environmental degradation, this project aims to develop and catalyze solutions that will deliver cascading global environmental benefits. These include conservation of globally important biodiversity, reduction of forest loss and land degradation, mitigated greenhouse gas emissions and improved management of international waters. Although not a specific deliverable of the project, national and local socioeconomic benefits are also likely to result from the implementation of the Global Commons solutions.

6. *Risks.* Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental future risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and if possible, propose measures that address these risks:

The direct social and environmental risks of this project are minimal, yet the benefits to addressing the global commons agenda can be tremendous. Direct impacts, such greenhouse gas emissions resulting from air travel to the conferences, will be offset. Green meeting standards will be met for the advisory board meeting and the two conferences.

There are a number of risks to the project, beginning with the dependence on partner organizations to deliver key pieces of work, including the science assessments and stakeholder engagement. There is a risk in not securing the right experts for the Advisory Board or Science-Policy Dialogue, leading to an overrepresentation of expertise in one area and underrepresentation in others. Insufficient global interest may be generated by the white papers, making it difficult to draw high-level participation in the conferences and roll out a compelling communications strategy. These risks will be mediated as far as possible through careful selection of Advisory Board members who not only represent a diversity of experience and perspective but can ensure that all components of the project are delivered at high quality and act as ambassadors for the process drawing in a wide range of views and actors.

Engagement with the private sector carries the risk of conflicts of interest, which could damage the credibility of the project partners or the Global Commons process. To address this concern, private sector companies/leaders with a proven track record in innovation and leadership in positive environmental and social engagement will be engaged in the conferences and panels.

Engaging with youth, indigenous groups and faith-based communities is challenging for different, mostly practical, reasons given the relatively short time frame of project implementation. Engagement with these and other stakeholder groups requires genuine interest and mutual respect and trust. Such engagement requires consistent and continued engagement throughout the process. IUCN Members and Commissions can be helpful in facilitating interactions with these groups (e.g. at the WCC).

There are a number of other major events and meetings scheduled for 2016, which may make it challenging to secure the participation of high-level delegates to the Science-Policy Dialogue and World Conference. To mitigate this risk, the conferences will be scheduled to avoid these other meetings and well in advance to ensure sufficient participation. A related risk is that social and traditional media outreach efforts may be drowned out by other events or fail to garner sufficient attention. This will be addressed as far as possible by a strong media and outreach effort (component 3) that spans the duration of the project.

Finally, the World Conference may not generate sufficient commitment for the solutions emerging from this project, for example if public sector agencies, governments, and NGOs have competing priorities and are unable to commit to aligning their work and future financing with the Global Commons agenda.

7. *Cost Effectiveness*. Explain how [cost-effectiveness](#) is reflected in the project design:

The solutions catalyzed by this project will target the underlying drivers of environmental degradation. By addressing the Global Commons crisis in a systemic way, the need to tackle direct human pressures to the environment such as pollution, over-exploitation, habitat loss and invasive species and diseases will be reduced. Those problems are typically much more expensive to confront. In addition, developing solutions that span multiple sectors and that can be mainstreamed into national policies will be much more cost effective in the long run than trying to implement solutions in isolation, sector by sector.

8. *Coordination*. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives [not mentioned in 1]:

2016 is the year where implementation of major agreements and milestone events in 2015 need to go into implementation. The implementation timeframe for this project will coincide with a number of high-profile environmental meetings, which will provide the opportunity to coordinate with their emerging agendas:

- UNGA High-level Thematic Debate: Implementing Commitments on Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Financing (11-12 April 2016, New York, USA) – Convened by the UNGA President, this event will allow for Member States to present the steps they are taking to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to look at inter-connections between Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) on climate change, the broader Paris Agreement and overall implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- High-Level Signing Ceremony for Paris Agreement (22 April 2016, New York, USA) – The agreement reached at UNFCCC COP21 in Paris represents an historic commitment by 195 nations to fight climate change and will stimulate actions and investment towards renewable energy, forest conservation, and sustainable development
- United Nations Environmental Assembly (23-27 May 2016, Nairobi, Kenya) – The first session, held in 2014, focused on ‘Sustainable Development Goals and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, including sustainable consumption and production’. The UNEA will convene its second session in 2016.
- World Water Week Stockholm (28 Aug – 2 Sept, 2016) – This year’s meeting will be a milestone event, with the theme "Water for Sustainable Growth". Project partners IUCN, IIASA, SRC, GEF and others will amplify messages evolving from the sessions and side events at the Stockholm Water Week, to focus on the relationship between water security and growth, SDGs and sustainable development.
- IUCN World Conservation Congress (1-10 Sep 2016, Hawai’i, USA) – The theme of this quadrennial congress is ‘Planet at the Crossroads’ and will focus on securing nature’s support systems for people and the greater community of life on Earth. WCC will feature issues of the Global Commons as part of a number of events (high-level dialogues, workshops, side-events) whose conclusions will influence the IUCN Programme for 2017-2020 approved by 1,300 State Members, Government Agencies and NGOs.

- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change COP22 (7-8 Nov 2016, Marrakech, Morocco)
  - Following the agreement reached in by 195 nations to fight climate change, COP22 will further stimulate actions in sectors such as forestry and agriculture and, in addition, discuss investments towards renewable energy, forest conservation, global fisheries and sustainable development. The project will also help advance update of nature-based solutions to climate change as part of the post-Paris agreement.
- Convention on Biological Diversity COP13 (4-17 Dec 2016, Cancun, Mexico) – This meeting will focus on assessing progress and enhancing implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The high-level segment will address mainstreaming of biodiversity in fisheries, forestry, agriculture and tourism, and conclusions from the project will directly feed into CBD recommendations on these sectors.
- The World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos (Jan 2017) will build from the WEF’s establishment in 2016 of ten Global Challenge Initiatives, representing responses from the economic community to the challenges posed by the SDGs, and including a Global Challenge Initiative on “Environment and Natural Resource Scarcity”. The WEF is partnering with the GEF and IUCN in the Global Commons agenda and is expected to be part of the Executive Organizing Committee.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> International Marine Protected Area Conference (IMPAC) will take place in September 2017 in Chile and will address the management of oceans from the coastal zone to the high seas. Using recommendations from the project, IMPAC will discuss investments priorities for sustainable solutions to the management of the marine environment.
- The emerging Eye on Earth initiative, further to the Eye on Earth Summit held in Abu Dhabi 6-8 Oct 2015, will continue to convene discussions on strengthening data mobilization to inform sustainable development decision making.
- The Global Commission on Business and Sustainable Development of business, labor and civil society leaders, recently established by Unilever CEO Paul Polman and former United Nations Deputy Secretary General Mark Malloch-Brown, will highlight the massive rewards to businesses who take a lead in poverty reduction and sustainable development. Some of the Commission members also serve as UN SG’s Sustainable Development Goals “Advocates”. The work of the Commission is complementary to the aims of this project. Selected Commission members will be approached to serve on the Advisory Board and/or be engaged in the two major events.
- High Level Panel on Water Security. The UN secretary general Ban Ki-moon has convened an emergency panel of heads of state to prompt a political response to the world’s increasing scarcity of water. Water is running through all aspects of life and water security is essential for economic development. The work of the high-level panel is highly relevant for the effort of this project and the Global Commons Agenda. Engagement with and/or participation of the selected members will be sought either directly or through the engaged MDBs.

There are a wide number of other regional and global efforts unfolding in 2016 – including an effort by the EU – and these will be leveraged as possible along the process.

In addition, the project will take place in coordination with a number of relevant initiatives. "The World in 2050 Initiative", led by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), IIASA and SRC, engages research groups around the world to assess the combined achievement of all 17 SDGs. The multi-year effort, to begin in 2016, will develop a new approach to assess alternative pathways that lead to a successful implementation of the SDGs. It will also address interdependence among SDGs and the relation to sustainable resource uses and planetary boundaries on global and regional levels. This effort will complement the white paper to be developed by IIASA and SRC by conducting a wider analysis across the SDG space. SDSN, IIASA, and SRC are represented in the EOC and the Advisory Board and seamless linkage and synergy is assured through this.

The "Partnership on Integrated Solutions for Water, Energy and Land" (IWEL), an initiative of GEF, IIASA and UNIDO, focuses on the water-energy-land-ecosystems nexus in the context of other major global challenges such as urbanization, environmental pressure and equitable and sustainable futures. It will develop a consistent framework for looking at the nexus and identify strategies and approaches for achieving the

needed transformational outcomes, as indicated in the GEF 2020 Strategy, through an advanced assessment framework. This initiative will be relevant to the current project in analyzing a subset of the SDGs and tradeoffs among them and building policy recommendations on how to address cross-sector planning. Some EOC and Advisory Board members are also engaged in ISWEL and synergy among the efforts will be assured through this.

9. *Institutional Arrangement.* Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation:

This project will be implemented and executed by IUCN, ensuring cost effectiveness. The GEF Coordination Unit and the Science and Knowledge Unit, both based in the Programme and Policy Group (headquarters), will be responsible for performing implementation responsibilities. The Science and Knowledge Unit is responsible for quality assurance with the main project deliverables. A project coordination unit will be established in IUCN-US (Washington DC), which is independent from the Programme and Policy Group. Consequently, the firewall separating implementation and execution activities is respected. The two white papers prepared respectively by IIASA/SRC and the IUCN with the support of its Commissions will be procured through direct procurement method. All services and goods required for this project will be procured according to IUCN procurement rules and guidelines.

10. *Knowledge Management.* Outline the knowledge management approach for the project, including, if any, plans for the project to learn from other relevant projects and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly form, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.

The white papers developed in the science based assessment process (component 1) will take stock of previous efforts to develop solutions for major environmental challenges. This information will be used to strengthen the entire project, particularly the solutions for a crowded planet that are presented in the Science-Policy Dialogue. Additional papers and processes (components 1 and 3) will further take stock of previous undertakings and GEF, IUCN's and other partners' knowledge management efforts will be leveraged in that effort for a two way interaction of learning and knowledge exchange.

IUCN and its partners have organized global conferences for many decades, which provides invaluable experience and lessons learned to the benefit of this project. Most recently, the IUCN World Parks Congress in 2014 paired eight workshop streams with high-level leaders' dialogues and media events. Planning for the 2016 World Conservation Congress is well underway, and the organization of specific workshops and dialogues focused on the Global Commons will maximize synergies with this project.

Information generated through all of the project components will be made widely available through a dedicated website. In addition, peer-reviewed publications generated from the project will be published as open access. As detailed in project component 3, media outreach will occur before, during and after the conference, which will allow for the dissemination of materials in a more accessible form to the public, for example through films, TV spots and social media campaigns, and well as provide avenues for the public to provide input.

11. *Consistency with National Priorities.* Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions? (yes  /no  ). If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, NBSAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NCs, TNAs, NCSA, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, etc.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals will serve as a launch pad for developing solutions to sustain the Global Commons. As a global initiative, this project is consistent with, and will reinforce, national strategies and plans made under relevant conventions, such as the UNFCCC climate commitments (COP 21), the voluntary targets of "land degradation neutrality" relevant to the UNCCD, and the Aichi Targets of the 2011–2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, agreed at the CBD's COP10. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, the primary tool for guiding implementation of the Aichi Targets, have been under revision over the last couple of years, and so the timing of the project is fortuitous to inform the implementation of these plans in

advance of 2020, as well as to stimulate the discussion of what a new strategic plan might look like post-2020. This project is expected to articulate approaches and solutions that help countries address MEA targets and commitments in an integrated, innovative and transformational way with co-benefits. For example, the intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs) submitted by parties under UNFCCC identified multiple sectors as priorities to address, including energy, agriculture, forest, water, cities, among others. Solutions for the global commons as articulated by this project can help inform countries as they move towards INDC implementation.

