GEF-6 PROGRAM FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT (PFD)

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF TRUST FUND

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PART I: PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION

Program Title:	**GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND CRIME PREVENTION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**		
Country(ies):	Global	GEF Program ID:[1]	9071
Lead GEF Agency:	WBG	GEF Agency Program ID:	P155395
Other GEF Agenc(ies):	UNDP UNEP IUCN WWF AsDB	Submission Date:	04-23-2015
Other Executing Partner(s):	Governments of participating countries, Regional Centers of Excellence	Program Duration(Months)	84
GEF Focal Area (s):	Multi-focal	Program Agency Fee ($):	8,133,974
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities ☐ IAP-Commodities ☐ IAP-Food Security ☐		
Program Commitment Deadline: December 30, 2016			

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[2]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Expected Outcomes**	**Trust Fund**	**Amount (in $)**	
			GEF Program Financing	**Co-financing**
BD-1 Program 1 (select) (select)	Increase revenue for protected area systems and globally significant protected areas to meet total expenditures required for management.	GEFTF	1,000,000	0
BD-1 Program 1 (select) (select)	Improve management effectiveness of protected areas.	GEFTF	4,803,136	38,400,000
BD-1 Program 2	Increase in area of terrestrial and marine ecosystems of global significance in new protected areas and increase in threatened species of global significance protected in new protected areas	GEFTF	6,364,355	48,317,558
BD-2 Program 3 (select) (select)	Reduction in rates of poaching of rhinos and elephants and other threatened species and increase in arrests and convictions (this outcome will need fine-tuning)	GEFTF	37,759,252	193,583,930
BD-3 Program 7	Increased genetic diversity of globally significant cultivated plants and domesticated animals that are sustainably used within production systems	GEFTF	1,315,785	16,768,482
BD-4 Program 9 (select) (select)	Sector policies and regulatory frameworks incorporate biodiversity considerations.	GEFTF	4,562,680	16,690,630

[1] Program ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

[2] When completing Table A, refer to the excerpts on *GEF 6 Results Frameworks for GETF, LDCF and SCCF*.

(select) CCM-2 Program 4 (select)	Accelerated adoption of management practices for GHG emission reduction and carbon sequestration	GEFTF	2,605,688	21,682,400
LD-1 Program 1 (select) (select)	Improved agricultural, rangeland and pastoral management	GEFTF	2,685,321	9,100,000
LD-2 Program 3 (select) (select)	Improved forest management and/or restoration	GEFTF	1,029,413	15,963,720
LD-3 Program 4 (select) (select)	Integrated landscape management practices adopted by local communities based on gender sensitive needs	GEFTF	9,004,257	40,017,150
(select) (select) SFM-1	Cross-sector policy and planning approaches at appropriate governance scales, avoid loss of high conservation value forests.	GEFTF	8,019,229	56,418,600
(select) (select) SFM-2	Increased application of good management practices in all forests by relevant government, local community and private sector actors.	GEFTF	3,453,434	32,500,000
(select) (select) SFM-3	Integrated landscape restoration plans to maintain forest ecosystem services are implemented at appropriate scales by government, private sector and local community actors, both women and men.	GEFTF	7,774,920	23,694,590
		Total Program Costs	**90,377,470**	**513,137,060**

B. INDICATIVE PROGRAM RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Program Objective:

Promote wildlife conservation, wildlife crime prevention and sustainable development to reduce impacts to known threatened species from poaching and illegal trade.

Program Components	Financing Type[3]	Program Outcomes[4]	Trust Fund	(in $)	
				GEF Program Financing	Co-financing
Component 1. Reduce Poaching and Improve Community Benefits and Co-management	TA/INV	Outcome 1: Reduction in rates of poaching of rhinos and elephants and other threatened species and increase in arrests and convictions (baseline established per participating country) *Indicators and targets*:	GEFTF	64,989,100	390,704,882

[3] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

[4] **ANNEX B** shows the complete list of indicators (preliminary)

		• Number of viable species populations at site level (measured by IUCN Red List and--for elephants--PIKE figures) or Population of known threatened species at project sites (increase – to be further refined and how to be measured uniformly) • Rates of poaching related arrests and convictions in program sites (increase at first, then decrease over time—to be further refined). • Protected areas management effectiveness (METT) score (increase) Outcome 2: Increased incentives for communities to live with and manage wildlife, derived from wildlife management in support of sustainable development *Indicators and targets*: • Number of direct project beneficiaries (from capacity building, trainings, equipment, jobs, revenue and income, products such as sustainably harvested meat, wildlife conflict measures, etc.) at the local and community level from wildlife management, sustainable livelihoods and economic development (i.e. tourism and other natural resources management and conservation activities) (increase) Outcome 3: Integrated landscape management practices and restoration plans to maintain forest ecosystem services implemented by government, private sector and local community actors, both women and men • Area of forest resources restored in the landscape, stratified by forest management actors. • Deployment of low GHG technologies and practices.			
Component 2 Reduce Wildlife Trafficking	TA/INV	Outcome 4: Enhanced national and international interagency collaboration to fight organized wildlife crime by supporting initiatives that target enforcement along the entire illegal supply chain of threatened wildlife and products. *Indicators and targets* • Number of dedicated wildlife crime coordination mechanisms and operational units established and, number of joined up intelligence-led operations (inter agency and regional / transnational) (increase) • Number of arrests and numbers of successfully prosecuted cases (including 'kingpins') based on anti-money laundering (AML) operations and protocols that prosecute and seize the assets of wildlife criminals (increase),. • Number and percentage of seizures of wildlife and wildlife products at air and seaports, road, rail, leading to arrests, prosecutions and convictions. (increase).	GEFTF	17,856,787	95,847,694

Component 3. Reducing Demand	TA	Outcome 5: Reduction of demand from key consumer countries (compared to baseline). *Indicators and targets:* • Changes in behavior and attitudes towards consumption of illegal wildlife products (compared to baseline), • Awareness amongst target groups of negative impacts of illegal wildlife trade for global environment, security and development • Number of markets/shops/on-line retailers selling illegal wildlife products (disaggregated) compared to baseline or Reduction in illegal sales of wildlife products, measured through market assessments of traditional and online retail operations	GEFTF	0[5]	0
Component 4. Knowledge, Policy Dialogue and Coordination	TA	Outcome 6: Improved coordination among program stakeholders and other partners, including donors *Indicators and targets*: • Establishment and functioning of a donor forum or establishment of donor high-level reporting system • Program monitoring system successfully developed and used for decision making, • Number of South-south exchanges that address wildlife crisis	GEFTF	3,500,000	4,000,000
		Subtotal		86,345,887	490,552,576
		Program Management Cost (PMC)[6]	(select)	4,031,583	22,584,484
		Total Program Cost		90,377,470	513,137,060

PMC is the total of the Project Management Costs of all child projects. For multiple trust fund projects, please provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: (PMC breakdown).

C. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROGRAM BY SOURCE, BY NAME AND BY TYPE

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount ($)
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grants	5,902,900
GEF Agency	WBG	Grants/Credits	168,000,000

[5] This component does not have financing for the June 2014 GEF work program, but we expect to receive child projects in the future that will finance activities under this component. Also, during preparation, an assessment of ongoing initiatives by many NGOs and governments in demand reduction will be done to determine which initiatives become an integral part of the Program

[6] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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.

Recipient Government	National and local governments	In kind/ grants	129,135,060
Donor Agency	DFID, EU, Agence Francaise de Developpement, Others	In kind/ grants	27,669,000
CSO	Born Free Foundation, Birdlife Botswana International, Gorongosa Restoration Project (GRP), Wildlife, Conservation Society (WCS), Snow Leopard Trust, Snow Leopard Conservancy, ZSL, IUCN, WWF, Congo Conservation Society, Odzala Kokoua Fondation, United for Wildlife (TRAFFIC, WWF, WCS, Royal Foundation)	In kind/ grants	86,962,950
Beneficiaries	Community-Based Organizations around Gorongosa National Park[7]	In kind	200,000
Private Sector	CSR, Microcredit Funds, Forestry Industrial Ouesso, etc.	Grants	5,267,150
Others	IFAD, UNODC, WCO, Interpol, CITES Secretariat	Grant	90,000,000
Total Cofinancing			513,137,060

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

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Country Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					Program Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)*	Total c= a+b
WBG	GEFTF	Global	Biodiversity		5,000,000	450,000	5,450,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Global	Biodiversity		2,000,000	180,000	2,180,000
WBG	GEFTF	Gabon	Biodiversity		5,155,963	464,037	5,620,000
WBG	GEFTF	Gabon	Land Degradation		880,734	79,266	960,000
WBG	GEFTF	Gabon	Multi-focal Areas	SFM	3,018,349	271,651	3,290,000
WBG	GEFTF	Zambia	Biodiversity		2,683,486	241,514	2,925,000
WBG	GEFTF	Zambia	Climate Change		1,341,743	120,757	1,462,500
WBG	GEFTF	Zambia	Land Degradation		1,341,743	120,757	1,462,500
WBG	GEFTF	Zambia	Multi-focal Areas	SFM	2,683,486	241,514	2,925,000
WBG	GEFTF	Congo Republic	Biodiversity		3,660,169	329,415	3,989,584

[7] At this stage, child projects did not describe the co-financing that beneficiaries will provide. This will be assessed during the PPG stage and this number is likely to be higher.

WBG	GEFTF	Congo Republic	Land Degradation		546,697	49,203	595,900
WBG	GEFTF	Congo Republic	Multi-focal Areas	SFM	2,103,434	189,309	2,292,743
UNDP	GEFTF	Mozambique	Biodiversity		7,500,000	675,000	8,175,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Mozambique	Land Degradation		3,000,000	270,000	3,270,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Mozambique	Multi-focal Areas	SFM	5,250,000	472,500	5,722,500
UNDP	GEFTF	Congo Republic	Biodiversity		1,083,500	97,515	1,181,015
UNDP	GEFTF	Congo Republic	Land Degradation		450,000	40,500	490,500
UNDP	GEFTF	Congo Republic	Climate Change		550,000	49,500	599,500
UNDP	GEFTF	Congo Republic	Multi-focal Areas	SFM	1,041,750	93,758	1,135,508
UNDP	GEFTF	Cameroon	Biodiversity		2,220,000	199,800	2,419,800
UNDP	GEFTF	Cameroon	Land Degradation		385,000	34,650	419,650
UNDP	GEFTF	Cameroon	Muli-focal Areas	SFM	1,302,500	117,225	1,419,725
UNDP	GEFTF	Botswana	Biodiversity		1,803,211	162,289	1,965,500
UNDP	GEFTF	Botswana	Land Degradation		4,193,578	377,422	4,571,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Ethiopia	Biodiversity		7,294,495	656,505	7,951,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Tanzania	Biodiversity		3,753,211	337,789	4,091,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Tanzania	Land Degradation		887,431	79,869	967,300
UNDP	GEFTF	Tanzania	Climate Change		713,945	64,255	778,200
UNDP	GEFTF	India	Biodiversity		6,662,320	599,609	7,261,929
UNDP	GEFTF	India	Land Degradation		1,033,808	93,042	1,126,850
UNDP	GEFTF	India	Muli-focal Areas	SFM	3,848,064	346,326	4,194,390
UNDP	GEFTF	Indonesia	Biodiversity		6,988,853	628,997	7,617,850
Total Grant Resources					**90,377,470**	**8,133,974**	**98,511,444** [8]

- Please indicate fees related to this Program. Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.

[8] This total does not include the PPG of the child projects which will be submitted separately.

E. PROGRAM'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS[9]

Provide the expected program targets as appropriate. [10]

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Indicative ProgramTargets
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	*25,096,730 hectares*
2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	*9,271,000 hectares*
3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services	Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins;	*N/A number of freshwater basins*
	20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels	*N/A percent of fisheries, by volume*
4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path	750 million tons of CO_{2e} mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	*608,000 metric tons*
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)	*N/A metric tons*
	Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury	*N/A metric tons*
	Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)	*N/A ODP tons*
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	*Number of Countries: N/A*
	Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries	*Number of Countries: N/A*

PART II: PROGRAMMATIC JUSTIFICATION

1. Program 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 program/ projects, c) the proposed alternative scenario, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the program, d) incremental/ additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing; and e) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

A) THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM, ROOT CAUSES AND BARRIERS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED

1. The illegal wildlife trade is a multifaceted global threat. The problem is particularly acute in Africa, where charismatic species – the African elephant, white and black rhinos, as well as dozens of other species such as pangolins – are being poached to the brink of extinction. In 2014, over 25,000 elephants were slaughtered for their ivory. The rhino poaching crisis is similarly escalating: in 2008, 13 rhinos were poached in South Africa in the entire

[9] Provide those indicator values in this table to the extent applicable to your proposed program. Progress in programming against these targets for the program 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.

[10] These numbers have been estimated

year. In 2014, three were poached daily. But the illegal trade affects all regions, with species being slaughtered and traded within countries, across borders, and between regions.

2. The impact on species under threat is startling with many being poached or illegally harvested at unsustainable levels. This is having implications on broader environmental services, especially as keystone species are disappearing from entire landscapes. This is reducing dramatically the ecosystem services provided by elephants, the grazing services provided by rhinos and giraffes, as well as the myriad services underpinned by the many other species being targeted.

3. The wildlife trade mirrors other crimes, for which the negative relationship of the crime to development has been conclusively established (Heinemann and Verner 2006, Ayers, 1997). When natural resources and wildlife are extracted illegally, it is effectively lost income- whether private, in the form of lost wages, or depressed prices in legal markets due to increased supply, or public, in the form of foregone taxes and royalties where legal markets exists. The Environmental Justice Foundation estimates that Guinea loses $105 million worth of fish to pirate fishing yearly. Crime affecting natural resources and the environment inflict damage on developing countries worth more than US$70 billion a year (World Bank 2014). Biodiversity accounts for over a third of the wealth of the poor, providing them food, medicines and opportunities for income. Security and good governance are further degraded as corruption balloons in concert with crime, and guns are becoming more common in rural areas as they are often traded for ivory. As the stock of biodiversity disappears, so too the investment opportunities that attract the private sector, particularly to engage in non-consumptive and consumptive uses such as tourism and sport hunting, a critical economic driver in many countries.

4. A recent report from UNWTO, shows that wildlife watching represents 80% of the total annual sales of trips to Africa, with the wildlife safari as the most popular product. The species most threatened by poaching such as elephants and rhinos, are among the most popular in wildlife tourism. For example Tanzania's tourism sector, which is wildlife and nature-based, generated $4 billion in revenues in 2013, representing 13% of GDP – its top source of FDI. The illegal wildlife trade is diminishing the number of jobs locally and reducing revenues flowing to local communities and local government through the tourism sector and associated economic activities. The contraband is also polluting legal trade in natural resources, especially when species are difficult to tell apart (which can be the case in particular with species lower on the trophic chain). Together, this is further impoverishing many countries' communities by reducing opportunities for development at the rural frontier and robbing governments of much needed revenue to sustain strong growth. This in turn is increasing tomorrow's poverty and the exposure and vulnerability of many families who depend on the stock and flow of natural capital as a safety net and a pathway out of poverty.

5. ***Root causes and Barriers***: The decline of viable populations of known threatened species resulting from the international wildlife trade crisis can be attributed to the following root causes:

a. Increased demand for illegal wildlife products: Wildlife poaching is driven by a rising demand for illegal wildlife products, particularly ivory, especially from the rapidly growing economies of Asia. Although the value of illegal trade remains uncertain, it has variously been estimated at between USD 5 – 20 billion per annum. These estimates suggest that wildlife crime is the fourth most lucrative type of transnational crime after illegal narcotics, humans and armaments. Wildlife crime is a very lucrative business providing short-term gains to a few criminals and in turn is driving poaching.

b. Increased organized crime and transnational trading networks: Criminals and militia capture the main value of wildlife products (particularly rhino and ivory). Poorer people would not engage in poaching were it not for wider networks able to transport ivory and rhino horn out of source countries to end-user markets. It is this dynamic where we can point to a link to poverty and trafficking since it is the networks (transport, organized crime, use of diplomatic bag) that are able to capture the real value of wildlife products. The active involvement of local rebel militias and

criminal mafias is also undermining security, as well as robbing families of their breadwinners as park rangers are being murdered (over 1000 killed in 35 countries in the last decade alone).

c. Weakened governance and institutions: The illegal wildlife trade exacerbates already weak institutions and transparent governance systems, fuelling corruption and elite capture. Where there is a lack of economic opportunity, people are easily enticed to engage in crime as a means to sustain their livelihood.

d. Lack of benefit from wildlife by communities. Poaching is sometimes opportunistic, and as such is often made possible on the ground by the involvement of local or neighboring community members in tacitly supporting, cooperating with, providing services to, and participating in the activities of criminal poaching gangs. In many cases, this has developed out of a context of policies that excluded local communities from deriving benefits from wildlife and their habitats in the name of effective conservation, creating resentment and a sense of alienation. In some cases this situation has combined with very weak enforcement in protected areas, and continued rural poverty and lack of economic opportunity, to provide conditions in which criminal poaching thrives, and continues to feed illegal trafficking. In many countries, the revenues captured from tourism and hunting do not go back to the communities thus creating disincentives for them to protect or manage wildlife sustainably.

e. Habitat loss: In addition to the IWT, natural resources are under pressure and in decline due to land use change, deforestation, illegal logging, rapid urbanization, poorly planned infrastructure development and resource extraction, and other factors. The decline in biodiversity is linked to land degradation, and the loss of soil and water, leading to increased pressure and competition on deteriorating resources. Rapid population growth in rural areas is correlated with the increased habitat loss, leading to increased human wildlife conflicts as wildlife and humans need for the land and its resources overlaps. This is a serious challenge across much of Africa since it can lead to retaliatory killing and undermine support for conservation.