12. *M & E Plan.* Describe the budgeted monitoring and evaluation plan.

The project’s M&E Plan includes the following components. IUCN will be responsible for executing these activities, representing an in-kind contribution of \$36,000.

1. A small (virtual) inception meeting involving the GEF Secretariat, IUCN and key elements of the partnership will be held at the time of project approval.

This meeting will be used to detail the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of the GEF, IUCN and the partners contracted. This will assist in refining the planned activities, budget, results framework, and any other key aspects of the project.

2. A project results monitoring plan will be developed by IUCN to include objective, outcome and output indicators. This monitoring plan will be aligned with both IUCN and GEF policies and requirements.

Timeframe: within two months after project inception

3. Regular (virtual) partners’ meeting will be held on a regular basis (at least every 6 months), to review the work plan, discuss implementation issues and identify solutions, and increase coordination and communication.

4. Quarterly progress reports covering all aspects of the project.

5. One annual project implementation report to monitor project results and progress.

Timeframe: within two months after year 1

6. A final completion report (including financial statements) at the end of the project, including lessons learned from the project for dissemination within and beyond the project intervention area through information-sharing networks and forums. An online survey of participants will be conducted after the Science-Policy Dialogue and World Conference.

Timeframe: within two months after year 2

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

**A. Record of Endorsement<sup>9</sup> of GEF Operational Focal Point (S) on Behalf of the Government(S):** (Please attach the [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template. For SGP, use this [SGP OFP endorsement letter](#)).


| NAME | POSITION | MINISTRY | DATE (MM/dd/yyyy) |
|------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| N/A  | N/A      | N/A      |                   |
|      |          |          |                   |

<sup>9</sup> For regional and/or global projects in which participating countries are identified, OFP endorsement letters from these countries are required even though there may not be a STAR allocation associated with the project.



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**B. GEF Agency(ies) Certification**

| <b>This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies<sup>10</sup> and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for a medium-sized project approval under GEF-6.</b> |   |                              |                               |                  |                        |
|---|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Agency Coordinator, Agency name</b>  | <b>Signature</b>  | <b>DATE<br/>(MM/dd/yyyy)</b> | <b>Project Contact Person</b> | <b>Telephone</b> | <b>Email Address</b>   |
| Jean-Yves Pirot   |  | 02/17/2016                   | Thomas Brooks                 | +41229990150     | thomas.brooks@iucn.org |
|   |   |                              |                               |                  |                        |
|   |   |                              |                               |                  |                        |

<sup>10</sup> GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, and SCCF

**C. ADDITIONAL GEF PROJECT AGENCY CERTIFICATION** (*Applicable only to newly accredited GEF Project Agencies*)

Date: 17 February 2016

To: The GEF Secretariat  
Washington, DC 20433

**Subject:** *GEF Project Agency Certification of Ceiling Information*

Per Council requirement for GEF Project Agencies, I am pleased to inform you that:

- (a) the value of the largest project implemented (or executed) by IUCN to date is USD 27.4 million<sup>11</sup>; and
- (b) the total value of all projects under implementation by IUCN as of the end of FY 2015 was USD 366 million.<sup>12</sup>

I certify that the GEF financing currently being requested by IUCN for the project, “The Global Environment Commons – Solutions for a Crowded Planet”, in the amount of 2,196,350 USD (including project preparation grant and agency fees), is lower than the largest project that IUCN has implemented (or executed) to date.

I further certify that the total amount of GEF financing currently under implementation by IUCN plus the requested GEF financing for the above mentioned project does not exceed 20 percent of the total amount of all projects that IUCN had under implementation as of the end of FY 2015.

Sincerely,



Jean-Yves Pirot  
GEF Coordinator  
IUCN

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<sup>11</sup> This amount excludes co-financing.

<sup>12</sup> In support of these statements, a copy of (a) the signed loan/grant agreement for the largest project implemented (or executed), and (b) a list of all projects (together with their amounts in US dollars) need to be sent via email, under a separate cover, to the GEF Secretariat at [Project\\_Agency@theGEF.org](mailto:Project_Agency@theGEF.org). These supporting documents will be treated as confidential and will not be shared with any parties external to the Secretariat. The PIF will not be approved in the absence of these supporting documents.

**ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK** (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

|  | <b>Objective/Outcome</b>  | <b>Indicators</b>   | <b>Baseline</b>   | <b>Target(s)</b>  | <b>Source of verification</b>                                      | <b>Risks/ Assumptions</b>  |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
|  | Project Objective: To design and catalyze the adoption of innovative, integrated and transformational solutions in key societal sectors to ensure a sustainable pathway for the future of the planet and for humanity | <p>Number and breadth of financial mechanisms aligned with identified solutions for sustaining the Global Commons</p> <p>Number of strategic partnerships agreed in 2017 addressing Global Commons and using project outcomes</p> | There is insufficient alignment across sectors and donor mechanisms for tackling society’s biggest environmental challenges | <p>Increased alignment of public and private financial mechanisms and future donor funding directions towards identified solutions</p> <p>At least 10 national and international programmes and initiatives using project outcomes as their rationale</p> | Agency, foundation and corporate press material and annual reports | <p><u>Assumptions:</u><br/>There will be significant interest and willingness to commit to implementing Global Commons solutions from public sector agencies, governments, and NGOs</p> <p><u>Risks:</u> Project may generate insufficient commitment for Global Commons solutions from public sector agencies, governments and NGOs due to competing priorities; dependence on partner organizations to deliver key pieces of the project (i.e. science assessments, stakeholder engagement); under-representation of key expertise/sectors in Advisory Board, or Science-Policy Dialogue, and World Conference</p> |