6. Specific barriers to achieving the program objective of promoting wildlife conservation, wildlife crime prevention and sustainable development to reduce poaching and illegal trade are as follows:

7. Barrier 1 is the absence in many cases of effective enforcement by well resourced, well trained, professional and merit-based state protected areas agencies. These authorities legally own the wildlife resource but are frequently underfunded and under-capacitated, which means that there is little effective enforcement, and in some cases a *de facto* open access regime in which people are able to utilize the wildlife resource for subsistence, for criminal poaching purposes, or for elite recreational hunting, frequently on an unsustainable basis. Often this results in 'frontier economy' conditions, where prices are rising and markets expanding without corresponding development of institutional constraints through definitions of legal ownership and regulations on use. If wildlife is to be owned by the state and not the communities, tight and effective enforcement is absolutely essential in order to avoid the tragedy of the commons. Barrier 1 and 2 combine to make it difficult to address the objective of stopping poaching at the beginning of the illegal value chain.

8. Barrier 2 is the improper land use planning which is a major contributor to increased competition between different land uses and has exacerbated Human-Wildlife Conflict where protected areas are adjacent to human settlements. The main challenge to be addressed therefore, is the fragmented land-use planning and management practices as they intensify competition for land and other natural resources, and create conflict among different users, with negative consequences on livelihoods and biodiversity. Although knowledge on how to effectively manage ecosystems is increasing, very little of the currently available knowledge is being utilized to manage the community land, agriculture farms, forest concessions, etc., to ensure that a landscape management approach to optimize each land use type.

9. Barrier 3 is the lack of ownership/value of wildlife to the communities who live with it. Since wildlife is in most legal systems considered a state-owned resource, and since communities co-existing with wildlife typically bear the costs of loss of livestock, crops and life without gaining significant economic benefit from wildlife, the

wildlife itself may have little or no net positive economic value to the community. What is lacking in most countries is a systematic dialogue on how to best ensure that communities benefit from land and natural resources, consistent with national priorities and legislation, in order to create the fundamental socio-economic conditions necessary for the long-term persistence of biodiversity in line with the objectives of the CBD.

10. Barrier 4 is the lack of effective national and international coordination to combat transnational smuggling and trafficking. At the national scale there is often a lack of strategic coordination between the range of actors involved in combating IWT, and an absence of dedicated wildlife crime-fighting capacity. Internationally, despite improved efforts to enhance coordination, a vast volume of smuggling and trading goes undetected and unprosecuted, with the kingpins extracting the largest sums of value from the supply chain, but much less frequently arrested, prosecuted and convicted than lower-level players in the chain. There is a need to tackle the trafficking and transit sections of the value chain, whilst simultaneously addressing the supply and demand ends of the chain.

11. Barrier 5 is the inadequacy of efforts at national and global scales to raise awareness and reduce consumer demands for illegally traded products. Despite major public awareness campaigns in many Asian countries, there remains a high level of misinformation and ignorance by consumers in these markets. Awareness raising is also needed in source and transit countries, to promote understanding of the negative impacts of the illegal wildlife trade for the environment, security and development. There is a need for work at national, regional and global scales to disrupt trafficking infrastructure, promote collaboration on anti-trafficking, and raise awareness, as well as a need for ongoing work to understand the multiple dimensions of this complex problem.

B) BASELINE SCENARIO

12. This program builds on many decades of work around the world on strengthening the management effectiveness of protected areas, including enforcement of legislation preventing illegal use of resources. It also builds on decades of work, often in challenging political contexts, on promoting community-based natural resource management[11], which has made significant gains in pointing to pathways out of rural poverty that effectively strengthen enforcement, providing communities with a stake in the preservation of wildlife and their habitats through shared responsibilities for management and shared benefits from their sustainable use, for example through successful community-owned conservancies in Namibia and Kenya with ecotourism operations. In recent decades there has been a growing awareness by governments of the need for communities and indigenous peoples living in and around protected areas to participate in governance and benefit sharing, but implementation has been uneven, and attention has been drawn away from the importance of this work because of the urgency of the poaching crisis and the apparent primacy of state-led enforcement efforts. This program is based on a theory of change that sees both community involvement and strengthening of state-led enforcement efforts as essential in tackling the crisis.

13. The program builds on the recent recommendation of several national, regional and international summits and meetings convened to address the escalating crisis in the illegal wildlife trade. Some summits have resulted in clear political commitments, including the London Conference on the Illegal Wildlife Trade in 2014 and the African Elephant Summit in Botswana in late 2013. The release of the European Commission's Strategic Approach to Conservation in Africa (February, 2015) as well as the African Environmental Ministers Meeting (AMCEN) of March 2015 is evidence of increasing political commitment. In 2013-2014, no fewer than 18 declarations and pledges stemming from these meetings were committed to by governments, IGOs and NGOs, to tackle the illegal wildlife trade and improve wildlife management. These declarations embody comprehensive approaches to stop

[11] For example, see Child B. (1996) The practice and principles of community-based wildlife management in Zimbabwe: The CAMPFIRE programme. *Biodiversity and Conservation* 5, 369-398

poaching and trafficking, reduce the demand and engage communities in wildlife management, while seeking to enhance their livelihoods in ways that link community responsibility and accountability to conservation outcomes.

14. For example, the London IWT Declaration to stop the illegal wildlife trade around the world in February 2014 agreed by representatives from 46 countries from around the world was the most significant event to date. There, the presidents of Chad, Botswana, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Gabon launched the Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI). The Post-London summit took place on March 25, 2015 in Botswana.

15. Other conferences included i) The African Elephant Action Plan, launched at the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wildlife Fauna and Flora (CITES), Doha, Qatar, 13-25 March 2010, ii) The Yaounde Declaration on the Anti-Poaching Campaign in Central Africa, signed in March 2013, iii) The Marrakech Declaration, a 10-point action plan to combat illicit wildlife trafficking, launched by The African Development Bank and WWF, May 3rd, 2013, iv) The African Elephant Summit, Gaborone, Botswana, co-hosted by the Government of Botswana and IUCN, 2nd-4th December 2013, v) the U.S. National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking, Washington DC, 11th February 2014 and Implementation Plan, Feb 2015, vi) two conferences in Tanzania in May and November of 2014 on wildlife crime, both regional and national, vii) "the Symposium on "Beyond Enforcement: communities, governance, incentives and sustainable use in combating wildlife crime" led by IUCN and held in South Africa in February 2015 and, viii) the "International Conference on Illegal Harvesting and Trade of Wild Fauna and Flora in Africa" held in Brazzaville in April 2015.

16. In addition, in the past three years various institutions highlighted the surge in environmental crime and particularly illegal trade in wildlife (see **ANNEX C** for details)

17. In addition to the political commitment, this program also builds on a body of information on this issue, including, "Elephants in the Dust. The African Elephant Crisis", published in 2013. This report presented the findings from Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (CITES MIKE) Program, the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS), the IUCN/SSC African Elephant Specialist Group (AfESG)'s African Elephant Database, work commissioned by the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC), and expert consultations, among others. A robust analysis by the World Bank and partners of ivory economics is also underway.

18. It also builds on a number of GEF's recent national and regional projects targeting these issues, including: a) The GEF-UNEP project (4937) "Strengthening Law Enforcement Capabilities to Combat Wildlife Crime for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Species in South Africa (target: Rhinoceros)", b) The GEF-World Bank project PMIS (5359) "Fighting against wildlife poaching and illegal trade in Africa: the case of African elephants", c) The GEF-UNDP project PMIS (5721) "Rhino Impact Bonds An Innovative Financing Mechanism for Site-Based Rhinoceros Conservation", d) The GEF-UNEP project PMIS (5821) "Engaging policy makers and the judiciary to address poaching and illegal wildlife trade in Africa", e) the GEF-4 MSP, World Bank on "Wildlife Consumption: Reforming Policies and Practices to Strengthen Biodiversity Conservation in Vietnam, ", f) the GEF-WBG-IUCN Save our Species Program. ,

19. Other recent and planned investments include: i) the USAID $6M grant to WCS in support of conservation in Ruaha /Katavi National Parks in Southern, Tanzania, ii) the US $40M donation to Tanzania for a wide anti-poaching and wildlife conservation program over the next four years, iii) the donation of Germany of $51M for the anti-poaching and wildlife conservation program in Tanzania; iv) the USAID $5m grant to IUCN and TRAFFIC to counter trafficking in wildlife from Africa to Asia (the Wildlife TRAPS program); and v) the European Commission's initiative "Larger than elephants. Inputs for the design of an EU strategic approach to Wildlife Conservation in Africa", published in December 2014 and the World Bank's Roadmap for Reducing Illegal Wildlife Crime (February 2014).

20. All the commitments and investments mentioned above represent the broad baseline. The more specific baseline for the Program is composed of recent, current and planned investments, programs, projects and initiatives that have relevance for the theme of the program by the implementing agencies, governments and the co-financing. This baseline will represent the underlying finance upon which a GEF investment is expected to incrementally make a difference. Local, national and global benefits would be achieved through integrating GEF resources with identified baseline activities that will enable tackling the wildlife crisis, poverty of local communities, natural resources management through a landscape approach and climate change mitigation. The proposed program offers the opportunity to do so within a multifocal perspective. Each agency participating in the program will be contributing to the baseline scenario. The program's baseline has three distinct elements.

21. The first element is what the implementing agencies are currently doing to address the wildlife crisis (See **Annex D-1**). The second element is what the countries presenting a child project are doing to address the wildlife issue (See **Annex D-2**). This baseline includes work tackling the IWT issue at all points along the illegal supply chain – including work with communities on co-management and benefit sharing; work to strengthen enforcement on the ground in protected area landscapes; work to ensure national coordination of the police, judiciary, customs and other role-players; work to combat international smuggling, and work to curb consumer demand. The third element is the funding coming from each of the co-financing activities of the 12 child projects (Child project annexes). The estimated aggregated co-financing of child projects amounts to US$ 513 million and includes a series of investment, technical assistance, and analytical work operations. These operations range from Watershed Management, Tourism Development, Conservation Agriculture through IDA credit and grants, and Climate Change MITIGATION through various funds such as REDD+Readiness, PCR (Program for Climate Resilience), the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), BioCarbon Fund, Terra Africa and the Forest Investment Program, UNDP and IFAD funds, government funds, DFID, EU, Agence Francaise de Developpement Private donors, NGOS (ie. Born Free Foundation, Birdlife Botswana International, Gorongosa Restoration Project (GRP), Wildlife, Conservation Society (WCS), Snow Leopard Trust, Snow Leopard Conservancy, ZSL, IUCN, WWF, Congo Conservation Society, Odzala Kokoua Fondation, Community-Based Organizations around Gorongosa National Park, CSR, Microcredit Funds, Forestry Industrial Ouesso, and others.

22. The GEF funding will be incremental to the baseline in that it will make advances in understanding and addressing the dynamics of poaching and the illegal wildlife trade in all its complexity. Interventions to address the current crisis are too few, too small and not targeted strategically enough. In fact, they are often fragmented efforts that rely solely on conservation approaches and fail to include necessary and complementary criminological approaches. As, if not more, importantly they often fail to fully engage communities in wildlife stewardship by ensuring that these critical stakeholders share in and are incentivized by benefits generated from tourism or other natural resource or biodiversity-based economic activity. Some of the most fundamental law enforcement approaches, such as intelligence systems and analysis, targeting and profiling, which are standard tools for other types of crimes, are simply not being applied to efforts to combat illegal wildlife trade. Reducing demand, a critical element of any long-term strategy, does not adopt a sufficiently evidence based, insight led approach, using best practice behavioral change strategic approaches, adapted for a particular cultural context. Finally, the policies, laws and penalties are often outdated and those being developed to address the poaching crisis are often an opportunistic patchwork creating implementation challenges.

C) ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO

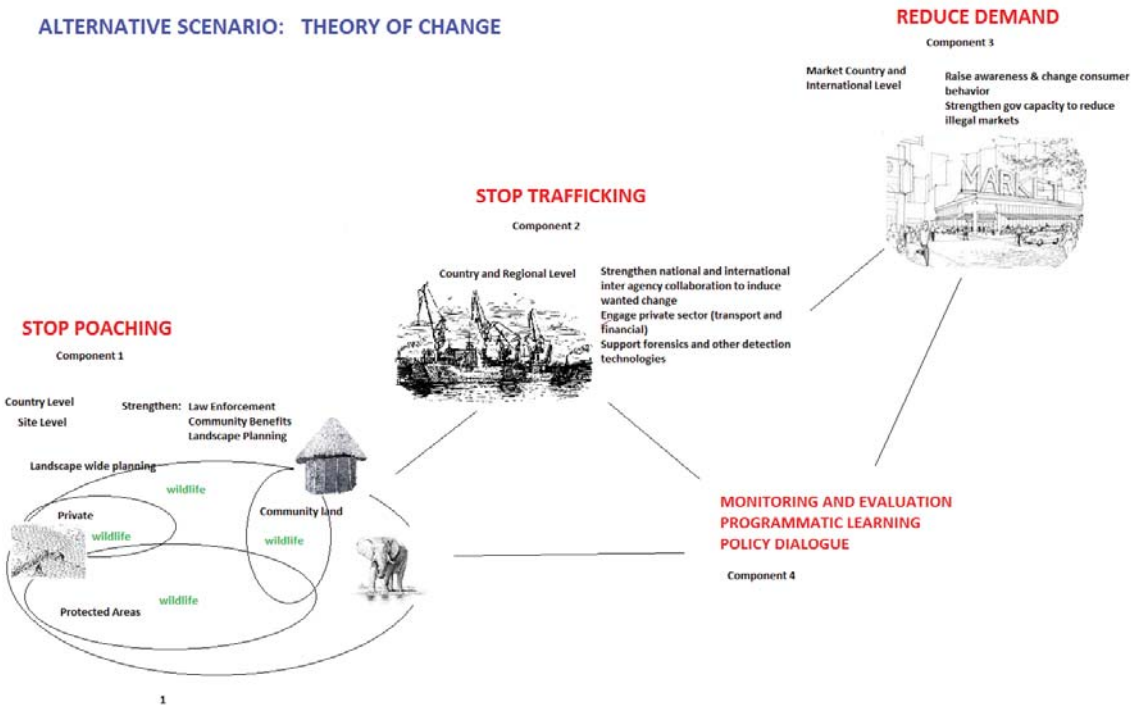
23. The Global Environment Objective of the Program is to promote wildlife conservation, wildlife crime prevention and sustainable development to reduce impacts to known threatened species from poaching and illegal trade.

24. The key outcomes /performance indicators for the Program are:

Kp1: Number of direct project beneficiaries (from capacity building, trainings, equipment, jobs, revenue and income, products such as sustainably harvested meat, wildlife conflict measures, etc.) at the local and community level from wildlife management, sustainable livelihoods and economic development (i.e. tourism and other natural resources management and conservation activities)
Kp2: Rates of poaching arrests and convictions in program sites (increase at first, then decrease over time—to be further refined).
Kp3: Number of viable species populations at site level (measured by IUCN Red List and--for elephants--PIKE figures) or Population of known threatened species at project sites (increase – to be further refined and how to be measured uniformly)
Kp4: Number of dedicated wildlife crime coordination mechanisms and operational units established and, number of joined up intelligence-led operations (inter agency and regional / transnational) (increase)
Kp5: Program monitoring system successfully developed and used for decision making

25. In order to have a significant impact in preventing the extinction of known threatened species by curtailing poaching and the illegal wildlife trade, and promoting the sustainable use of wildlife resources, the Program was designed following a theory of change that would address key distortions and weaknesses across the illegal wildlife value chain. This theory of change addresses the key root causes and barriers discussed earlier. It prioritizes investments in emergency short term interventions to combat wildlife crime, and also in ensuring that the real value of wildlife is reflected in land use planning and incentives in the longer term. Thus, emergency interventions focus on stopping poaching, stopping trafficking and stopping illegal trade. Longer term intervention focus on promoting sustainability, community benefits, effective governance by communities including through land use zonation and natural resource rules and practices. These interventions are designed to act collectively to shift the cost-benefit calculus in relation to the participation by a wide range of actors across the illegal supply chain – both increasing the costs of participation in the illegal trade, and increasing and more equitably sharing the benefits of tightly enforced sustainable management and use of wildlife resources, under the framework of CITES and other multilateral environmental agreements. This builds on the current thinking of the organizations represented on the Program Steering Committee (see paragraph 64), and simultaneously seeks to promote innovative thinking on interventions to address the escalating challenges more effectively. The alternative scenario involves promoting dialogue in the countries in which the child projects are taking place on how to best ensure that communities benefit from land and natural resources, consistent with national priorities and legislation, in order to create the fundamental socio-economic conditions necessary for the long-term persistence of biodiversity which is consistent with the objectives of the CBD.
The theory of change of the alternative scenario is depicted in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Representation of the three levels where the wildlife program will be operating



26. **Stopping poaching**, while improving community benefits, is urgently needed to ensure that viable populations of species are maintained and that the valuable wildlife assets of a country and of communities are not lost to poachers and criminals, thereby increasing poverty and undermining community livelihoods. The largest investment of this program will be to stop poaching through many government led projects supporting on the ground work. Reducing poaching will require enhancing anti-poaching tracking and intelligence operations, through the development, training and education of tactical tracker and intelligence units in all protected area landscapes where much important biodiversity and known threatened species are found. Criminals need to be punished and poaching needs to become very difficult and costly. On the other hand, efforts to ensure that viable wildlife populations are thriving will also be a critical part of the interventions. This will require increasing the extent of conservation areas, ensure the effective protection of species, help reduce habitat loss and consequent loss of range and improve connectivity in the landscape. This also requires prioritized land use planning to conserve connectivity for the species to survive, particularly critical for regions with very high human population densities and growing agricultural pressures. This, in turn, will help mitigate and reduce human-wildlife conflict such as that arising from elephant damage to croplands. Most importantly, there is also a need to increase the value of wildlife and associated ecosystem services by providing opportunities for development through nature-based tourism and other agriculture, forestry and natural resources projects that bring direct benefits to local communities.