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| Component 1 | <p>Outcome 1. Greater understanding of the main drivers of environmental degradation, links and synergies among them, their influence on planetary boundaries, and potential solutions for sustaining the Global Commons</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Extent of outreach for Global Commons white papers</li> <li>2. Number and breadth of WCC participants engaged in Global Commons workshop</li> <li>3. Number of individuals downloading Global Commons scientific paper(s) from project/journal website</li> <li>4. Numbers of press mentions and dedicated articles in the press</li> </ol> | <p>There is relatively little understanding outside academic circles of how the main drivers of environmental degradation interact, their influence on planetary boundaries and the potential solutions that could be developed to address these drivers</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. White papers circulated to all conference participants, the IUCN network and 5 additional professional networks</li> <li>2. At least 200 participants participate in WCC Global Commons workshop</li> <li>3. Global Commons scientific papers downloaded by at least 500 unique users</li> <li>4. Increased references to Global Commons and the project outcomes in the press and at relevant global events</li> </ol> | <p>Monitoring reports, Advisory Board meeting reports</p> <p>WCC proceedings, video, workshop survey</p> <p>Web analytics</p> | <p><u>Assumptions:</u> Papers will be developed with sufficient lead time for review and comment; key stakeholders will engage in science based assessment process; papers will produce new and relevant content.</p> <p><u>Risk:</u> Insufficient global interest generated by papers; papers fail to produce innovative, newsworthy content.</p>   |
| Component 2 | <p>Outcome 2. Development and adoption of integrated, innovative and transformative solutions that can be mainstreamed into national and international policies</p>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Level of endorsement of executive version of Global Commons white paper at Science-Policy Dialogue</li> <li>6. Level of endorsement of <i>Call To Action for Planetary Stewardship</i> at World Conference</li> </ol>   | <p>Technical solutions may exist for sustaining the Global Commons but these have not been translated into transformative policy solutions across scales</p>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Global Commons white paper endorsed by Science-Policy Dialogue participants</li> <li>6. <i>Call to Action</i> endorsed by World Conference delegates</li> </ol>   | <p>Monitoring reports, Science-Policy Dialogue proceedings, World Conference proceedings</p>                                  | <p><u>Assumptions:</u> Top scientists, high-level government officials, private sector leaders and ‘dot connectors’ will be interested and available to participate in Science-Policy Dialogue and World Conference; there will be adequate representation across sectors in both meetings.</p> <p><u>Risk:</u> Timing of Science-Policy Dialogue and World Conference relative to other major conferences in 2016 precludes participation of some key actors.</p> |

|             |  |  |   |  |   |  |
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|             | Outcome 3. Increased high-level, cross-sector, international commitment and future financing for Global Commons agenda | 7. Number of bi- and multilateral agencies committed towards financing implementation of the <i>Call to Action for Planetary Stewardship</i> | There is insufficient support and cross-sector collaboration for tackling the main drivers of environmental degradation   | 7. At least 10 bi- and multilateral agencies commit to aligning future work and financing with the <i>Call to Action for Planetary Stewardship</i> | Uptake of Global Commons Solutions in GEF, GEF Agencies and other partners including governments and private sector.<br><br>Public sector agency, corporate and NGO press material and annual reports | <u>Assumption:</u> Donors, private sector leaders and governments find the solutions for a crowded planet sufficiently compelling and feasible that they are willing to align future work and financing towards implementing the solutions<br><br><u>Risk:</u> Some government, private sector and NGO leaders are unable to commit to the Global Commons agenda due to competing priorities               |
| Component 3 | Outcome 4. Increased awareness, engagement and support for Global Commons agenda among target audiences                | 8. Extent of press pick up for new content, published Op-ed<br><br>9. Number of unique page visitors to Global Commons website               | There is low-level understanding that the degradation of the global environment is reaching critical thresholds and jeopardizing global, regional and local development ambitions | 8. Published op-ed. Press pick up of new content produced<br><br>9. At least 2,000 unique visitors access the Global Commons website               | Web analytics<br><br>Media monitoring<br><br>Social media analytics   | <u>Assumption:</u> The messages generated from the Global Commons conferences are engaging to the media and target audiences<br><br><u>Risks:</u> Social and traditional media outreach efforts are drowned out by other major events in 2016; engaging with youth, indigenous groups and faith-based communities becomes very challenging given the relatively short time frame of project implementation |

|             |  |  |  |   |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| Component 4 | <p>Outcome 5. Implementation pathways for safeguard solutions enhanced</p> | <p>10. Number and geographic scope of partnerships/initiatives established towards implementation of safeguard solutions and the Global Commons agenda</p> <p>11. Number of feasibility studies initiated</p> <p>12. Potential funding for future implementation of studies identified</p> | <p>There is a need to clarify approaches and possible pathways for effective implementation of the <i>Call to Action for Planetary Stewardship</i></p> | <p>10. At least 5 new partnerships/initiatives in at least 3 countries</p> <p>11. At least 5 GEF Agencies make strategic contributions to the feasibility studies and/or the solution pathways</p> <p>12. Funding for at least 2 feasibility studies identified</p> | <p>Public sector agency, corporate and NGO press material and annual reports</p> | <p><u>Assumptions:</u><br/>Public sector agencies, NGOs and private companies are willing to form new partnerships/initiatives and to contribute resources towards feasibility studies and/or solution pathways</p> <p><u>Risks:</u><br/>Insufficient support is generated for implementing feasibility studies and/or solution pathways</p> |
|-------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|