27. **Stopping trafficking** requires strengthening anti-smuggling, customs control and container customs search programs, and especially control of small airstrips, and boats in ports and where rivers enter the sea, along with the use of controlled deliveries and DNA and other isotope markers to identify the source of wildlife, the criminal networks and buyers. It also requires strengthened efforts against corruption at all levels, including in the military, the police, the wildlife enforcement communities and other governmental agencies, using trans-boundary criminal intelligence units and further improving training and organization of specialized, well-paid and strongly-mandated anti-poaching units working inside and outside protected areas with both intelligence and enforcement operations. Other interventions include strengthening international interagency collaboration to fight organized wildlife crime

by supporting programs that target the enforcement along the entire supply chain, such as through ICCWC (International consortium to combat wildlife crime comprised of CITES, UNODC, WCO, WBG and INTERPOL), regional criminal intelligence units, judiciary training and the practical application of the full range of intelligence, experience, and methodologies.

28. **Stopping demand** requires a combination of strict enforcement for those trafficking wildlife and wildlife products at the end of the value chain, and conducting targeted awareness raising among end-users across the world, but particularly in relation to rhino and elephant products in East and Southeast Asia, of the devastating impacts of their present demand. The campaigns would need to dissuade consumers from purchasing illegally traded wildlife. Such campaigns, though often expensive and time-consuming, can be successful, as demonstrated by the significant shift in consumer opinion in Asia on the shark fin trade as a result of such a campaign (though noting that this intervention by itself has not been sufficient to stem illegal killing of sharks). Criminals will continue to kill wildlife and traffic in contraband as long as the potential profits remain so high. It is critical to engage individual consumers in key consuming nations in this fight by educating them about the impacts of wildlife trafficking, on people as well as wildlife, and encouraging them to examine their purchasing patterns. It is also important to recognize the complexity of the supply-demand relationship, since effective anti-poaching work in some areas may curb overall supply and drive prices up, increasing the pay-off for remaining poachers, pointing to the centrality of simultaneous demand reduction in key markets.

29. This Program will coordinate investments to reduce poaching, strengthen community-based wildlife management and tourism development, improve protected area management, curtail trafficking and reduce demand for illegal wildlife and wildlife products. The child projects under this program collectively include elements of work across all of these areas.

30. The Program will work with the GEF Secretariat and other GEF agencies to ensure coordination and synergies are realized at national level with all GEF investments within each country. It will target Program three of the GEF-6 (2014-2018) Biodiversity Strategy, "Preventing the Extinction of Known Threatened Species", a newly designed program that acknowledges that, while many GEF programs actively address many of the threats driving species extinction, additional efforts are required to address hunting, poaching, and illegal trade of endangered species. The proposed Program also aims to target other focal areas and strategic objectives of GEF-6, including: Biodiversity, Land Degradation, Climate Change and Sustainable Forest Management.

31. A multifocal program is the best approach to respond to the wildlife crisis. Wildlife crime is a symptom of deeper problems faced by many developing nations and may not just result in the loss of iconic species such as the elephant, rhino, gorilla, and chimpanzee, tiger, leopard, pangolin, etc... The root cause of wildlife crime is the poverty of local communities, lack of valuation of ecosystems and natural resources management, undeveloped tourism potential, weakened governance and institutions, increased land and water use conflicts, increased human and wildlife conflicts, and increased illegal logging and land degradation and associated loss of wildlife and its habitat. To address this crisis, an integrated and more ambitious program is required that uses a landscape planning approach and alliances with multiple sectors and funding sources.

32. Additional levels of investments and collaboration between development and conservation partners can bring together in an integrated approach biodiversity conservation and natural resources management, tourism development and poverty reduction. This combined approach can create stronger incentives for local communities to engage in protecting wildlife and habitats and reduce their poverty levels and for public-private partnerships to support sustainable local development at a landscape level. With respect to wildlife crime, new approaches are needed to target site interventions alongside controlling trafficking and awareness-raising; innovative technologies to detect and prevent crime; and real disincentives to illegal actions. Innovation, communication, and partnerships between governments, financial institutions, companies, communities, conservation organization, civil society, and all key stakeholders is necessary to successfully combat wildlife crime.

33. This will be achieved by interventions across the source-transit-demand country nexus, as follows:

Component 1. Reduce Poaching and Improve Community Benefits and Co-management

34. This component aims at reducing the threats to endangered species that are bringing them to unviable populations due to poaching, overharvesting and habitat reduction. The goal is to improve wildlife populations at site level so that that local and global extinctions are prevented. This will be done by investing in activities that: i) reduce the rates of poaching (through enforcement and anti-poaching measures and capacity building of enforcement agencies) (sub-component 1.1); ii) improve wildlife management and enhance wildlife-related community livelihood benefits (sub-component 1.2) and; iii) promote integrated landscape management practices and restoration plans to maintain forest ecosystem services and wildlife management (sub-component 1.3). The investments will be made in targeted sites within source countries, with a particular focus on Africa and Asia, but with options for countries from other continents to submit projects consistent with Program 3 of the GEF-6 Biodiversity Strategy. In designing the interventions under this component and its sub-components, it will be important to strengthen the disincentives for illegal behavior, increase the incentives for good wildlife stewardship and decrease the costs of living with wildlife. Landscape level planning can help reduce habitat loss and consequent loss of wildlife range and improve connectivity in the landscape. This requires prioritized land use planning to conserve connectivity for the species to survive, particularly critical for regions with very high human population densities and growing agricultural pressures. This, in turn, will help mitigate and reduce human-elephant conflicts on croplands. To increase the value of wildlife and associated ecosystem services, it will be important to provide opportunities for development through nature-based tourism and other agriculture, forestry and natural resources projects that provide direct benefits to local communities. To decrease the costs of living with wildlife the most successful experiences of human wildlife co-existence and successful reduction of conflicts will be used in designing the interventions.

35. Sub-component 1.1: To reduce poaching levels, interventions will be based on solid problem diagnosis, a well-articulated theory of change and supported by application of the ICCWC wildlife crime toolkit, broad and active stakeholder engagement, a focus on criminalizing kingpins rather than local communities, and best international practice across the prevention, detection, deterrence, and recovery agendas in law enforcement. This component on improving law enforcement will work primarily with government agencies and invest in five types of interventions: (i) developing good policies and laws that criminalize industrial poaching and strengthening the capacity to detect and prosecute criminals; (ii) building credible institutions and broad constituencies to act against wildlife crime (across Ministries of Environment, Natural Resources, Justice and Planning and also engaging communities and the private sector, for example); (iii) strengthening site-level surveillance and patrol efforts, through training and equipping rangers and developing monitoring and intelligence systems that involve communities and link to investments in managing human-wildlife conflict; (iv) supporting direct law enforcement efforts from crime scene to court house; and (v) developing anti-money laundering tools and techniques to increase the risk of asset seizure for criminal kingpins.

36. Sub-component 1.2: The second sub-component – enhancing community pathways away from poaching and to receive benefits from economic activities– will focus on a set of interventions and that promote the devolution of rights to use, manage and benefit from (and in some cases own) land and natural resources, providing economic incentives to participate in conservation and sustainable use rather than in illegal activities. This includes codifying community (co-) decision-making over natural resource and protected area management to ensure species are adequately guarded, relative to their commercial value, as the first step in reducing their perceived availability for theft. It may also include: (i) improving participation by all community members (including women, youth and socially marginalized groups) in governance structures and co-management arrangements, e.g. in communally owned land in the buffer zone of protected areas; (ii) supporting the enabling conditions for sustainable management of natural resources by local communities through the provision of technical advisory services and equipment to conduct community land zoning and natural resource mappings, (iii) facilitating negotiation between community structures and parks authorities to ensure a better share of revenue e.g. from sport hunting; (iv) involving

communities in managing human-wildlife conflict, and in monitoring of wildlife and enforcement of sustainable off-take rates of resources, including legal hunting for community use and sale of meat, or live animal sales (where legal in terms of CITES) in buffer zones; and (v) developing public-private-community partnerships for tourism enterprise development such as lodges, and facilitating creation of small community-based enterprises servicing the industry, e.g. guiding and crafts.

37. Sub-component 1.3: This sub-component will base its investments in integrated landscape management and planning, implemented by government, private sector and local community actors to maintain healthy, functioning ecosystems that can support wildlife and wildlife-based economic activities, as well as providing downstream ecosystem services to communities. This includes forest frontiers that are harboring the few remaining forest elephant populations and many other endangered species such as great apes, tigers, etc. Deforestation, especially when conducted illegally and in the absence of good forest management practices, is increasingly associated with elephant and other wildlife poaching. Illegal logging of valuable hardwoods and unsustainable firewood collection for domestic use and the charcoal industry are contributing to widespread deforestation, land degradation, and loss of biodiversity. Unsustainable farming practices such as 'slash-and-burn' agriculture are contributing to land degradation, which in turn has had a significant economic impact, with reduced agricultural productivity from eroded and depleted soils. Unplanned clearing of natural vegetation in the landscapes surrounding protected areas, as well as uncontrolled fires, also contribute to greenhouse gas emission and diminish local resilience to the effects of climate change. Under this sub-component, interventions will also include land use planning, improving forest management practices and protecting carbon stocks, carrying out forest restoration practices, using integrated land management practices and intensive conservation agriculture methods combined with improved access to markets for agricultural produce.

Component 2. Reduce Wildlife Trafficking

38. The Program will complement existing efforts to reduce illegal wildlife trade, such as those mentioned earlier. In particular it will work with non-traditional stakeholders – including the private and financial sectors (i.e. private transport or custom companies and banks), as well as customs and port authorities – to build a constituency primed to uptake the guidance from this Program and from the other initiatives. It will invest in breaking the trade and transportation links that enable the trafficking of illegal wildlife. Interventions will work across the trade chain, from where a species is first poached, to where it is finally laundered into markets, and will focus on (i) creating and/or strengthening the networks between countries and across agencies within countries to ensure the effective criminalization and prosecution of poaching, trafficking, trade and other forms of illegal wildlife crime; (ii) working with state enforcement agencies, trade and customs organizations to raise their interest in combating wildlife crime and to introduce techniques and tools for combating it; (iii) working with the private sector – both the transportation industry and the financing sector that underwrites it – to mobilize their expertise and interest in removing wildlife contraband from their transport chains and increasing the cost of capital to those transport companies who aid and abet illegal wildlife trade; and (iv) supporting technological and forensic advances – from DNA to spatial mapping – to improve the deterrence, detection and prosecution of wildlife crime along the entire value/trade chain. This component would contribute to developing and disseminating policies and regulations to ban real and virtual illegal markets and remove contraband from legal trade flows and increase public awareness of punitive deterrents to illegal wildlife consumption.

Component 3. Reduce Demand

39. The Program will coordinate investments to reduce international demand for illegal wildlife products in key markets. Interventions will focus on (i) raising awareness about the costs and realities of wildlife crime to deter innocent and ignorant buying, especially of secondary products that may appear far removed from the slaughter killing (e.g. finished carvings, or art or ingredients in tonics and medicines); (ii) outreach in key markets to increase public understanding and visibility of the scale and impacts of illegal wildlife trade on biodiversity, livelihoods, human health, links to organized crime, and availability of sustainable alternatives, (iii) strengthened

capacity of governments to deliver existing demand reduction commitments, (iv) increased legal deterrents for purchase and general public awareness of legal consequences and (v) changing the behavior of target consumer groups, based on understanding the motivations and drivers for purchase and use, and through social, cultural, political and other key opinion leaders and champions of change. These activities will be precisely targeted, evidence-based and be preceded by a sound analysis during the project preparation phase of what drives behavioral change in a particular cultural setting, and also of global lessons from work attempting to reduce demand for other illegal products. This component does not have financing for the June 2014 GEF work program, but we expect child projects in the future that will finance activities under this component. Also, during preparation, an assessment of ongoing initiatives by many NGOs and governments in demand reduction will be done to determine which initiatives become an integral part of the Program.

Component 4: Knowledge, Policy Dialogue and Coordination

40. The fourth component, will focus on Knowledge, Policy Dialogue and Coordination. A global child project has been prepared by WBG/UNDP to implement this component. The goal of this child project is to combat wildlife crime by coordinating investments across the public and private sectors, accelerating learning and investing in direct action to disrupt trafficking infrastructure. The component will enhance the learning uptake from each child project and strengthen the evidence base to underpin more effective and informed policy making and interventions on illegal wildlife trade. This component will coordinate and maintain extensive and continued stakeholder engagement at national and international level to support all components of the project and to strengthen the impact of national, regional and international processes committed to reducing wildlife crime. This will be done through the establishment of a formal consultative mechanism, the Program Steering Committee (discussed below). Some of the ideas proposed in this Program will require exchanges with other donors, NGOs and development agencies (EU, USAID, USFWS, WWF, AWF, ADB, AFD, IUCN, GRASP and others) that would be promoted through conferences or workshops. It will also strengthen stakeholder engagement and coordination to enable civil society, private sector and academia to have a greater voice in the collaborative management of wildlife and in community livelihood development. These shared investments will ensure lessons from individual project interventions from within and outside the Program will be shared widely to scale up successes and avoid failures and will support the national implementation of international agreements on wildlife crime. Investments in knowledge generation and innovation at the global scale – including and especially in information and communications technology – will spawn results that will be cascaded down into each project. This will exploit economies of scale and ensure rapid and correct uptake of results. This component would be designed to complement the national projects and maximize the efficiency of the broader Program and to provide opportunities for south-south learning, foster intergovernmental cooperation, use M&E tools and geospatial services, apply best practices and peer review and develop portfolio-wide training and communication strategies. The global child project also builds on the large set of national child projects to provide a framework for international cooperation in combating IWT, through a specific focus on Reducing Maritime Trafficking between Africa and Asia, and on Disrupting Trafficking Infrastructure. This involves work to ensure effective coordination and learning between African and Asian countries and agencies involved in efforts to reduce maritime transport of illegal wildlife products, including through a potential "tusk-free ports' self-regulation scheme. It also includes work to enhance the capacity of police and trade and customs authorities to prevent, deter and interdict wildlife crime, with transnational investigations of money laundering and smuggling operations, arrests and prosecutions of criminal networks including kingpin individuals.

D) INCREMENTAL REASONING AND EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BASELINE, THE GEFTF AND CO-FINANCING.

41. The Program will provide incremental funding across the suite of project interventions that builds on the newfound availability of funds to fight wildlife crime at the domestic level, as well as on financing from development assistance that focuses on supporting stronger NRM in pursuit of ending wildlife crime. Governments will provide substantial and significant co-financing in cash and in kind for the projects related to the proposed interventions (including investments in the Protected Area system, law enforcement on site and along the criminal value chain),

upcoming loans from MDBs, contributions from the UN Agencies country programs, development agencies (i.e. GIZ, USAID), and grants from other donors, including commitments resulting from the EU's "Larger than elephants: Inputs for the design of an EU strategic approach to Wildlife Conservation in Africa", the Clinton Global Initiative, and the US National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking.

42. The Program will promote a shared vision for change in the supply, trafficking and demand chain and a common objective by the participating partners whose anticipated results are more than the sum of its components. This Program allows for levels of interconnectivity across countries that are using their GEF STAR allocations that could not be achieved through small, isolated projects. Thus, the individual investments can achieve large scale impact. The Program can also enhance internal cohesion and coherence amongst the GEF investments across the GEF implementing agencies. Lessons learned can be shared and applied more readily via south-south exchanges. Finally, coordination and outreach with all the potential partners and collaborators can be achieved to bring more efficiency to the investments and avoid duplication of efforts.

43. This program will contribute to the achievements of the CBD Aichi 2020 Biodiversity targets, particularly target 12: "By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained".

E) INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING-UP

44. Innovation: While there have been many projects and initiatives to protect single species (i.e. tigers, rhinos, and elephants) or particular spaces, this is the first time that a suite of investments will be coordinated to respond to a key driver of biodiversity decline, namely illegal wildlife trade. Interventions will not simply focus on a single species or site, but rather on the mechanisms and underlying enabling conditions that provide the opportunities for criminal activity.

45. Sustainability: This Program will innovate across technology, finance and governance pillars to reduce the cost of combating wildlife crime. Using a coordinated approach, the GEF agencies will work together and in collaboration with other key donors and interventions to shift the baseline for wildlife crime such that the risks will outweigh potential rewards, especially as the supply and demand are both reduced. Building good policies, strong legislation and the capacity to implement and strong institutions across the criminal chain and in source-transit-demand countries, will establish the enabling environment for preventing IWT. The long term sustainability of improved NRM that underlies successful prevention and deterrence will rest in the hands of the National Governments, the agencies in charge of the management of these areas, the local communities the private companies and NGOs that have partnered with the latter. Securing alternative development pathways that rely on a resilient and healthy wildlife stock – such as tourism – and that benefits communities will also reduce the opportunistic elements associated with this crime. The project will seek to create stable situations on the ground where there is proper enforcement along with local communities engaged in wildlife activities (i.e. tourism, trophy hunting, etc.) that generate local benefits while generating global environmental benefits.

46. Potential for scaling-up: The Program will catalyze different innovations across its child projects that can be deployed at speed and scale across all sites. A particular focus on identifying consensus indicators to measure success and allow for causality to be established will allow for smarter investment going forward, which in turn can tap new streams of finance that are results based. The policy and coordination platforms will crowd-in investment going forward and ensure that future interventions can be more effective, accelerate delivery and results, and avoid mistakes.

2. *Stakeholders*. Will program design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from and indigenous people? (yes X☐ /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in program design/preparation:

47. This Program will build on a far-reaching network of stakeholders at the local, national, regional and international levels. At the national level, government commitment is key to the success and sustainability of the Program, as described above. As a result the Program will provide a platform to magnify its interventions across all branches of government including the Executive, the Legislative, the Judiciary and Ministries of Justice, Finance, Tourism, Defense, Planning and Natural Resource Management, to name just a few. Working with law enforcement and protected area agencies with jurisdiction over the species and their habitats, rural communities dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, the transportation networks illegal wildlife travels within, the borders it crosses and the court systems the criminals are brought before, is critical.

48. Given the role of the private sector (often unwittingly) providing the means by which contraband is trafficked, their engagement is also critical to the success of the Program. So too is raising awareness among the financing sector who enables the transportation industry to thrive. Moreover, the Program will actively engage with other private sector actors, particularly in the tourism and health sectors, to make links between the importance of thriving, live animals for their success and the role of rural communities in wildlife management (in the case of tourism), and the impotence of wildlife parts or products to cure disease or illness (in the case of the health sector).

49. The Program will also provide a single-platform to feed innovations and policy developed under its child projects into the myriad regional and global bodies working on wildlife crime, and to transfer knowledge from these bodies to the child projects. In particular, the Program will work closely with ICCWC and its constituent partners (UNODC, Interpol, CITES Secretariat, WCO and WBG), as well as United Nations agencies tackling illegal wildlife trade and the EU and US inter-agency platforms to combat wildlife crime.

50. The Program will also work closely with community-based organizations and local communities, who are invested in the sustainable management of biodiversity, including wildlife, and the income and job opportunities that it provides. This engagement will go beyond consultation to actively involve communities in the design and implementation of child projects and in the learning across the Program. Special attention will be given to ensure the participation of indigenous people at the site level.

51. The Program will also work with national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private actors who will be a key part of the delivery of Program activities. These entities include traditional environmental and conservation organizations, tourism entities, business leaders, religious leader, celebrities, marketing firms and advocacy organizations with established expertise in wildlife management, community development, and deterring wildlife crime.

3. Gender Consideration. Are gender considerations taken into account? (yes X ☐ /no☐). If yes, briefly describe how gender considerations will be mainstreamed into program preparation, taking into account the differences, needs, roles and priorities of men and women.

52. The Program will focus on gender in two areas: firstly, in developing the pathways out of poaching for local communities. In particular, the focus on tourism enhances job opportunities for women. Tourism relies on charismatic species to attract visitors and so is one among several important antidotes to poaching. Moreover, it employs a large segment of the services sector across poor countries, whose ranks are largely peopled by women. Secondly, the Program will work with women and women's groups to reduce the demand for wildlife. Many wildlife products are used in the health sector, as spurious catch-all cures. As women are the primary procurers and managers of family healthcare across the developing world, they are an integral constituency to convince in order to reduce demand. The Program will monitor the impact of economic and other incentives and changes in governance on women

4. Benefits. Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the program at the national and local levels. Do any of these benefits support the achievement of global environmental benefits (for GEF Trust Fund), and/or adaptation to climate change?

53. This Program focuses on disrupting wildlife crime across the supply-transit-demand nexus. Doing this will have immediate and longer term socio-economic benefits for local communities, local and national revenues, and international trade. Combating wildlife crime saves species but it also curbs corruption. This directly benefits local people often kept poor by the bevy of corrupt practices that forestall development and progress. Moreover, combating wildlife crime reduces insecurity and crime in rural areas and creates the infrastructure for effective law enforcement that can spill over from wildlife crime to other crimes that affect rural communities. It will also ensure species and their habitats are better managed and more resilient, thus creating the conditions for communities to continue to use nature as a social safety net, particularly as climate change uncertainty exacerbates already tenuous lives.

54. Local and national treasuries benefit in two ways: first, increased revenues from legal trade in natural resources are assured as the risk of contraband entering trade chains is reduced, and legal businesses that benefit from reduced corruption and a better and safer business environment, can provide improved tax revenues. Governments and communities can also legally exploit natural resources in a sustainable way rather than simply watch as that asset is strip-mined, robbed and ruined.

55. International trade benefits from removing illegal contraband from trade flows, which in turn reduces the cost of surveillance and detection. Removing contraband also speeds up trade flows and reduces the risk of shipments being seized or stopped at borders when legal goods as well as contraband can be held up indefinitely.

56. The Program is designed to provide support to local communities living in rural areas where endangered wildlife lives. The program will provide benefits to these local community through capacity building, trainings, equipment, jobs, revenue and income, products such as sustainably harvested meat, income, meat, wildlife conflict measures, etc.). These benefits will be generated at the local and community level from wildlife management, sustainable livelihoods and economic development (i.e. tourism and other natural resources management and conservation activities).

5. Risks. Indicate risks, including climate change risks, potential social and environmental future risks that might prevent the program objectives from being achieved, and if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the program design:

57. Stakeholder risk: A myriad of government agencies are involved in combating wildlife crime. In many countries, many of these agencies have low capacity and/or suffer from corruption. To mitigate this risk, the Program will work to build credible institutions with transparent and inclusive governance oversight to implement wildlife laws. It will also involve local communities in decision-making to mitigate against elite capture or corruption.

58. Outside of government agencies, there are around 80 partners working towards improving wildlife conservation and preventing wildlife crime. Likewise, many more organizations are working to help communities living with wildlife improve their livelihoods. All the groups have different approaches and focus on what are the best options to address the problems mentioned in this Program. The Program recognizes that there is a risk that consensus might not be reached and that due to limited resources all the stakeholders might not be able to be consulted at this stage in time. To mitigate this risk, the final program that will be delivered will build on additional consultation processes within national projects.

59. Social safeguards: The issue of stopping wildlife poaching and illegal trafficking will require interventions that strengthen the capacity of governments to enforce the laws and pursue individuals that break the law. Experience has shown that there is a risk under that anti-poaching operations can be handled poorly by enforcement agents in the countries, resulting in human right abuses. The Program recognizes this risk, however all the GEF agencies that will serve as implementing agencies have social safeguards policies that would preclude this from occurring in the context of a GEF project.

60. Design risk: The problem of stopping wildlife poaching, and illegal trade and demand for endangered wildlife products is very complex. The involvement of militia and highly organized crime result in serious cases of heavily armed men killing or terrorizing communities and park guards, in highly sophisticated smuggling and use of corruption and money laundering for the ivory trade. The involvement of corrupt park rangers and law enforcement officials, as well as of political elites is becoming more apparent as actions are being taken on the ground. . The lack of international coordination and data exchange between Law Enforcement agencies is also an obstacle to a successful program design. While many groups such as the UN Office of Drugs and Crime, the World Customs Organization, the CITES Secretariat and Interpol will be involved in project execution in some manner, coming up with a design that can tackle such a large threat without introducing added terror will be challenging. Addressing the demand of illegal wildlife products is a complex task as there is a tremendous complexity in the drivers of demand and the cultural differences of consumer behavior. The project is being designed using the best intelligence and experience to date to address this risk and will be very explicit about all the risk in the final design. By taking an analytical approach to diagnosing specific problems, and, by building constituencies and co-designing custom solutions, this risk is minimized.

61. Climate Change risk: Climate change is a risk that can affect produce drastic changes to ecosystems, habitats, water availability, producing epidemics, etc… Both, the species that are being address might drop down to unviable population densities. Also, communities dependent on the land and other resources might suffer adverse climate change conditions putting them in even more extreme levels of poverty. The program plans to address this risk by supporting a landscape planning tools to design interventions that are climate-proof. In addition, some of the child projects will be co-financed by climate change funding from the FCPF, REDD, FIP and Biocarbon fund and receive valuable technical capacity to mitigate the climate change risks.

62. The overall rating is Substantial. The complexity of the problem and coordinating key partners and at the same time delivering effective results in a timely manner makes the overall risk substantial. Lowering this risk will require that this program defines activities and interventions that can, in fact, be implemented on relatively short timeframes as well as very clear and concrete indicators that can be monitored easily. During preparation, the monitoring tools and timeliness of the reports will be fully designed with engagement from all partners. The project's success will depend on the level of leadership that the Bank can show and the incorporation of the opinion of experts as well as the political commitment by national governments. There will not be this level of funding to combat wildlife crime in many years to come. This is the opportunity to make the difference.

6. Coordination. Outline the institutional structure of the program including monitoring and evaluation coordination at the program level. Describe possible coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

63. In pursuit of meeting the aims of the GEF Council document "IMPROVING THE GEF PROJECT CYCLE" (GEF/C.47/07), a lead agency has been appointed that will "ensure coherence of the Program and will be responsible for coordinating all aspects of the Program implementation". The Lead Agency – the World Bank Group – will thus play a close coordination and liaison role with any additional participating Agencies and the GEF Secretariat for the Program. The Lead Agency will also be responsible for all enquiries regarding Program implementation progress and Program-level reporting, mid-term evaluation, final Program completion and the achievement of Program-level higher impact on the global environment. The Lead Agency will be in charge of coordinating activities with on-going GEF projects related to Program 3, and with investments and initiatives funded by other donors. The lead agency in close communication with the other agencies, will make use of the Coordination Grant to accompany this PFD, to invest financial and technical resources in achieving coordination and exchange of experiences, especially when there is more than one country-based project and when regional and global activities complement the investments at the national level.

64. Figure 2 represent graphically how the program will function. A Program Steering Committee (PSC), chaired by the World Bank as lead agency and comprising the Global Environmental Facility Secretariat and relevant Implementing Agencies (UNDP, UNEP, IUCN, WWF, ADB), will act as an advisory mechanism to maximize

synergies and ensure the successful design and implementation of the Program. The main role of the PSC is to provide a coordination forum and a monitoring platform during the implementation phase of the Program. It will also provide an overall, high-level, coordination of the technical alignment and synergy between the Program's components. It will meet virtually every quarter to track progress and provide opportunities for cross-fertilization; it will meet face-to-face once a year in a different project site to increase uptake of lessons and build synergies. The PSC will coordinate with leading external agencies who are thought leaders in the field, including WCS, WildAid and Traffic. The lead agency and the PSC will play an important role in ensuring that the child projects are aligned with the Program's objectives and theory of change and assess the opportunities of enhancing programmatic learning.

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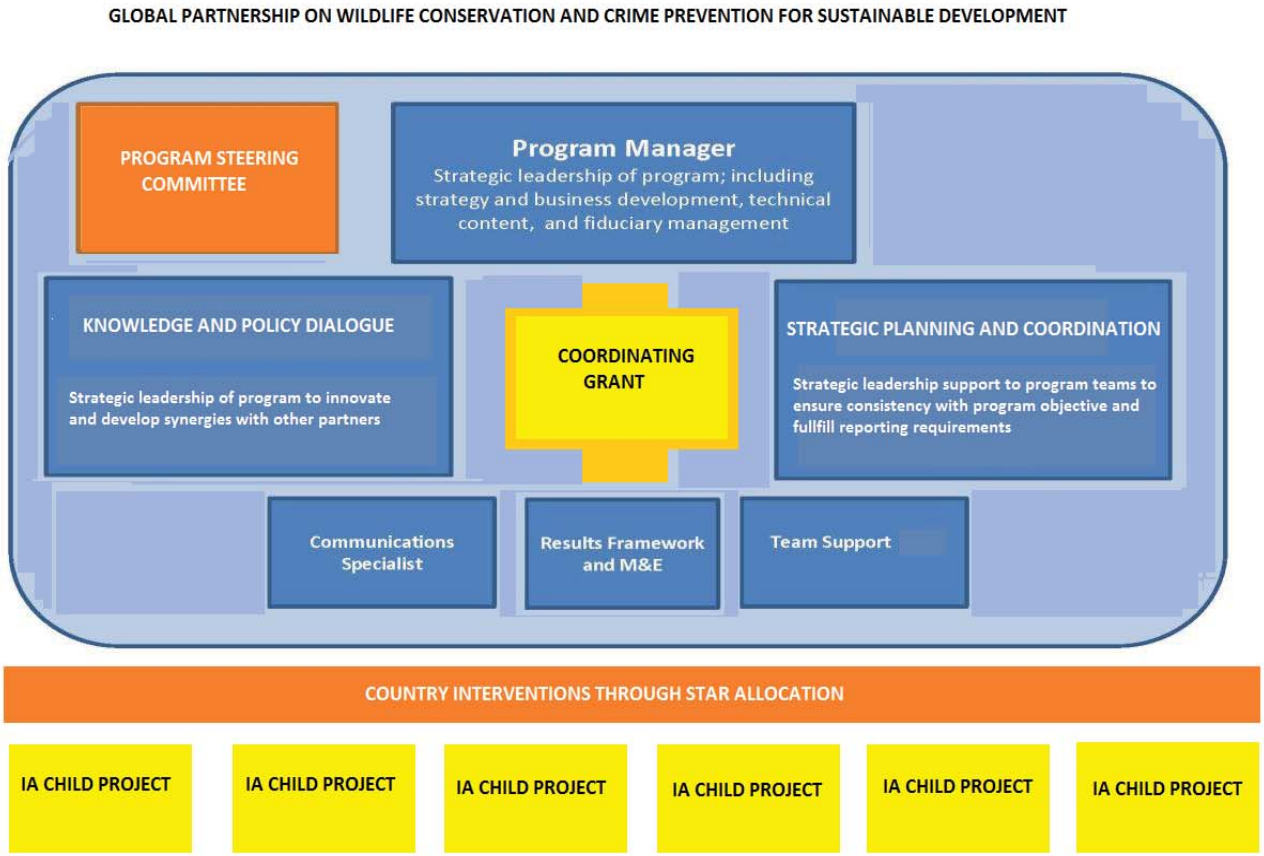
Figure 2: Organizational Diagram for the Program



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

65. The Program will apply a multi-pronged approach to knowledge management, as follows:

- A focus on testing approaches against clear impact criteria and a well-defined and agreed theory of change. This will involve building infrastructure upstream during project design to capture lessons across the portfolio and ensure take-up. The best initiatives will be scaled up.
- A focus on collating lessons across the Program. This will involve capturing lessons across the portfolio through formal knowledge management platforms that will occur annually and will include representatives from each child

project, and producing knowledge management products that will be disseminated through formal (e.g. Program website) and informal (e.g. at international fora on environment, crime, etc) channels.

- A focus on learning lessons from outside the Program. This will involve working with external partners to capture their lessons, creating the infrastructure to feed these lessons into project design and implementation, and incentivizing child projects to replicate and scale up best practice.

8. *National Priorities.* Is the program 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.

66. This Program, open to GEF eligible countries and parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity, will contribute to achieving Target 12 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets: "by 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained." Many countries participating in this Program have identified poaching and the illegal wildlife trade as a significant threat in their National Biodiversity Strategies (NBSAPs).

67. Indeed, the African elephant range States have already committed to address poaching and the illegal wildlife trade at the highest level of government in the "African Elephant Action Plan," signed at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES in 2010 to include Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of Congo, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bassau, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Some governments have re-iterated their commitment in other international meetings and declarations including the 14 Urgent Measures agreed at the African Elephant Summit in Botswana in 2013; the "Elephant Protection Initiative" signed in London in 2014 to include Botswana, Chad, Ethiopia, Gabon, and Tanzania; the Gaborone Declaration to include Botswana, Niger, Somalia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe and; the Yaounde Declaration to include Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial New Guinea, and Gabon among others.

68. Governments have also committed to address the crisis in other species, including tigers (The St. Petersburg Tiger Declaration on Tiger Conservation, signed in November, 2010), Asian Rhinos (Sumatran Rhino Crisis Summit, 2013 and the Bandar Lumpung Declaration, 2013), and the Snow Leopard (The Bishkek Declaration on the Conservation of the Snow Leopard, 2013). The Program will reinforce the commitment of each of the participant countries to implement global, regional, and national frameworks, such as the Africa Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development's Environment Action Plan (EAP), the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Program is also consistent with the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES), an international agreement to ensure that the international trade in specimens of wild plants and animals does not threaten their survival.

69. The Program will strengthen the implementation of existing continental frameworks and plans addressing wildlife crime from the supply side to consistently work with the findings of ICCWC's Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit which has been applied in several range countries or is in the process of application in other participating countries. The results of the toolkit include comprehensive recommendations towards building capacity at the local and national level for all major governmental stakeholders involved with addressing wildlife crime issues.