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

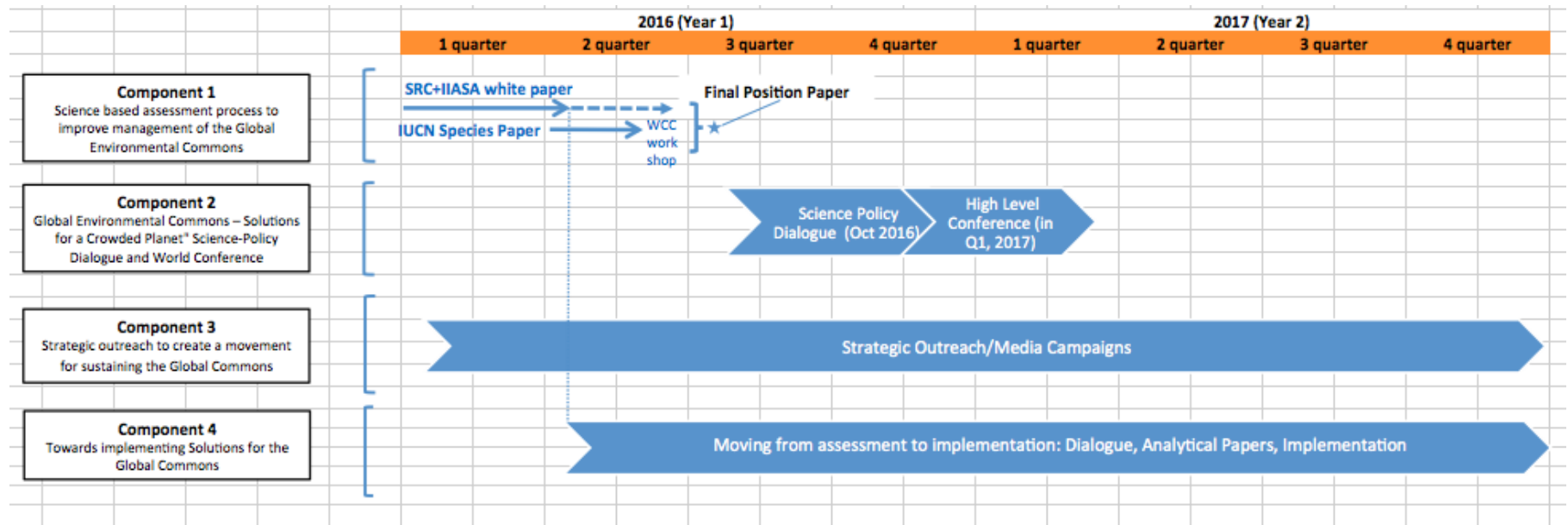
Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF Trust Funds or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)

N/A

**ANNEX C: PROJECT BUDGET**

Please refer to spreadsheet attached

## ANNEX D: PROJECT OVERVIEW





## **ANNEX E: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMONS WHITE PAPER in preparation for *World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons: Solutions for a crowded planet***

### **Background**

The Global Environment Facility in partnership with IUCN and other likeminded partners will host a *World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons* to be held in early 2017. This conference will bring together thought leaders, private sector CEOs, scientists, Heads of States and other Government dignitaries, and civil society representatives to discuss and propose solutions to the World's most pressing environmental problems. The conference will focus on identifying the most Innovative, Integrated, and Transformative pathways – enabling large-scale reversal of environmental degradation and ensuring that sound environmental management to sustain the Global Commons is firmly embedded in future social and economic development. In order to properly prepare this conference and provide initial input to the development of solutions for a crowded planet, the GEF seeks to commission a White Paper that should lay out the global environmental problems, analyze the context and drivers behind these problems, and propose elements of solutions in a variety of thematic sectors.

### **Conference Rationale**

Concerns that the global environment was starting to face challenges at planetary scale date back to the late 1970s and early 1980s. The 1992 Rio Earth Summit represents a landmark in international efforts to promote environmental protection and development, and as the birthplace of the biodiversity, climate change, and desertification conventions, and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The world's scientific understanding has improved substantially during the past three decades, enhancing global knowledge about challenges, risks and opportunities for altering future trends. Yet, some Earth System and environmental scientists have argued that planetary boundaries, defined as a “safe operating space for humanity”, are being transgressed along several dimensions.

Three global socioeconomic trends in particular—population growth, the rising middle class, and urbanization—will lead to further deterioration of the global environment under a business-as-usual scenario. The world's population has grown to just over 7 billion in 2012, and is projected to exceed 9 billion by 2050. With most of this growth expected to occur in Sub-Saharan Africa, feeding a growing global population will likely lead to increased conversion of natural landscapes to agriculture. Climate change further exacerbates stresses in many places, as water resources are being overexploited and degraded, and crop and land productivity suffer from heat and drought stress. Combined with a growing population and rising per capita income levels, the burgeoning middle class is a major factor in a projected increase in global demand for food, water, and energy by 35, 40, and 50 percent respectively by 2030, including a large increase in demand for buildings and transport as urbanization moves forward. Recently, we have seen some encouraging signs of progress in tackling these rapidly mounting global issues. There appears to be a growing amount of effort being dedicated to negotiating international agreements, conventions and other specialized accords. In parallel, voluntary coalitions are emerging between select groups of nations, the private sector, civil society organizations and international institutions intended to leapfrog the transition of economies towards more sustainable pathways. Many of these initiatives offer the opportunity for successful platforms to be built and amplified nationally, regionally and globally. A significant part of the challenge when promoting such expansion is the lack of understanding of the crucial moment that the Earth system is facing, and what it means to the long-term security of society and to the prospects of lifting significant proportions of humanity from poverty.

The situation is serious but there is still room to act. If we are to preempt further economic, social, and environmental havoc on our planet, we have to learn how to produce solutions and long term incentive structures that go beyond territorial boundaries of states and nations, and that look towards opportunities to act cooperatively at the regional and global levels. We must find solutions that *integrate* different sectors for more comprehensive impact, that are *innovative* in bringing together different stakeholders (private sector and governments, coalitions of nations that face similar challenges, etc.), and that are *transformative* and can be brought to scale and mainstreamed into relevant national and international policies. In other words, we need to effectively protect the global commons on an increasingly crowded planet.