70. At the regional level, the Program will also consider the regional sectoral policies and strategies. For example, activities surrounding regional and global conferences which have outlined high level government support for a strategic approach to wildlife crime will be included in the Program, for example, events such as the International

Conservation Caucus Foundation's conference surrounding regional support and collaboration to stopping wildlife crime.

71. Country-level projects will also be in line with strategies and priority activities and needs identified in country-driven exercises such as action plans related to the Elephant Protection Initiative. For example, in Gabon, a new roadmap highlights the three pillars, 'Gabon Industriel,' 'Gabon Vert,' and 'Gabon des Services,' to turn Gabon into an emerging green economy which includes the institutionalization of sustainable forest management to transform Gabon into a global leader for certified tropical timber production.

9. *Child Selection Criteria*. Outline the criteria used or to be used for child project selection and the contribution of each child projects to program impact.

The criteria used for child project followed:

1. A global coordinating project to focus on learning and providing a leadership platform to affect policy in areas critical to combating wildlife crime, such as trade and facilitation, and anti-corruption.
2. Country-based and regional projects focused on designing and implementing national strategies and approaches to improve wildlife and protected area management, enhance community livelihood benefits, reduce poaching, and curtail illegal wildlife trade and reduce demand. Individual country projects may address a single component or include activities that address more than one.
3. Each child project will secure significant co-financing from Governments to apply the GEF incremental funding as a nudge to their investments towards disallowing wildlife crime. Co-financing will also include all grants and investments made by other donors, including bilateral, foundations, NGOs and CSOs that together strengthen the effectiveness, breadth and sustainability of the GEF investment.
4. Each child project will agree to partake in sharing lessons and testing approaches for replication based on learning in other projects.
5. Each IA will work through the PSC to share lessons and coordinate reporting.
6. Each child project will apply indicators from an agreed suite of indicators against which the Program will be measured as a whole. Child projects will include explicit linkages to the Program's theory of change.
7. Child project will be submitted on a rolling basis and approved at each GEF council meeting with a revised PDF.
8. The first group of Child Projects include: Gabon, Zambia, Botswana, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Congo, Cameroon, India, Indonesia, Tanzania and the Global Coordinating project.
9. The following countries are developing potential Child-Projects for GEF-6: Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, the five-countries of the KAZA TFCA (Angola, Namibia, Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe), Thailand, the Philippines, and Vietnam. This list does not preclude other countries to submit child projects as long as they fit the Program's objective.

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

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):

(Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE *(MM/dd/yyyy)*
Justin Nantchou Ngoko	Operational Focal Point - Director Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection MINEP - YAOUNDE	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, PROTECTION OR NATURE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - CAMEROON	**02/27/2015**

Mr. Godwin Fishan Giondwe	Director/GEF Operational Focal Point Environment and Natural Resources Management Department for/ Permanent Secretary	MINISTRY OF LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION - ZAMBIA	**03/05/2015**
Ms. Marília Telma António Manjate	GEF Operational Focal Point	MINISTRY OF LAND, THE ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT - MOZAMBIQUE	**03/05/2015**
Benjamin DZABA-BOUNGOU	Director General of the Environment	MINISTERE DU TOURISME ET DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT – CONGO REPUBLIC	**03/10/2015** (Endorsement for the Project "lntegrated and Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Basins in the Republic of Congo" –UNDP-)
Khulekani Mpofu	Chief Natural Resources Officer / GEF Operational Focal point	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, WILDLIFE AND TOURISM – DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS - BOTSWANA	**03/12/2015**
Ghirmawit Haile	GEF Operational Focal Point, Director, Strategic Planning and Resource Mobilization Directorate	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST - ETHIOPIA	**03/12/2015**
Susheel Kumar	GEF Operational Focal Point, Additional Secretary	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE – INDIA	**03/17/2015**
Tuti Hendrawati	GEF Operational Focal Point, Assistant Advisor to the Minister on Law and Institutional Relations	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT - INDONESIA	**03/18/2015**
Mr. Louis Leandre EBOBOLA TSIBAH	GEF Operational Focal Point, General Director of Environment and Nature Protection	MINISTERE DE LA FORET, DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DE LA PROTECTION DES RESSOURCES NATURELLES - GABON	**03/26/2015**
Benjamin Dzaba-Boungou	GEF Operational Focal Point, Director General of Environment	MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENT - CONGO	**04/02/2015** (Endorsement for "Strengthening the management of wildlife populations and improve livelihoods in northern Republic of Congo" –WB-)
Julius Ningu	GEF Operational Focal Point. Director of Environment Vice President's Office (For Permanent Secretary)	VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE - TANZANIA	**04/20/2015**

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies[12] and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for program identification and preparation.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	DATE *(mm/dd/yyyy)*	Program Person	Telephone	Email Address
Karin Shepardson GEF Agency Executive Coordinator		03/30/2015	Paola Agostini	202-473-7620	pagostini@worldbank.org

C. Additional GEF Project Agency Certification *(Applicable Only to newly accredited GEF Project Agencies)*

For newly accredited GEF Project Agencies, please download and fill up the required **GEF Project Agency Certification of Ceiling Information Template** to be attached as an annex to the PFD.

[12] GEF policies encompass all GEF managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, and SCCF

List of Annexes

ANNEX A: LIST OF CHILD PROJECTS UNDER THE PROGRAM FRAMEWORK

COUNTRY	PROJECT TITLE	GEF AGENCY	GEF AMOUNT ($) / TOTAL PROJECT	AGENCY FEE ($)	TOTAL ($)
	FSPS				
GLOBAL FSP	COORDINATE ACTION AND LEARNING TO COMBAT WILDLIFE CRIME	WBG UNDP (FEES SPLIT)	7,000,000	630,000	7,630,000
GABON FSP	WILDLIFE AND HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICTS MANAGEMENT IN GABON	WBG	9,055,046	814,954	9,870,000
ZAMBIA FSP	INTEGRATED FOREST AND SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	WBG	8,050,458	724,542	8,775,000
CONGO REP FSP	STRENGTHENING THE MANAGEMENT OF WILDLIFE AND IMPROVING LIVELIHOODS IN NORTHERN REPUBLIC OF CONGO	WBG	6,310,300	567,927	6,878,227
MOZAMBIQUE FSP	STRENGTHENING THE CONSERVATION OF GLOBALLY THREATENED SPECIES IN MOZAMBIQUE THROUGH IMPROVING BIODIVERSITY ENFORCEMENT AND EXPANDING COMMUNITY CONSERVANCIES AROUND PROTECTED AREAS	UNDP	15,750,000	1,417,500	17,167,500
REPUBLIC OF CONGO FSP	INTEGRATED AND TRANSBOUNDARY CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE BASINS OF THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO	UNDP	3,125,250	281,273	3,406,523
CAMEROON FSP	INTEGRATED AND TRANSBOUNDARY CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY	UNDP	3,907,500	351,675	4,259,175

	IN THE BASINS OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON				
BOTSWANA FSP	MANAGING THE HUMAN-WILDLIFE INTERFACE TO SUSTAIN THE FLOW OF AGRO-ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND PREVENT ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING AND IN THE KGALAGADI AND GHANZI DRYLANDS	UNDP	5,996,789	539,710	6,536,499
ETHIOPIA FSP	ENHANCED MANAGEMENT AND ENFORCEMENT OF ETHIOPIA'S PROTECTED AREAS ESTATE	UNDP	7,294,495	656,505	7,951,000
TANZANIA FSP	COMBATING POACHING AND THE ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE IN TANZANIA THROUGH AN INTEGRATED APPROACH	UNDP	5,354,587	481,913	5,836,500
INDIA FSP	SECURING LIVELIHOODS, CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABLE USE AND RESTORATION OF HIGH RANGE HIMALAYAN ECOSYSTEMS (SECURE-HIMALAYAS)	UNDP	. . 11,544,192	1,038,978	12,583,170
INDONESIA FSP	COMBATTING ILLEGAL AND UNSUSTAINABLE TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES IN INDONESIA	UNDP	6,988,853	628,997	7,617,850
	SUBTOTAL		90,377,470	8,133,974	98,511,444
	MSPS				
	SUBTOTAL		0	0	0
	TOTAL		90,377,470	8,133,974	98,511,444

A/ TOTAL AMOUNT OF CHILD PROJECT CONCEPTS SHOULD EQUAL THE GEF PROGRAM FINANCING REQUESTED AND CONSISTENT WITH TABLES A, B AND D.

ANNEX B

ANNEX B: COMPLETE LIST OF INDICATORS FOR THE PROGRAM.

Component 1: Reduce Poaching and Improve Communities Benefits and Co-management

Outcome 1: Reduction in rates of poaching of rhinos and elephants and other threatened species and increase in arrests and convictions (baseline established per participating country)

Indicators and targets:

- Number of viable species populations at site level (measured by IUCN Red List and--for elephants--PIKE figures) or Population of known threatened species at project sites (increase – to be further refined and how to be measured uniformly)
- Rates of poaching arrests and convictions in program sites (increase at first, then decrease over time—to be further refined)[13].
- Rates of enforcement / judicial effectiveness measured by arrest to prosecution to conviction (increased by XX%)[14]
- Funding gap for management of protected area systems and globally significant protected areas (decrease).
- Protected areas management effectiveness score (increase)

Outcome 2: Increased incentives for communities, derived from wildlife management in support of sustainable development

Indicators and targets:

- Number of direct project beneficiaries (from capacity building, trainings, equipment, jobs, revenue and income, products such as sustainably harvested meat, income, meat, wildlife conflict measures, etc.) at the at the local and community level from wildlife management, sustainable livelihoods and economic development (i.e. tourism and other natural resources management and conservation activities) (increase) Number of human wildlife conflict mitigation and offset schemes benefiting communities/community members Number of integrated natural resource management (INRM) practices in wider landscape (communities) that improve wildlife populations (increased)
-

Outcome 3: Integrated landscape management practices and restoration plans to maintain forest ecosystem services implemented by government, private sector and local community actors, both women and men

Indicators and targets:

- Area of forest resources restored in the landscape, stratified by forest management actors (increase)
- Degree to which inter-sectoral policies and regulatory frameworks incorporate wildlife conservation and management considerations and implement the regulations.
- Deployment of low GHG technologies and practices

[13] We indicate in bold letters the indicators to measure the success of the program. The other ones are just indicative of what the Program might also measure depending on the funds available.

[14] of higher-level criminals coordinating and/or financing networks focusing on illegally importing or exporting wildlife products through seaports (increase) *This indicator will need to be revised.

Component 2: Reduce Wildlife Trafficking:

Outcome 4: Enhanced national and international interagency collaboration to fight organized wildlife crime by supporting programs that target enforcement along the entire illegal supply chain of threatened wildlife and products.

Indicators and targets:

- Number of laws and regulations strengthened with better awareness, capacity and resources to ensure that prosecutions for illicit wildlife trafficking are conducted effectively (increase).
- Number of dedicated wildlife crime coordination mechanisms and operational units established and, number of joined up intelligence-led operations (inter agency and regional / transnational) (increase)
- National cross-agency mechanisms established and maintained to strengthen enforcement systems for a stronger preventive and reactive response to wildlife crime (ie.: use of ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytical Toolkit) (increase)
- Decision support tools at global, regional and national levels to track wildlife crime developed and implemented (ie. Anti-money laundering training tool kit) (increase).
- Number of online trading, airlines, shipping etc, companies signing on to new codes of conduct, zero tolerance pledges etc.
- Number of arrests and numbers of successfully prosecuted cases based on anti-money laundering (AML) operations and protocols that prosecute and seize the assets of wildlife criminals (increase),
- Number of private sector players in the transport industry taking tangible initiatives towards tackling trafficking (such as certification, regulations, screenings)
- ETIS figures reduced in areas of work under this program
- Number and status (level of government) of declarations and regulations aimed at deterring and reducing corrupt practice related to wildlife (increase / qualitative)
- Number of customs and trade facilitation processes (ie free trade-agreements, customs unions) that include enhanced policies and procedures to reduce illegal wildlife trade, as an outcome of the program (increase)
- Number of interceptions of containers with wildlife contraband detected using risk assessment and targeting methodologies (arising from capacity and promotional iniatives linked to this program) (increase)
- Number and percentage of seizures of wildlife and wildlife products at air and seaports, road, rail, leading to arrests, prosecutions and convictions. (increase).

Component 3: Reducing Demand

Outcome 5: Reduction of demand from key consumer countries (compared to baseline)

Indicators and targets:

- Changes in behavior and attitudes towards consumption of illegal wildlife products (compared to baseline),
- Awareness amongst target groups of negative impacts of illegal wildlife trade for global; environment, security and development
- Number of markets/shops/on-line retailers selling illegal wildlife products (disaggregated) compared to baseline or Reduction in illegal sales of wildlife products, measured through market assessments of traditional and online retail operations

Component 4: Knowledge, Policy Dialogue and Coordination:

Outcome 6: Improved coordination among program stakeholders and other donors

Indicators and targets:

- Establishment and functioning of a donor forum or establishment of donor high-level reporting system
- Program monitoring system successfully developed and used for decision making,
- Cutting-edge Knowledge generated on wildlife crime prevention and applied,
- Improved capacity of key stakeholders 15 to address the wildlife crisis through South-south exchanges.
- Number of South-south exchanges that address wildlife crisis.

[15] Key stakeholders include governments, IGOs, NGOs, CBOs,

ANNEX C

Recent Wildlife Crime Prevention Work by Selected Institutions:

In the past three years, various institutions highlighted the surge in environmental crime and particularly illegal trade in wildlife, as follows

- With its resolution 2012/19 the UN Economic and Social Council highlighted the importance of addressing violations against the environment and aimed to enhance international cooperation in combating transnational organized crime in all its forms and manifestations, which urges Member States to consider addressing transnational organized crimes that have a significant impact on the environment, including trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora.

- In April 2013 UNODC's Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice adopted a resolution on wildlife crime urging its seriousness and calling for increased international cooperation.

- Wildlife crime has been linked to money laundering by criminal mafias. Many organizations (ie UNODC, WBG, and others) are using financial investigation and anti-money laundering techniques to tackle transnational organized crime involved in the trafficking of protected wild fauna and flora as well as to design specialized training programs.

- The World Congress of Chief Justices, Attorneys General and Auditors General on environmental sustainability and related questions of justice, governance and rule of law, organized by UNEP and held in June 2012, brought together for the first time in history the three key groups of national stakeholders. In the outcome document, the Rio+20 Declaration on Justice, Governance and Law for Environmental Sustainability, they declared their unified commitment to cooperate to build and support the capacity of courts and tribunals as well as prosecutors, auditors and other related stakeholders at national, sub-regional and regional levels to implement environmental law, further the 'environmental rule of law' in general and to facilitate exchanges of best practices in order to achieve environmental sustainability.

- Almost simultaneously to the World Congress the UN Conference on Sustainable Development was conducted in Rio de Janeiro and agreed on the outcome document "The Future We Want" which states in paragraph 203: "We recognize the economic, social and environmental impacts of illicit trafficking in wildlife, where firm and strengthened action needs to be taken on both the supply and demand sides. In this regard, we emphasize the importance of effective international cooperation among relevant multilateral environmental agreements and international organizations."

- The decisions and resolutions above are underpinned and bolstered by the Resolution of the UN General Assembly on the Rule of Law (A/RES/67/1) adopted in September 2012 in which Heads of State and Government underlined the importance of fair, stable and predictable legal frameworks for generating inclusive, sustainable and equitable development and maintaining peace and security. They also pointed out the strong linkages between sustainable development and the rule of law, such as the negative effects of transnational organized crime, including environmental crime.

- Through the GC Decision GC 27/9 on advancing justice, governance and law for environmental sustainability adopted at the 27th and first universal session of UNEP's Governing Council in February 2013 Governments emphasized that violations against the environment, in particular trafficking in hazardous waste, wildlife and illegal timber, are increasingly committed by organized criminal groups and

recalled international cooperation at all levels in accordance with international law while respecting national jurisdictions contributes to combating those offenses more effectively.

• Building on this momentum, a call for action was echoed in Nairobi in June 2014 when delegates from 157 countries addressed the issue in the first ever United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) of UNEP which placed wildlife crime prominently on the global environmental and sustainable development agenda. Building on and underpinning security and other concerns related to the illegal trade in wildlife, UNEA provided a landmark occasion in strengthening the political commitments within the context of the UN to address the issue of illegal trade in wildlife, including of timber and charcoal. UNEA-1 also adopted the first UN Resolution focused on illegal trade in wildlife (UNEA/1/3, available at www.unep.org/unea/UNEA_Resolutions.asp), which called upon UNGA to consider the issue in its 69th session and emphasized the priorities inter alia of Member States implementing existing commitments, of cooperation across agencies, of UNEP's contribution of addressing the issue of illegal wildlife trade.

• Most recently, a meeting of the UN Secretary General's Policy Committee on 'Illegal Trade in Wildlife and Forest Products' on 3 February 2015 adopted a set of recommendations, speaking to the need of a coherent response of the UN system to the security, political, economic, environmental and social aspects of IWT. UNEP with CITES was requested to convene the UN system to develop a robust evidence base, shared analysis and consequent recommendations for an effective and coherent UN response and to increase the UN's advocacy to combat IWT, and encouraging Member States to take action to implement CITES and relevant UNODC and other international commitments.

ANNEX D PROGRAM BASELINE

1. Implementing Agencies Baseline

The World Bank Group (lead agency) mission is to end extreme poverty and increase shared prosperity in a sustainable manner. In summation, wildlife crime is a development issue. It is affecting a core part of the WBG investments to client countries. This WBG-led global program will foster new levels of investments and cooperation between development and conservation partners to bring together an integrated approach to biodiversity conservation, natural resources and watershed management, tourism development, and poverty reduction. The WBG has also been involved in combatting environmental and natural resources law enforcement. For example, in 2014, the WBG completed "the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Enforcement road map" which outlines the Bank's unique position and portfolio of investment of a committed US$50million per year towards combatting wildlife crime. Globally, WBG staff in many regions have led diverse and ongoing work towards the increase in capacity of forest law enforcement and governance, especially in Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia. Additionally, WBG has joined and provided funding through the Development Grant Facility to the International Consortium to Combat Wildlife Crime (ICCWC). WBG is actively working on anti-corruption and governance issues and has piloted the use on follow-the-money and anti-money laundering approaches to the investigation and prosecution of environmental and natural resource crimes. WBG partnered with the U.S. Department of State on developing the research agenda for conservation criminology. WBG has also been successfully implementing the GEF MSP entitled, "African Elephant Poaching and the Illicit Ivory Trade: The Case for the African Elephant," to support new partnerships and approaches to address the African Elephant poaching crisis. An "Ivory Economics" concept note has been drafted and peer reviewed and discussed by key stakeholders to understand the entire supply chain of African elephant poaching and the illicit ivory trafficking.

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) works in over 170 countries and territories, helping to eradicate poverty and advance sustainable development that leads to transformational change and real improvements in people's lives. UNDP promotes an integrated approach that tackles the connected issues of multidimensional poverty, inequality and exclusion, resilience and sustainability, while enhancing knowledge, skills, governance and production technologies needed to reduce risks and sustain development gains. UNDP efforts to combat the illegal trade in wildlife draw on this integrated approach, leveraging expertise, partnerships, and global networks to support countries eradicate poverty, protect the environment, empower women, and build strong institutions, all of which support the rule of law. Through its biodiversity and ecosystems programme, UNDP has helped establish over 2,000 protected areas in 85 countries around the world, covering 272 million hectares of land. Building on this portfolio of work, UNDP is exploring new and innovative partnerships that help countries and communities tackle illegal wildlife trafficking and poaching. These include partnerships with governments, other UN agencies such as UNEP and UNODC, the World Bank, the United for Wildlife coalition of wildlife conservation organisations, and other civil society groups to tackle poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking, and reduce the global demand for wildlife and wildlife products. UNDP facilitates the coordination of national level UN responses through the UN Resident Coordinator system, and supports countries to access the funding and technical support needed to tackle this issue, working across the supply chain that drives the trade, addressing illegal supply, transit, and demand. This includes efforts at all levels, focusing on communities where site-level enforcement is key, linking a range of national stakeholders for cohesive country-level action, and working with regional and international partners to ensure global cooperation and coordination of efforts. UNDP uses a three-pronged approach that focuses on: 1. Expanding economic opportunities and livelihood options, 2. Strengthening governance, enforcement and coordination, and 3. Raising awareness and building cooperation.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)'s aim is to reduce illegal trade in wildlife and timber to levels such that all wildlife and timber trade is sustainable. Efforts under development include increased support for effective policies at national, regional and international levels; improved legislative, judicial, enforcement, and governance measures; development of capacity for environmental rule of law; enhanced understanding of the global problems and existing gaps on illegal wildlife trade; advancing international efforts to develop and catalyse demand reduction strategies for illegally-traded wildlife and timber products; outreach and communication tools to raise awareness on illegal wildlife trade at all levels; and the development of reliable and integrated indicators to help monitor the effectiveness of strategies aimed at reducing illegal wildlife trade (IWT).

UNEP's existing portfolio of IWT initiatives includes: Fostering and enhancing cross-border cooperation in the field of illegal wildlife trade, through support to regional and sub-regional processes; Policy support to member states through country-level interventions to facilitate policy interventions and implementation of existing commitments; and Capacity building to support national and international efforts on effective governance, and enforcement. The latter ongoing efforts build capacity of officials in select countries in Africa on IWT detection, investigation, prosecution and adjudication – including collaboration with INTERPOL, CITES, and other partners in the CPW and ICCWC. Extensive communications and awareness raising efforts are underway with high profile UNEP Goodwill Ambassadors on Public Service Announcement and other campaign strategies, and building on the Wild & Precious global airport exhibits. UNEP also provides technical support to CITES and the EU on species information and wildlife trade databases through UNEP-WCMC and GRID data centers. UNEP works together with ICCWC partners on specific initiatives such as the Green Customs Initiative --a partnership of international organizations including UNEP, UNODC, WCO -- cooperating to facilitate legal trade and prevent illegal trade in environmentally sensitive commodities. As a result of UNEP activities, significant progress has been made in garnering global high-level engagement in support of environmental governance, as well as mobilizing political will to achieve more impact at the national level.

The partnership with GEF is of great relevance for UNEP which is stepping up its dialogue with Member States in support of the development of national projects to access GEF-6 financing to support addressing illegal wildlife trade. UNEP is currently implementing two GEF-5 projects directly tied to combatting illegal wildlife crime: "Strengthening Law Enforcement Capabilities to Combat Wildlife Crime for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Species in South Africa (target: Rhinoceros)" and "Engaging policy makers and the judiciary to address poaching and illegal wildlife trade in Africa",

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Netwrok (TRAFFIC) work together through four approaches to combat wildlife crime – stopping the poaching, stopping wildlife trafficking, changing behavior to reduce consumer demand, and international policy. WWF is facilitating development of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching (LEAP) Strategy for its 13 member states, to be finalized in mid-2015 and is supporting the five-countries of the KAZA TFCA to prevent elephant poaching. Through a USAID $5m grant, TRAFFIC and IUCN are countering trafficking from Africa to Asia (Wildlife TRAPS). WWF and TRAFFIC launched the Wildlife Crime Campaign in 2012 and demand reduction has focused on SE Asia. This includes Changing Consumer Behavior: Reducing demand for rhino horn in Vietnam, 2014-2017, with market research to inform targeted demand reduction for rhino horn in Vietnam, and the multi-donor Chor Chaang (Saving Elephants) campaign launched in Thailand in January 2015, aimed at rallying public support against buying ivory. The joint Campaign has used traditional and social media, along with targeted policy and advocacy, to effectively shift the issue from a low priority 'environmental' issue to an issue of security, rule of law and development. WWF facilitated the creation of the Friends of the Fight Group, led by Germany and Gabon under the United Nations General Assembly, advocating for a Security Council resolution on combatting wildlife crime.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) brings governments, NGOs and scientists together to develop policies, laws and best practices on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. Regarding addressing illegal wildlife trade, IUCN plays a unique and important role by convening stakeholders, acting as a specialist advisor, and supporting conservation on the ground through its vast global network of experts and scientists. Regarding IUCN's convening role, in February 2015 IUCN organized a symposium called 'Beyond enforcement: communities, governance, incentives and sustainable use in combatting wildlife crime' in South Africa, which was attended by over 70 community representatives, researchers, government officials, UN agencies and NGOs from five continents. It resulted in a set of recommendations for engaging communities in combating illegal wildlife trade, which will be taken forward to CITES, CBD and the high level IWT conference in Kasane, Botswana that will take place in March 2015.

In their specialist advisory role, species experts in IUCN's Species Survival Commission (SSC) provide independent, objective scientific information to conventions such as CITES as well as to governments and NGOs. More than 130 Specialist Groups in the SSC provide us with the most current information on species affected by illegal wildlife trade , including elephants, rhinos and cats but also pangolins, plants, fish, birds, invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles. IUCN also brings this knowledge and expertise to a wider variety of fora. For example, IUCN recently participated in the "Towards an EU strategic approach to wildlife conservation in Africa" meeting that took place on 9-10th February 2015 in Brussels and focused on the development of an EU Strategy for Wildlife Conservation in Africa. IUCN will also participate in a follow up meeting to the 2013 African Elephant Summit to be held on the 23rd March 2015 in Kasane, Botswana. Following that, IUCN will participate in the Kasane Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade that will take place 25th March 2015 in Botswana. TRAFFIC, IUCN's joint programme with WWF on wildlife trade monitoring, also works with governments across the globe to enhance our understanding of the dynamics of illegal wildlife trade. IUCN is also a partner in the United for Wildlife coalition, convened by the Royal Foundation, and which has agreed on five urgent areas of activity to address illegal wildlife trade.

Regarding on-the-ground conservation work, IUCN manages the Save Our Species (SOS) Fund which provides funding to field-based conservation projects. The SOS Fund has, to date, committed a total of just over 3 million USD through 25 projects to support anti-poaching activities, with projects on elephants and rhinos in priority sites for conservation, as well as other species. In addition, IUCN's Integrated Tiger and Habitat Conservation Programme (ITHCP), modelled on SOS, has mobilized approximately €20 million to fund projects on tiger conservation in a number of key tiger range States.

The Asian Development Bank (AsDB) is implementing a regional Technical Assistance (TA) program on Combatting Illegal Wildlife Trade under ADB's Law, Justice and Development Program. It is led by ADB's Office of General Council and links to initiatives such as the Asian Judges Network on Environment and two sub-regional roundtables: the ASEAN Chief Justices Roundtable on Environment, and the South Asian Chief Justices Roundtable. The TA aims to support participating countries to undertake comprehensive policy and legal reform to address wildlife crime, while supporting the adoption of enforcement tools and improvements in enforcement chain cooperation, coordination and implementation capabilities. Requests for support under the TA have been received and are being supported in China, Lao PDR, Mynamar , Philippines and Viet Nam. The first phase of work is focused on undertaking needs assessments for legal reform processes.

2. Baseline for Countries

Botswana: Botswana recently approved a National Anti-Poaching Strategy to be implemented in 2015, and a revised Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Act. A Financial Intelligence Agency has recently become fully operational. The Agency works with other parts of government including the Department for Wildlife and National Parks to counteract money laundering activities. Botswana has also established a National Anti-Poaching Task Team to enhance cooperation among law enforcement agencies. Through the Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI), Botswana, Chad, Ethiopia, Gabon and Tanzania have committed to a further moratorium on trade in elephant ivory by taking ivory out of economic use for ten years. Botswana has applied to the CITES Secretariat for assistance to implement the [ICCWC] Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytical Toolkit. The recommendations of the implementation mission will inform future measures that Botswana will take to counter wildlife crime. A collaboration between the Netherlands Forensic Institute (NFI) and the Government of Botswana has been established to build forensic capability within the Department for Wildlife and National Parks and enhance capacity at Botswana Police. Rangers are trained by the NFI to improve their skills in gathering crime scene evidence, analyzing this evidence and reporting their findings to police. Further support is available through the International Law Enforcement Academy. To that effect, Botswana is one of the countries are recruiting, deploying, training and equipping new wildlife rangers and scouts to boost capacity, with plans to recruit further rangers. Botswana is developing a web based database with the assistance of USAID –SAREP which will allow communities and concessionaires to share data about wildlife and the tracking of illegal activities. The concern about declines in some species has led to the declaration of a hunting moratorium to allow authorities to understand the causes and institute measures to reverse declines. Communities are being assisted to make a smooth transition from consumptive to non-consumptive utilization. Communities benefiting from Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) policies are encouraged to use some of their revenues to engage community guides who patrol their concessions to stop poaching. A Management Oriented Monitoring System (MOMS) has been rolled out which allows communities to monitor natural resources in their areas. This has been supported through the CBNRM Forum. The Special Wildlife Scout Programme, which has seen community wildlife scouts being engaged to assist in law enforcement, has enjoyed a high level of success and will continue to be rolled out to other areas (funds permitting) during 2015.

Cameroon: In Cameroon, Germany is implementing a technical and financial cooperation project to support work in a trans-boundary conservation area between Cameroon and Chad, focusing on buffer zone development, livelihoods, and benefits for local communities and wildlife monitoring. UNDP has been involved in a project promoting alternatives to bushmeat hunting. This community wildlife management project was started through a collaboration between the UNDP-managed GEF Small Grants Programme, the NGO Community Action for Development, and local communities. Local communities were dependent on an unsustainable bushmeat market, which was threatening populations of endemic wildlife and doing little to alleviate local poverty concerns. The project has used awareness-raising, new regulations, and alternative livelihoods strategies including agriculture and horticulture to reduce pressure on wildlife.

ETHIOPIA: Ethiopia has developed a NIAP to combat the illegal wildlife trade and elephant poaching effectively and efficiently across the country. The national wildlife legislation is under review with particular attention to the provisions related to wildlife crimes and the effect of the existing penalty frame work on deterrence. The Wildlife Conservation Authority has been addressing areas that are vulnerable to corruption. Additional manpower is being recruited, the existing organizational structure is being reviewed, robust and transparent working systems have been put in place and training on good governance and corruption has been offered. Training has been given to police and custom officers, prosecutors and members of the judiciary to increase their awareness of wildlife laws and associated international conventions. Ethiopia is disseminating information to the general public using national and regional media to increase awareness about wildlife laws about the negative impacts and seriousness of wildlife crimes on

wildlife resources, the environment, the economy and national security Stakeholders have been consulted about how to support effective law enforcement to reduce elephant poaching in Babille Elephant Sanctuary and Omo National Park. This consultation paved way to establish a special elephant security taskforce drawn from adjacent villages including elders, local authorities and religious leaders.

GABON: The President of Gabon has mandated a special investigation into the role of corruption in ivory smuggling. UNODC conducted comprehensive national assessments to develop evidence-based recommendations and actions for law enforcement, prosecution, judiciary and legislative using the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit. In support of Gabon, the French Agency for Development approved a €10 million project against serious wildlife crime and ivory trade in December 2014. Gabon has also received significant technical and financial support from the US Government for anti-poaching and fisheries protection and the government of the United Arab Emirates for fisheries protection in the form of a donation of equipment. Gabon has submitted a National Ivory Action Plan (NIAP) and is writing recognition of CITES into new Forestry Law. A new ivory storage facility has been established pending a subsequent destruction of stocks accumulated since the last burn. Gabon co-hosted a high-level event on "Poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking – towards joint action by the international community" on 26 September 2014, in the margins of the General Debate of the 69th UN General Assembly. Being co-chairs of the UN Group of Friends on Poaching and Illicit Wildlife Trafficking, Germany and Gabon have been active in drafting a UN General Assembly Resolution on Wildlife Crime. Gabon will host the "Kasane Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade" in March 2015, to review the progress on the commitments made at the "London Declaration on the Illegal Wildlife Trade". A pilot project has been initiated with local communities around Waka and Lopé National Parks. Tourism investment in National Parks is expected to create about 500 jobs for rural people in 2015

MOZAMBIQUE: The National Assembly ratified the Conservation Law in April 2014, which includes prison sentences for offenders and stiffer fines and recognizes the international treaties and conventions which Mozambique has ratified. Mozambique has approved a new Law for Conservation Areas, which includes criminalization of wildlife offences. In 2015-16 Mozambique plans to design subsidiary domestic legislation and an approach to operationalization which is appropriate for money laundering and wildlife crimes. It will also design a legal mechanism to harmonize wildlife legislation and the key domestic legislation for prevention of organized crime, financial crime and corruption. The Government of Mozambique approved a National Program for the protection of natural resources. To that effect, the Government approved the establishment of an anti-poaching Taskforce to support implementation of its Program for combating illegal exploitation of natural resources in February 2014. The Taskforce includes representatives from the Agriculture, Tourism, Defense, Interior, Mine Resources, Finance and Fisheries Ministries. Action on law enforcement and capacity building includes training a special force to deal with poaching and illegal wildlife products in protected areas and enhanced approaches to detection of wildlife products in hotspot sites like airports, ports and major border posts. Mozambique and South Africa are implementing a MoU for joint actions on trans-boundary environmental protection, including law enforcement, information sharing, capacity building and international cooperation to coordinate the anti-poaching efforts targeting the Great Limpopo Trans-frontier Park. The French GEF project on the rehabilitation of the Gilé National Reserve and its buffer zone (phases I and II) contributes to the fight against poaching, involves local communities and improves livelihood conditions. Mozambique and Tanzania are recruiting, deploying, training and equipping new wildlife rangers and scouts to boost capacity, with plans to recruit further rangers.

- **REPUBLIC OF CONGO**: The Congolese government has made significant contributions towards protecting the forests through the creation of national parks and other PAs. As member of COMIFAC and signatory of the Yaoundé Declaration, the Republic of Congo defined implementation strategies in the "Plan de Convergence". This plan established priorities for protection of twelve trans-boundary conservation areas. Under the auspices of the World Bank, Cameroon, Gabon and Congo are developing and

implementing Sectoral Forest and Environment Programs (Programme Sectoriel Forêt et Environnement, FESP). The objective of the Forest and Economic Diversification Project in Congo is to increase the capacity of the Republic of Congo to: (i) promote better implementation of its forestry legislation; and (ii) enhance the policy environment for participation of local communities and the private sector in sustainable forest management and reforestation. Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). The Congolese government and the European Union signed on May 17, 2010 a Voluntary Agreement of Partnership (APV) on the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). The purpose of this trade agreement, come into effect on March 1, 2013, is to improve the forest governance in Congo and to make sure that wood and wood products of Congo fulfill the legal requirements of the country. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) is working with the Government to protect its elephants, gorillas, and other threatened species. Since the early 1990s, WCS has assisted the Republic of Congo in managing the wildlife and habitat of its protected areas, including Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park, Conkouati-Douli National Park, and Odzala-Kokua National Park. In addition, WCS is has partnering with both government and communities to create and manage the Lac Tele Community Reserve, and with logging companies to protect wildlife in timber concessions that surround national parks.