This logic rests at the core of the mission of the Global Environment Facility. The GEF, with its 183 member nations, represents a powerful coalition in support of urgent action to reverse the environmental decline of our planet. As a global entity, we benefit from the sum total of our collective experience in addressing environmental issues, and we gain strength from our combined determination to build a better, more sustainable planet in which the links between environmental health and socio-economic development guide our actions.

By making use of an external sounding board composed of leading scientists, thinkers, innovators and “dot-connectors”, the GEF is promoting its first high-level international conference to reflect on what has worked and what has not, and how to re-prioritize efforts towards actions that remove barriers to market transformation, sustainable production practices, nature conservation and a stable climate together with the multitude of actors operating in this space.

### **White Paper**

A White Paper is being commissioned to elaborate on the big questions and challenges revolving around the plight of the global environmental commons and the available solutions to the most pressing problems. The paper will serve as an input document for the final structuring of the agenda of the conference.

Broadly defined, the elements of the White Paper will include the following sections:

1. What are main issues/questions to address for the global environmental commons? This will refresh the Planetary Boundary concept with a more solid environmental underpinning and clear link to the development drivers that are at the root of these transgressions.
  - a. Key scientific review analyses will need to be done to answer these questions;
  - b. Trends in different scenarios of development will be run to examine possible trajectories of our position within the safe planetary zones for life;
  - c. Sensitivity analyses to look at how these trajectories can change with different assumptions and policy choices.
2. What are the elements of the solutions for a crowded planet? This will include a rationale and link to the vision presented above in laying out some potential solutions or elements of solutions to the global environmental crises. These will include development, economic, financial, governance, and environmental elements related to the problems outlined above.
  - a. It is envisioned that these solutions embody the 3 “Strategic Axes” of the GEF 2020 Vision: Integration – Innovation – Transformation
  - b. Solutions also need to include all major stakeholders (private sector, governments, civil society, etc.).

- c. Solutions should also include major examples from the thematic area, e.g. land use and agriculture, marine and freshwater resources management, climate change and energy demand, etc.
3. How do these solutions link to other global and regional efforts to advance a sustainable development agenda?
- a. What is relationship with SDGs and how can these solutions promote and accelerate the delivery on these global goals?

### **Products**

A White Paper on *the Global Environmental Commons* consisting of two parts (*financed through the IUCN lead MSP*):

- i. A full report (White Paper) to be utilized as the input for the planned major World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons, and including three “Solutions” concepts, each one embodying with the main axes of GEF 2020 Strategy - Integration, Innovation, and Transformation.
- ii. A short summary paper, targeted at Nature or Science that outlines the issues/questions and design principles for effective solutions. This will be summary paper that outlines issues/questions and broad-stroke elements of solutions. This paper should be of the quality to be publishable in Science or Nature as a standard.

### **Timeline and presentation of work**

The consultant/consultant team is expected to:

- (i) Carry out the work in dialogue with the GEF and IUCN and taking on board key comments on an early draft of the paper and the solutions for a crowded planet (during Q1-Q2 of 2016).
- (ii) Present the draft final report/paper including the solutions at a review meeting to the GEF, IUCN and an Advisory Board (incl. technical experts) for comment (at a date to be commonly determined in March/early April 2016)
- (iii) Revise the draft report/paper within max. of 30 calendar days after such formal review.
- (iv) Submit the two papers listed in the section above to GEF via IUCN end of April (or latest 30 calendar days after the Advisory Board meeting).
- (v) Participate actively and give presentations at
  - a. **Science-Policy dialogue workshops** in preparation of the World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons (Oct 2016);
  - b. A **World Conservation Congress workshop** (September 2016) to discuss the Global Commons agenda and bring in the findings of this paper; and
  - c. **World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons** (Q1 2017).

Costs for travel and DSA for participating at the above listed events (under V. above) will be covered by IUCN (via the MSP project funds; covering **at least** one person from IIASA and one person from SRC for each event).

## **ANNEX F: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSERVATION IMPACTS WHITE PAPER in preparation for *World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons: Solutions for a crowded planet***

### **Background**

The Global Environment Facility in partnership with IUCN and other likeminded partners will host a *World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons* to be held in early 2017. This conference will bring together thought leaders, private sector CEOs, scientists, Heads of States and other Government dignitaries, and civil society representatives to discuss and propose solutions to the World's most pressing environmental problems. The conference will focus on identifying the most Innovative, Integrated, and Transformative pathways – enabling large-scale reversal of environmental degradation and ensuring that sound environmental management to sustain the Global Commons is firmly embedded in future social and economic development. In order to properly prepare this conference and provide initial input to the development of solutions for a crowded planet, the GEF seeks to commission a White Paper on conservation impacts in safeguarding the global commons, demonstrating how improved management of nature, using modern conservation and assessment tools, contributes to safeguarding the global commons.

### **Conference Rationale**

Concerns that the global environment was starting to face challenges at planetary scale date back to the late 1970s and early 1980s. The 1992 Rio Earth Summit represents a landmark in international efforts to promote environmental protection and development, and as the birthplace of the biodiversity, climate change, and desertification conventions, and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The world's scientific understanding has improved substantially during the past three decades, enhancing global knowledge about challenges, risks and opportunities for altering future trends. Yet, some Earth System and environmental scientists have argued that planetary boundaries, defined as a “safe operating space for humanity”, are being transgressed along several dimensions.