ZAMBIA: The Zambia Wildlife Authority will review the CITES national legislation taking into consideration the recommendations from the revision of legislation done in July 2008. The Government has improved its law enforcement ability to track, apprehend and prevent wildlife crimes and has also improved relations with other Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations, within and outside the country to eradicate such crimes. Joint cross border law enforcement operations have been conducted between Zambia and Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe and also Zambia and Malawi. Zambia also recognizes the emergence of Regional Wildlife Enforcement Networks in parts of Africa and in particular the Wildlife Enforcement Network of Southern Africa (WENSA) and the importance they play in combating illegal wildlife trade across borders. The Zambia Wildlife Authority has an ivory stockpile at its central ivory strong room and consistently carried out ivory stock count of all government –held stocks and has submitted an inventory to the CITES Secretariat. The Government recognizes the negative impacts that illegal wildlife trade has on local community livelihoods and economic development in most impoverished rural communities living in Game Management Areas. To this effect, and with the support of a GEF-UNDP project, Zambia is supporting the strengthening of management and generating multiple environmental benefits within and around the Greater Kafue National Park and West Lunga National Parks.

Annex E
CHILD PROJECT CONCEPT NOTES

NAME OF PROGRAM:
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND CRIME PREVENTION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1. Coordinate action and learning to combat wildlife crime (Global)

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[16]

Project Title:	Coordinate action and learning to combat wildlife crime
Country(ies):	Global
GEF Agency(ies):	WB, UNDP
Other Executing Partner(s):	UNODC, World Customs Organization, Interpol, Wildlife Conservation Society, TRAFFIC, WWF, Royal Foundation, CITE Secretariat
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[17]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
Global set aside grant for Wildife program	GEFTF	7,000,000	35,000,000
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
Total Project Cost		7,000,000	35,000,000

B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: Reduce wildlife crime by coordinating investments, accelerating learning, and investing in action to combat wildlife trafficking.

Project Components	**Financing Type[18]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
1. Program Coordination and Communication	TA	Outcome: Improved coordination among program stakeholders and other donors *Indicators and targets*: +Program monitoring system successfully implemented	2,000,000	

[16] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[17] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[18] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

		+Increased effectiveness of project investments within the Program and across donors +Effective communication of the Program's impact to all audiences +Establishment and functioning of a donor forum or establishment of donor high-level reporting system.		
2. Knowledge management to innovate and scale up best practices	TA	Outcome: Knowledge platform and processes developed to promote efficiency, learning, innovation, and competitive advantage to program stakeholders *Indicator and targets:* +Increased uptake of lessons across the portfolio of interventions (ie. Anti-poaching, community livelihoods, landscape approach, control trafficking, demand reduction) through the active curation of knowledge generated in projects under the programmatic approach. +Number of south south exchanges that address wildlife crisis +Improved capacity of key stakeholders to address the wildlife. +Cutting-edge knowledge generated and applied on wildlife crime prevention and other related program interventions	1,500,000	4,000,000
3. Reducing Maritime Trafficking between Africa and Asia	TA/Inv	Outcome: Effective coordination and learning between African and Asian countries and agencies involved in efforts to reduce maritime transport of illegal wildlife products, especially ivory *Indicators and targets::* +Increased effectiveness of port authorities to deter the illegal trafficking of ivory through transit and destination countries' ports +Increased capacity of port officials in identifying ivory and African rhino products measured by an IWT capacity development	2,000,000	10,000,000

		scorecard for ports to be developed during PPG		
4. Disrupting Trafficking Infrastructure	TA/Inv	Outcome: Enhanced capacity of police and trade and customs authorities to prevent, deter and interdict wildlife crime: *Indicators and targets*: +Improved effective intelligence led policing responses through monitoring of illegal trade levels, monitoring enforcement effort, reporting, poaching vs. seizure levels. +Increase in anti-corruption activities that weave in attention to wildlife crime. + Increase in successful trans-national investigations, arrests and prosecutions of members of criminal networks. Outcome: Enhanced attention and action from international financial and banking sector to criminalize proceeds from trafficking in wildlife crime. *Indicators and targets*: +law enforcement supported by providing information on illicit financial transactions, freezing of assets, communication within sector, self-imposed blacklisting of wildlife criminals and networks. Outcome: Enhanced actions by private transportation sector to reduce the amount of wildlife contraband in their manifests. *Indicators and targets* +Universal programs for enhancing the role, accountability and awareness of companies in sectors including: freight logistics, cargo handlers, express mail couriers, postal service, in participating countries. Tailoring of programs to needs of sub elements such as freight forwarders, shipping agents, container leasing agents, and airline cargo handlers.	1,500,000	21,000,000
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			

Subtotal	7,000,000	35,000,000
Project Management Cost (PMC)[19] GEFTF		
Total Project Cost	7,000,000	35,000,000

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

C. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
GEF Agency	World Bank	Grant	25,000,000
Donor Agencies	USAID (To be confirmed)	Grant	
CSO	United for Wildlife (TRAFFIC, WWF, WCS, Royal Foundation) (To be confirmed)	Grant/In-Kind	5,000,000
Private Sector	To be determined	Unknown	
Others	UNODC, WCO, Interpol, CITES Secreatariat (To be confirmed)	Grant	5,000,000
(select)		(select)	
Total Co-financing			35,000,000

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS [a)]

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)[b)]	Total (c)=a+b
World Bank	GEFTF	Global	Global Set Aside	(select as applicable)	5,000,000	450,000	5,450,000
UNDP	GEF TF	Global	Global Set Aside	(select as applicable)	2,000,000	180,000	2,180,000
(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
Total GEF Resources					7,000,000	630,000	7,630,000

a) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.
b) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.
c) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

[19] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Project Overview

***A.1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION.* BRIEFLY DESCRIBE: 1) THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND/OR ADAPTATION PROBLEMS, ROOT CAUSES AND BARRIERS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED; 2) THE BASELINE SCENARIO OR ANY ASSOCIATED BASELINE PROJECTS, 3) THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO, WITH A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT, 4) INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING AND EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BASELINE, THE GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, AND CO-FINANCING; 5) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEFTF) AND/OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF); AND 6) INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING UP.**

1) THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM, ROOT CAUSES AND BARRIERS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED

Illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife parts is an escalating driver of biodiversity loss. Unprecedented biological or commercial extinction of many life forms is now a critical reality throughout the world, jeopardizing the very foundations of biodiversity, including the future well-being of humans and requiring unprecedented political will, social sacrifice and law enforcement action to stem further losses. Progressively, through the advent of the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1976, together with a host of national legislative and regulatory instruments and mechanisms, the global community has moved to address the threat to thousands of species of wildlife poised by unfettered trade. Although the value of illegal trade remains uncertain, it has variously been estimated at between USD 5 – 20 billion per annum. These estimates suggest that wildlife crime is the fourth most lucrative type of transnational crime after illegal narcotics, humans and armaments.

The problem is particularly acute in Africa, where charismatic species – the African elephant, white and black rhinos, as well as dozens of other species such as pangolins – are being targeted to the brink of extinction. Last year over 25,000 elephants were slaughtered for their ivory, which can fetch up to $40,000 per tusk. The rhino poaching crisis is similarly escalating: in 2008, 13 rhinos were poached in South Africa in the entire year. In 2014, three were poached daily.

As poaching has become industrial in scale, with criminal organizations coalescing around the facts that wildlife is unguarded, poorly valued and its ownership remains unclear, responses to poaching remain fragmented with a focus on piloting new approaches. This poaching is facilitated by trafficking routes that are not guarded and over which regulatory authorities and private sector transportation entities have no incentives, will or tools to monitor for wildlife contraband.

For example, since 2009, nearly two-thirds of the large ivory seizures by number, and three-quarters by weight, have transpired as containerized shipping through seaports. This is not surprising as container shipping certainly represents the most cost-effective transport option for moving a commodity that is heavy like ivory and the risk of detection is, generally speaking, minimized. Indeed, container shipping presents a major challenge to effective law enforcement as only a small percentage (typically less than 5%) of the containers in trade are actually subjected to inspection of some description. For example, the port of Hong Kong processes over 19 million containers annually. Most African seaports lack expensive technical equipment such as cargo scanner machines that can scan containers. A further complication is that, in general, the focus of inspection in most countries is directed at import trade and surveillance of export traffic is comparatively ignored.

2) BASELINE SCENARIO

This project builds on recommendation of several national, regional and international summits and meetings convened to address the escalating crisis in the illegal wildlife trade. Some summits have resulted in clear political commitments, including the London Conference on the Illegal Wildlife Trade in 2014 and the African Elephant Summit in Botswana. The recent release of the European Commission's Strategic Approach to Conservation in Africa as well as the African Environmental Ministers Meeting (AMCEN) is evidence of increasing political commitment. In 2013-2014, no fewer than 18 declarations and pledges stemming from these meetings were committed to by governments, IGOs and NGOs, to tackle the illegal wildlife trade and improve wildlife management. These declarations embody comprehensive approaches to stop poaching and trafficking, reduce the demand and engage communities in wildlife management and seek to enhance their livelihoods.

Although significant advances have been made in understanding poaching and the illegal wildlife trade in all its complexity, interventions to address the current crisis are too few and too small and largely focus on once-off projects that try to safeguard widlife at the source or reduce demand. But these efforts are often too small, uncoordinated and repititive to be effective at the scale and speed necessary to prevent poaching from driving species to extinction. Moreover, efforts to disband trafickking routes, where they exist at all, are largely focused on mapping routes rather than upending them.

Nonetheless, some advances have been made in understanding poaching and the illegal wildlife trade in all its complexity. A number of agencies are conducting activities relevent to combating wildlife crime at some node in the trafficking chain.

- *ICCWC***:** The International Consoritum on Combating Wildlife Crime, ICCWC, is a collaboration between the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, UNODC, World Bank and the World Customs Organization. Each member organisation conducts a number of anti-wildlife crime activities under their specific mandate, collaborating on certain projects.

- *UNODC – Global Programme***:** In 2014, UNODC formally launched the Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime (GP). The GP is a four-year programme aimed to link existing regional efforts in a global system, enhancing capacity-building and wildlife law enforcement networks at regional and sub-regional levels. The GP is working for and with the wildlife law enforcement community to ensure that wildlife crime, illegal logging, and related crimes are treated as serious transnational organized crimes. The GP aims to deliver through specific technical assistance activities designed to strengthen the capacity of Member States to prevent, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate crimes against protected species of wild flora and fauna. The Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime/Sustainable Livelihoods Unit (GP/SLU) is the focal point for this work which already embraces capacity building activities in South East Asia, South Asia, East Africa and Latin America and coordinates the implementation of the Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit.

- *ICCWC Toolkit***:** Led by World Bank and UNODC, the Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit was developed in 2012. It is a technical resource to assist government officials in wildlife and forestry administration and customs as well as other relevant agencies, to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of preventive and criminal justice responses and other measures related to the protection and monitoring of wildlife and forest products which are crucial to curtailing wildlife and forest crime both nationally and internationally. The Toolkit is available for all Governments interested in undertaking a national analysis mission with regard to wildlife and forest crime in their country. ICCWC will support requesting countries during the entire implementing process - including mobilizing funds, hiring experts, analyzing the results, designing and delivering technical assistance. Base on the results, ICCWC and relevant government authorities will design a work plan for national capacity-building programmes and technical assistance delivery. sThe toolkit analysis has been conducted in a number of countries in Asia and Africa, and continues to be conducted during 2015.

- *World Customs Organization – UNODC - Container Control Programme (CCP):* More than 420 million containers move around the globe by sea every year, transporting 90 per cent of the world's cargo. Most carry licit goods, but some are being used to smuggle drugs, weapons, even people. The sheer volume of this international maritime container traffic, the sophisticated and often ingenious concealment methods, along with the diverse routings adopted by illicit drug traffickers and other smugglers, invariably makes successful interdiction difficult.

As a response, the Container Control Programme (CCP) was developed jointly by UNODC and the World Customs Organization (WCO), and launched in 2003. The CCP is already implemented in Benin, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Ghana, Pakistan, Panama, Senegal, Togo and Turkmenistan. The CCP aims to assist Governments to create sustainable enforcement structures in selected sea/dry ports in order to minimize the risk of shipping containers being exploited for illicit drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and other forms of black market activity. At the heart of the CCP is the creation and training of port control units (PCUs) at selected container terminals. These units are located in a secure environment, preferably inside the ports, and staffed by front line personnel who will be trained and equipped to systematically target high risk containers whilst facilitating the free flow of legitimate trade. Training is also a component, as is the exchange of information with counterparts in other countries using a secure communication application developed by WCO called ContainerComm.

- *Royal Foundation/United for Wildlife*: United for Wildlife is an alliance between seven conservation organizations, led by the Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry. The partnership is between Conservation International, Fauna & Flora International, International Union for Conservation of Nature, The Nature Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Society, WWF-UK, the Zoological Society of London and the Royal Foundation aims to lead the way to substantially increase the global response to major conservation crises. The commitments of United for Wildlife cover the areas that the seven organizations are working on, namely:
  - Strengthen protection on the ground with a strong emphasis on community incentives
  - Reduce demand for illegal rhino horn, ivory, big cat and pangolin products
  - Create a 'zero-tolerance' approach toward illegal wildlife trade in the private sector
  - Strengthen criminal justice responses in supply and demand states
  - In addition to the United for Wildlife coalition activities, in 2013, the Royal Foundation commissioned by lawyers DLA Piper to explore legislative and judicial challenges relating to wildlife trade in 10 key countries: Cameroon, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malaysia, the Philippines, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda and Vietnam. Predominantly based on a desk-based research, each country report aimed to provide an overview of principal legislation on trade in wildlife, criminal penalties, ancillary legislation such as anti-corruption legislation that can be used to prosecute, assesses the local judicial process and capacity to enforce and concludes with recommendations.

- *TRAFFIC International - TRAPS :* TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, is a strategic alliance of World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and is an international network, organized into eight regional programmes. TRAFFIC has been successful in securing a grant from the US Agency for International Development (USAID) to implement the 'Wildlife Trafficking, Response, Assessment, Priority Setting' initiative known as "Wildlife-TRAPS" or "TRAPS". TRAPS is a three year initiative has approximately ca. USD 5m of funding available to tackle the illegal trade of terrestrial and marine wildlife between Africa and Asia. Wildlife TRAPS is likely to focus on a group of species products (i.e. including ivory and rhino horn) traded between Central and East & Southern Africa and East and South East Asia. Activities will be delivered through a three Phase 'Framework Approach': Phase I will focus on 'Assessment and Priority Setting'; activities will include scoping studies, desk based research, semi-structured interviews and stakeholder mapping. Phase II will focus on 'Collaborative Action Planning' with Wildlife TRAPS stakeholders in order to identify the trade routes and species products that will be tackled through a suite of 'non-traditional approaches' delivered during Phase III.

- *The World Bank Group*, has supported the strengthening of the Central African Action Group against Money Laundering (GABAC) which is a body of the Economic and Monetary Community of Central African States (CEMAC) and is composed of six members of the community: Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon. The GABAC was created in 2000 with the mandate to combat money laundering (ML) and the financing of terrorism (FT) in the CEMAC region. As part of its mandate, this group is in charge of conducting assessments of the level of compliance of its members to the FATF international standards, providing support to members in understanding their ML and FT risks and vulnerabilities and providing a forum for members to collaborate in developing concerted strategies to deal with common challenges. At the request of GABAC, the WBG has assessed how the anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) tools that have been developed in most countries around the world to combat

transnational crimes, including Central African States, can be used to combat wildlife trafficking -specifically from elephant poaching - through the fight against financial crime and the tracing, the localization and the recovery of illicit revenues generated by that crime across the value chain. The WBG is also preparing at the request of the CITES secretariat to prepare a training manual in AML techniques that can be used to control wildlife trafficking.

3) ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO

The goal of this project is to combat wildlife crime by coordinating investments across the public and private sectors, accelerating learning and investing in direct action to disrupt trafficking infrastructure.

The key outcomes /performance indicators for the Project are:

- Learning events that accelerate uptake of good practice
- South-south networks in operation that link Wildlife Enforcement Mechanisms.
- No. of ports with anti-wildlife crime techniques in operation.

Component 1: Program Coordination and Communication

This component will coordinate investments to reduce poaching, strengthen community-based wildlife management and tourism development, curtail trafficking, and reduce demand for illegal wildlife and wildlife products. Given the multi-faceted nature of the interventions and the extent of the landscapes that species occupy across the source-transit-demand nexus, the Project will access funds from the biodiversity focal area in alignment with Programs, 1, 3, and 9. This will be achieved by coordinating key agencies and organizations across the source-transit-demand country nexus and linking their learning to allow for scaled up interventions.

This component will coordinate and maintain extensive and continued stakeholder consultations at national and international level to support all components of the project. This will be done through the establishment of a formal consultative mechanism, the Program Steering Committee (discussed below), among GEF Implementing Agencies, that will be chaired by the World Bank Group. A coordinating platform with other major donors investing in combating wildlife crime will also be established to ensure that investments are synergistic and that poaching hotspots cannot simply move to an area where there are no investments. A monitoring and evaluation system will be developed to track progress from all child projects.