Three global socioeconomic trends in particular—population growth, the rising middle class, and urbanization—will lead to further deterioration of the global environment under a business-as-usual scenario. The world's population has grown to just over 7 billion in 2012, and is projected to exceed 9 billion by 2050. With most of this growth expected to occur in Sub-Saharan Africa, feeding a growing global population will likely lead to increased conversion of natural landscapes to agriculture. Climate change further exacerbates stresses in many places, as water resources are being overexploited and degraded, and crop and land productivity suffer from heat and drought stress. Combined with a growing population and rising per capita income levels, the burgeoning middle class is a major factor in a projected increase in global demand for food, water, and energy by 35, 40, and 50 percent respectively by 2030, including a large increase in demand for buildings and transport as urbanization moves forward. Recently, we have seen some encouraging signs of progress in tackling these rapidly mounting global issues. There appears to be a growing amount of effort being dedicated to negotiating international agreements, conventions and other specialized accords. In parallel, voluntary coalitions are emerging between select groups of nations, the private sector, civil society organizations and international institutions intended to leapfrog the transition of economies towards more sustainable pathways. Many of these initiatives offer the opportunity for successful platforms to be built and amplified nationally, regionally and globally. A significant part of the challenge when promoting such expansion is the lack of understanding of the crucial moment that the Earth system is facing, and what it means to the long-term security of society and to the prospects of lifting significant proportions of humanity from poverty.

The situation is serious but there is still room to act. If we are to preempt further economic, social, and environmental havoc on our planet, we have to learn how to produce solutions and long term incentive structures that go beyond territorial boundaries of states and nations, and that look towards opportunities to act cooperatively at the regional and global levels. We must find solutions that *integrate* different sectors for more comprehensive impact, that are *innovative* in bringing together different stakeholders (private sector and governments, coalitions of nations that face similar challenges, etc.), and that are *transformative* and can be brought to scale and mainstreamed into relevant national and international policies. In other words, we need to effectively protect the global commons on an increasingly crowded planet.

This logic rests at the core of the mission of the Global Environment Facility. The GEF, with its 183 member nations, represents a powerful coalition in support of urgent action to reverse the environmental decline of our planet. As a global entity, we benefit from the sum total of our collective experience in addressing environmental issues, and we gain strength from our combined determination to build a better, more sustainable planet in which the links between environmental health and socio-economic development guide our actions.

By making use of an external sounding board composed of leading scientists, thinkers, innovators and “dot-connectors”, the GEF is promoting its first high-level international conference to reflect on what has worked and what has not, and how to re-prioritize efforts towards actions that remove barriers to market transformation, sustainable production practices, nature conservation and a stable climate together with the multitude of actors operating in this space.

### **White Paper**

A White Paper is being commissioned to assess conservation impacts in sustaining the global commons, demonstrating the contributions of improved management of nature, using modern conservation and assessment tools.

Just about every metric imaginable currently demonstrates that while certain interventions (such as protected areas and indeed biodiversity aid) are increasing, so are pressures on biodiversity, and overall biodiversity is overwhelmingly in decline (Tittensor et al. 2014). Based on this picture, it’s easy to assert that we aren’t achieving impact, and that the conservation dollars invested by the GEF and others are not making a difference.

However, the last decade has seen a revolution in approaches to measuring biodiversity conservation success (Ferraro & Pattanayak 2006). In particular, it has been realised that appropriate measurement of impact in conservation has to consider not only observed progress towards absolute stated goals with the intervention, but also anticipated change in the absence of the intervention. This latter approach of comparison to counterfactual scenarios is widely used in intervention assessment for other disciplines (e.g., in medicine).

This vibrant research front clearly has extraordinarily important implications for the GEF. On the one hand, its results should be harnessed in planning for GEF-7, to ensure that investments are channeled towards achieving maximum impact. On the other, its methods also have potential implications for how the GEF monitors its investments and maintains and analyses these data accordingly. This white paper will therefore undertake a rigorous review of emerging approaches to measuring conservation success using counterfactuals, drawing on contributions from multiple IUCN Commissions, and proposing possible implications for GEF-7.

Broadly defined, the elements of the White Paper will include the following sections:

1. What are conservation investments already contributing towards sustaining the global commons? This should span the range of situations towards which counterfactual comparisons to assessing conservation impacts have now been applied:
  - b. Application of remotely-sensed measures of habitat conversion both inside protected areas and in sites of equivalent characteristics outside their boundaries (the counterfactuals) – the emerging picture seems to be that protected areas do indeed reduce deforestation rates (Joppa & Pfaff 2010);
  - c. Extension of these techniques in multiple ways: for example, to subdivide protected areas according to their management objectives, revealing that multiple-use areas are as effective as strictly protected areas in reducing deforestation (Nelson & Chomitz 2011); and to show that protected impacts not only reduce deforestation but also rural poverty (Andam et al. 2010);
  - d. Application at the species level, for which counterfactuals for the impact of conservation on extinction risk have been estimated using the Red List Index excluding genuine observed reductions in extinction risk, revealing that the slide towards extinction would have been 20% worse in the absence of conservation (Hoffmann et al. 2010). These techniques also allow teasing out the interventions that are primarily responsible for driving change;
  - e. Recognition that this is a massive underestimate of conservation impacts, because it does not incorporate situations where the extinction risk facing a species would have worsened, but did not change as a result of conservation action. Hoffmann et al. (2015) assess this impact for all ungulate species to show that conservation reduces counterfactuals eight-fold;
  - f. Pioneering application of these same techniques to the level of conservation investments made by an individual institution (Young et al. 2015);
  - g. Recent efforts by the [IUCN WCPA/SSC Joint Taskforce on Biodiversity & Protected Areas](#) have considered the impacts of protected area coverage of key biodiversity areas on species extinction risk (Butchart et al. 2012) and population trends (as yet unpublished), including for the specific case of the [GEF](#);
  - h. Development of mechanisms to institutionalise such measures of conservation impacts through “[green list](#)” approaches for species, ecosystems, and protected areas; and
  - i. Finally, important research priorities include application of such approaches to other types of conservation action, notably for invasive species and sustainable use. The potential upcoming assessments of invasive species and sustainable use under consideration by the new Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBAES) may provide valuable contributions here.
  
2. What are the implications of these analyses for solutions for a crowded planet? In particular, how does consideration relative to counterfactuals inform the development of the GEF 2020 Vision?
  - a. It is envisioned that counterfactual comparisons will inform each of the 3 “Strategic Axes” of the GEF 2020 Vision: Integration – Innovation – Transformation.
  - b. These will also include space for speculation on currently un-anticipated elements, for example from space exploration, geo-engineering, and synthetic biology.

### **Potential partners and lead writers**

IUCN Commissions; others. Specific contributions are anticipated from: i) SSC (impacts of conservation action on Red List Index; species green listing; illegal wildlife trade, invasive species; the impact of SSC in general, impacts of sustainable use approaches (with CEESP)); ii) WCPA (impacts of protected areas

on reducing deforestation and population declines; protected area green listing); iii) CEM (ecosystem green listing); and iv) CEESP (impacts of sustainable use approaches (with SSC)).

## **Products**

A White Paper on *Conservation Impacts in Safeguarding the Global Commons* consisting of two parts.

- i. A full report (White Paper) to be utilized as the input for the planned major World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons outlining three contributions towards the “Solutions” concepts, each one embodying the main axes of GEF 2020 Strategy - Integration, Innovation, and Transformation.
- ii. A short summary paper outlining outlines the issues/questions and broad-stroke elements of solutions. This paper should be of the quality to be publishable in Science or Nature.

## **Timeline and presentation of work**

- i. Carry out the work in dialogue with the GEF and IUCN taking on board key comments on an early draft of the paper and the solutions for a crowded planet (during Q1-Q2 of 2016).
- ii. Present the draft final report/paper at a review meeting to the GEF, IUCN and an Advisory Board (incl. technical experts) for comment (at a date to be commonly determined in March/early April 2016)
- iii. Revise the draft report/paper within max. of 30 calendar days after such formal review.
- iv. Submit the two papers listed in the section above to GEF via IUCN end of April (or latest 30 calendar days after the Advisory Board meeting).
- v. Participate actively and give presentations at
  - b. **Science-Policy dialogue workshops** in preparation of the World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons (Oct 2016);
  - d. **A World Conservation Congress workshop** (September 2016) to discuss the Global Commons agenda and bring in the findings of this paper; and
  - e. **World Conference on the Global Environmental Commons** (likely to be held in Q1 2017).

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## **ANNEX G: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ADVISORY BOARD to the *World Conference on Global Commons on a Crowded Planet***

### **Background**

Realizing that societal decisions made in the next decade are key to determining the planet's future, the GEF, IUCN, Stockholm Resilience Center and IIASA are proposing to organize a World Conference on "*The Global Environmental Commons – Solutions for a Crowded Planet*". The Conference is aimed at *engaging with world thought leaders in a dialogue to creatively and constructively design solutions that can ensure a sustainable pathway to safeguard the global commons for the future of our planet and for humanity.*

Organized in the year when the GEF celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Conference will identify *integrated* solutions that are *innovative* in bringing together different stakeholders (private sector and governments, coalitions of nations that face similar challenges, etc.), and that are *transformative* and can be brought to scale and mainstreamed into relevant national and international policies. The aim is that the Conference can help create the beginning of a movement towards **transformational pathways to safeguard the global commons on a crowded planet.**

### **Process**

A three-step process will lead up to the World Conference.

The first step is drafting of a science-based position paper, building on the planetary boundaries concept and identifying possible solution paths. The Position Paper will be co-authored by IIASA and the Stockholm Resilience Center. The Position Paper will form the main science backbone to translate the planetary boundary concept into actionable, innovative, and transformative solution pathways to address key threats to the Global Commons.

The second step is a science-policy dialogue aimed at validating the Position Paper, and investigate scalable pathways to implement these solutions.

The third step is the World Conference itself. It will be an exclusive, by invitation only event that will bring together world thought leaders to reflect on these actionable pathways for the identified solutions. One output of the Conference will be a *Call for Action* to promote the implementation of the Solutions for a Crowded Planet.

### **Executive Organizing Committee**

The process leading to the World Conference will be overseen by an Executive Organizing Committee (EOC). The EOC will consist of the following members:

- Naoko Ishii, GEF
- Johan Rockstrom, Stockholm Resilience Center
- Nabojša Nakicenovic, IIASA
- Inger Andersen, IUCN
- Dominic Waughray, WEF (TBC)
- Rosina Bierbaum, STAP
- Andrew Steer, WRI (TBC)

## Advisory Board

An Advisory Board will provide advice and guidance to the EOC overall messages and intended outcomes of the World Conference. The Advisory Board will be composed of recognized global leaders in science and policy, 'dot-connectors', private sector champions, innovators and leaders from the civil society. Members will be called in their personal capacity based on expertise rather than institutional affiliation.

The main roles of the Advisory Board are to

- Review the Position Paper/White Papers to assure relevance as a credible, strategic basis for the process<sup>13</sup>;
- Advise on the overall directions and agenda for the Science-Policy Dialogue and the World Conference;
- Act as sounding board for the draft “*Call for Action*” emerging from the Science-Policy Dialogue workshops before its presentation and refinement at the World Conference;
- Advise on strategic invitees to the High Level Conference and be actively engaged in liaising with key invitees prior to the event;
- Serve as an ambassador for the Global Commons and proposed solution pathways among global leaders across their networks.

The Advisory Board is envisioned to have no more than 10 to 15 members. Efforts will be made to balance its composition for representation of a range of disciplines, stakeholder concerns, origin and gender.

Key criteria for consideration are:

- Global recognized status of the individual and ability to catalyze follow-up action through their networks;
- Adequate representation from government and private sector;
- Balance across key sectors relevant to key threats and solutions, including finance, energy, food, water, environment, social development;
- Representation by civil society groups and interests, including e.g. think tanks, media, and addressing gender and age specific interests;
- Balanced participation of global “North” and “South”.

Note that the above criteria may also serve as a guide for the selection of invitees for the High Level Conference.

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<sup>13</sup> Note: in addition to strategic inputs by the Advisory Board the papers will be technically peer reviewed for their science and modeling merit