This ability to coordinate all wildlife crime efforts will facilitate the reporting mechanisms to mainstream all available data and approaches to further increase the impact towards successfully combatting wildlife crime. In addition, this component will promote the dissemination of the Program's results through a variety of effective communication methods and products.

Component 2. Knowledge management to innovate and scale up best practices

This component aims to achieve effective coordination and learning between African and Asian countries and agencies involved in efforts to reduce maritime transport of illegal wildlife products, especially ivory. Through this component, managed by UNDP, a coordination mechanism will be established to combat maritime trafficking, linking Wildlife Enforcement Networks and work through ICWCC to facilitate improved south-south cooperation between countries in Africa and Asia on reducing transport of illegal wildlife parts and derivatives.

Through the coordination mechanism, a "Tusk-Free Ports" self-regulation scheme will be developed and tested with close collaboration with stakeholders – including national governments, UN agencies, intergovernmental agencies, United for Wildlife partners (including the United for Wildlife taskforce on transport and trafficking), ICCWC partners and key private sector stakeholders. In addition, standards, protocols and operating procedures will be developed with key private sector role-players for various aspects of screening and law enforcement necessary for effectively controlling illegal wildlife trade via shipping, and promotion of these thorough WENs and ICCWC, and using e-learning modules potentially with a set of international qualifications in relevant fields.

Small grants will be made available for learning and knowledge exchanges between national role players involved in combatting trafficking e.g. police investigators, government officials, custom officials, shipping company employees etc., enabling them to share learning on improving intelligence screening, seizures, and investigation.

Component 3. Reducing Maritime Trafficking between Africa and Asia

This component aims to achieve effective coordination and learning between African and Asian countries and agencies involved in efforts to reduce maritime transport of illegal wildlife products, especially ivory. Through this component, managed by UNDP, a coordination mechanism will be established to combat maritime trafficking, linking Wildlife Enforcement Networks and work through ICWCC to facilitate improved south-south cooperation between countries in Africa and Asia on reducing transport of illegal wildlife parts and derivatives.

Through the coordination mechanism, a "Tusk-Free Ports" self-regulation scheme will be developed and tested with close collaboration with stakeholders – including national governments, UN agencies, intergovernmental agencies, United for Wildlife partners (including the United for Wildlife taskforce on transport and trafficking), ICCWC partners and key private sector stakeholders. In addition, standards, protocols and operating procedures will be developed with key private sector role-players for various aspects of screening and law enforcement necessary for effectively controlling illegal wildlife trade via shipping, and promotion of these thorough WENs and ICCWC, and using e-learning modules potentially with a set of international qualifications in relevant fields. Small grants will be made available for learning and knowledge exchanges between national role players involved in combatting trafficking e.g. police investigators, government officials, custom officials, shipping company employees etc., enabling them to share learning on improving intelligence screening, seizures and investigation.

Component 4. Disrupting Trafficking Infrastructure

This component will invest in breaking the trade and transportation links that enable the trafficking of illegal wildlife. Interventions will work across the trade chain, from where a species is first poached, to where it is finally laundered into markets, will be centered on intelligence-led policing and will focus on (i) creating and/or strengthening the networks between countries and across agencies in single countries to ensure the effective criminalization and prosecution of illegal wildlife crime; (ii) working with trade and customs organizations to raise their interest in combating wildlife crime and to introduce techniques and help them acquire tools for combating it; (iii) working with the private sector – both the transportation industry and the financing sector that underwrites it – to mobilize their expertise and interest in removing wildlife contraband from their transport chains and increasing the cost of capital to those transport companies who are bad actors; and (iv) supporting technological and forensic advances – from DNA to spatial mapping – to improve the deterrence, detection and prosecution of wildlife crime along the trade chain.

At the global level, the disbanding of trafficking networks through the strategic lead of customs authorities and relevant law enforcement agencies will create an environment of communication and collaboration that eases access to intelligence-led information to strategically approach the investigation of suspicious port activity and/or deliveries. In designing the intervention under this component, it will be important to interrupt the flow of traffickers. Interventions will be based on solid problem diagnosis, supported by application of the ICCWC wildlife crime toolkit, broad stakeholder consultations, a focus on criminalizing kingpins rather than local communities, and best international practice across the prevention, detection, deterence, and recovery agendas in law enforcement. Interventions will include work on corruption, trade and facilitation and anti-money laundering.

Recognizing the role of private sector as key stakeholders in combatting illegal trade, this component includes activities to bring the private sector firmly into collaboration with existing activities. Focus will be directed towards major international financing and businesses to take action to prevent IWT. Actors will include multilateral corporations, banking, insurance, international shipping and air transport sectors.
Measurement of success would be based on increased number, and awareness of cases involving frozen or seized financial assets from criminal activity to act as a deterrent and to stimulate further action by private sector.

4) INCREMENTAL REASONING AND EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BASELINE, THE GEFTF AND CO-FINANCING.

The Project will provide incremental funding across the suite of project interventions that builds on the newfound availability of funds to fight wildlife crime at the domestic level, as well as on financing from development assistance that focuses on supporting stronger NRM in pursuit of ending wildlife crime. Governments will provide substantive and significiant co-financing in cash and in kind for the projects related to the proposed interventions (including investments in the Protected Area system, law enforcement on site and along the criminal chain), upcoming loans from MDBs, contributions from the UN Agencies country programs, development agencies (i.e. GIZ, USAID), and grants from other donors, including commitments resulting from the EU's "Larger than elephants: Inputs for the design of an EU strategic approach to Wildlife Conservation in Africa", the Clinton Global Initiative, and the US National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking.

5) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS AND/OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS

This Project focuses on leveraging economies of scale and delivering results more quickly through coordination and knowledge management. Doing this will have immediate and longer term socio-economic benefits for all relevant stakeholders to include all participating agencies and organizations in addition to countries with limited capacity to address wildlife crime. Combating wildlife crime saves species but it also curbs corruption. This also directly benefits local people often kept poor by the bevy of corrupt practices that forestall development and progress. Moreover, combating wildlife crime reduces insecurity and crime in rural areas that otherwise lack the assets that attract crime. It will also ensure species and their habitats are better managed and more resilient, thus creating the conditions for communities to continue to use nature as a social safety net, particularly as climate change uncertainty exacerbates already tenuous lives.

Local and national treasuries benefit in two ways: first, increased revenes from legal trade in natural resources are assured as the risk of contraband entering trade chains is reduced, and legal businesses that benefit from reduced corruption and a better and safer business environment, can provide improved tax revenues. Governments can also legally exploit natural resources in a sustainable way rather than simply watch as that asset is strip-mined, robbed and ruined.

International trade benefits from removing illegal contraband from trade flows, which in turn reduces the cost of surveillance and detection. Removing contraband also speeds up trade flows and reduces the risk of shipments being seized or stopped at borders when legal goods as well as contraband can be held up indefinitely.

6) INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING-UP

Innovation: While there have been some projects and initiatives to protect single species (i.e. Tigers, rhinos, and elephants) or particular spaces, this is the first time that a suite of investments will be coordinated to respond to a key driver of biodiversity decline, namely illegal wildlife trade. Interventions will not simply focus on a single species or site, but rather on the mechanisms and underlying enabling conditions that provide the opportunities for criminal activity.

Sustainability: This program will innovate across technology, finance and governance pillars to reduce the cost of combating wildlife crime. Using a coordinated approach, the GEF agencies will work together and in collaboration with other key donors and interventions to shift the baseline for wildlife crime such that the risks will outweigh potential rewards, especially as the supply is reduced and demand dries up. Building good policies, the capacity to implement them and strong institutions across the criminal chain and in source-transit-demand countries, will establish the enabling environment for preventing IWT. The long term sustainability of improved NRM that underlies successful prevention and deterrence will rest in the hands of the National Governments and the agencies in charge of the management of these areas. Securing alternative development pathways that rely on a resilient and

healthy wildlife stock – such as tourism – and that benefits communities will also reduce the opportunistic elements associated with this crime.

Potential for scaling-up: The program will catalyze different innovations across its child projects and then coordinate learning that can be deployed at speed and scale across all sites. A particular focus on identifying consensus indicators to measure success and allow for causation to be established will allow for smarter investment going forward, which in turn can tap new streams of finance that are results based. The policy and coordination platforms will crowd-in investment going forward and ensure that future interventions can be more effective, accelerate delivery and results, and avoid mistakes.

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes ☐ /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation:

This project will build on a far-reaching network of stakeholders at the local, national, regional and international levels. At the national level, government commitment is key to the success and sustainability of the project, as described above. As a result, the project will provide a platform to magnify its interventions across all branches of government including the Executive, the Legislative, the Judiciary and Ministries of Justice, Finance, Tourism, Defense, Planning and Natural Resource Management, to name just a few. Working with law enforcement and protected area agencies with jurisdiction over the species and their habitats, rural communities dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, the transportation networks illegal wildlife travels within, the borders it crosses and the court systems the criminals are brought before, is critical.

Given the role of the private sector (often unwittingly) providing the means by which contraband is trafficked, their engagement is also critical to the success of the Program. So too is raising awareness among the financing sector who enables the transportation industry to thrive. Moreover, the Program will actively engage with other private sector actors, particularly in the tourism and health sectors, to make links between the importance of thriving, live animals for their success and the role of rural communities in wildlife management (in the case of tourism), and the impotence of wildlife parts or products to cure disease or illness (in the case of the health sector).

The project will also provide a single-platform to feed innovations and policy developed into the myriad regional and global bodies working on wildlife crime, and to transfer knowledge from these bodies to the child projects. In particular, the Program will work closely with ICCWC and its constituent partners (UNODC, Interpol, CITES Secretariat, WCO and WBG), as well as United Nations agencies tackling illegal wildlife trade and the EU and US inter-agency platforms to combat wildlife crime.

The project will also work closely with community-based organizations and local communities, who are invested in the sustainable management of biodiversity, including wildlife, and the income and job opportunities that it provides. This engagement will go beyond consultation to actively involve communities in the design and implementation of child projects and in the learning across the Program.

The project will also work with national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private actors who will be a key part of the delivery of Program activities. These entities include traditional environmental and conservation organizations, tourism entities, business leaders, religious leader, celebrities, marketing firms and advocacy organizations with established expertise in wildlife management, community development, and deterring wildlife crime.

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

The following initial set of risks have been identified.

Risks	Rating	Preventive Measures
Uncooperative Implementing Agencies increase coordination transaction costs and reduce joint learning	Low	
Insufficient funds to effectively convert all seaports within the entire supply chain to destination countries to 'tusk-free' status	High	Pending funding availability and costs (to be determined during PPG) a small number of strategic ports will be selected to demonstrate the model. The 'tusk-free port' will also be self-evaluation by the port authority with possibility of an external verification (possibly CITES). The emphasis will be placed on improvement rather than being tusk-free. An appropriate assessment form will be developed during project implementation. Efforts will be made in the involvement of the private sector to assist ports to improve towards tusk-free status. Information regarding key ivory export, transit and destination ports will be provided to national governments to encourage national budgets to be made available to improve ivory trafficking deterrence.
Not all banks and insurance companies globally take appropriate action to combat IWT leaving criminals/syndicates to continue illegal trafficking	High	This risk is real possibility, however the project is focusing on combatting IWT, and not necessarily preventing. The fundamental concept of the involvement of the private sector is to make it more difficult for criminals to operate, and this will be achieved by the project. Further, the project wants create the environment where there is peer-pressure from other private sector partners for companies to join as it is the 'right' thing to do – its part of their social and environmental responsibility. By creating this environment, more private sector companies will join, making it increasingly difficult for criminals to operate re IWT.
Conflicts of interest and different priorities of stakeholders constrain implementation of activities	Moderate	Needs and priorities of stakeholders will be identified, and constructive dialogue, joint planning and problem solving will be promoted through the coordination mechanism. The case of economies of scale will be highlighted and the fact that illegal wildlife trade can only be reduced through a global effort involving supply, transit and destination countries.
Capacity limits of supply, transit and destination IWT countries especially institutional and human resources needs	Moderate	Capacity determines implementation and scope. Project design recognises this and there are several innovative approaches proposed to promote rapid learning whilst doing. An entire component is dedicated to Knowledge Management with e-learning, and exchanges forming important parts. A Lesson learnt from other regional, global projects was a technical strong and supportive Programme Coordination Unit that is able to assist and mentor national counterparts is necessary. During the PPG, this lesson will be further advanced through the design of the complement staff of the PCU.
Reducing wildlife poaching and illegal trade is complex. The involvement of militia and highly organized crime result in serious cases of heavily armed men killing park guards, in highly sophisticated smuggling and use of corruption and money laundering for the ivory trade.	Moderate	Organisaions such as the UN Office n Drugs and Crime, the World Customs Organization, the CITES Secretariat and INTERPOL will be involved in project execution in some manner, however, coming up with a design that can tackle such a large program will be challenging. The project is designed using the best intelligence and experience to date to address this risk and will be very explicit about all the risk in the final design. By taking an analytical approach to diagnosing specific problems, and, by building constituencies and co-designing custom solutions, this risk is minimized.
Important supply, transit and destination countries in the ivory trade between Asia and Africa might not	Moderate	The South-South Wildlife Crime via Maritime Shipping coordination mechanism will be established where all countries in the trafficking cycle will be invited and hopefully be presented. Existing mechanisms e.g. ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network will be used to facilitate countries' participation. The loss of economic opportunities due to illegal wildlife trade argument will be also be used to convince supply countries to be

join the program allowing alternative routes to be found for trafficking		involved, transit and destination countries will be targeted in that their citizens are causing economic loss in other countries. Convention secretariats e.g. CITES will also be involved and request member countries to join the programme.
Governmental agencies / private companies unwilling to share information / data	Low	Information and knowledge generation, management and dissemination are a key component of this project. Open-access and the mutual benefits of information sharing will be included in all agreements for databases, websites, etc. sponsored by the project.

The overall rating is Substantial. The complexity of the problem and coordinating key partners and at the same time delivering effective results in a timely manner is not straightforward. Lowering this risk will require that this program defines very clear and concrete indicators that can be monitored easily. During preparation, the monitoring tools and timeliness of the reports will be fully designed with engagement from all partners. The project's success will depend on the level of leadership that the Bank can show and the incorporation of the opinion of experts as well as the political commitment by national governments. There will not be this level of funding for wildlife in many years to come. This is the opportunity to make the difference.

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

In pursuit of meeting the aims of the GEF Council document "IMPROVING THE GEF PROJECT CYCLE" (GEF/C.47/07), a lead agency has been appointed that will "ensure coherence of the program and will be responsible for coordinating all aspects of the program implementation". The Lead Agency – the World Bank Group – will thus play a close coordination and liaison role with any additional participating Agencies and the GEF Secretariat for the program. The Lead Agency will also be responsible for all enquiries regarding program implementation progress and program-level reporting, mid-term evaluation, final program completion and the achievement of program-level higher impact on the global environment. The Lead Agency will be in charge of coordinating activities with on-going GEF projects related to Program 3, and with investments and initiatives funded by other donors. The WBG in close communication with the other agencies, will make use of the Coordination Grant to accompany this global project, to invest financial and technical resources in achieving coordination and exchange of experiences, especially when there is more than one country-based project and when regional and global activities complement the investments at the national level.

Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1 **IS THE PROJECT CONSISTENT WITH THE NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSEMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS? FOR BIODIVERSITIY RELATED PROJECTS, PLEASE REFERENCE THE AICHI TARGETS THAT THE PROJECT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ACHIEVING. (YES ☐ /NO☐). IF YES, WHICH ONES AND HOW: NAPAS, NAPS, ASGM NAPS, MIAS, NBSAPS, NCS, TNAS, NCSAS, NIPS, PRSPS, NPFE, BURS, ETC.:**

This project will contribute to achieving Target 12 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets: "by 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained." The stakeholders involved have identified poaching and the illegal wildlife trade as a significant threat in their National Biodiversity Strategies (NBSAPs)

The project will reinforce the commitment of each of the participant countries to implement global, regional, and national frameworks, such as the Africa Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development's Environment Action Plan (EAP), the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Program is also consistent with the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES), an international agreement to ensure that the international trade in specimens of wild plants and animals does not threaten their survival.

The project will strengthen the implementation of existing continental frameworks and plans addressing wildlife crime from the supply side to consistently work with the findings of ICCWC's Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit which has been applied in several range countries or is in the process of application in other participating countries. The results of the toolkit include comprehensive recommendations towards building capacity at the local and national level for all major governmental stakeholders involved with addressing wildlife crime issues.

At the regional level, the project will also consider the regional sectoral policies and strategies. For example, activities surrounding regional and global conferences which have outlined high level government support for a strategic approach to wildlife crime will be included in the Program, for example, events such as the International Conservation Caucus Foundation's conference surrounding regional support and collaboration to stopping wildlife crime.

2.Wildlife and human-elephant conflicts management in Gabon (Gabon)

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[20]

Project Title:	Wildlife and human-elephant conflicts management in Gabon
Country(ies):	Republic of Gabon
GEF Agency(ies):	WB (select) (select)
Other Executing Partner(s):	Agence Nationale des Parcs Nationaux/Direction Générale de la Faune et de la Protection de la Nature (DGFAP)
GEF Focal Area(s):	Multi-focal Areas

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[21]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD-1 Program 1	(select)	1,990,000	20,400,000
BD-2 Program 3	(select)	3,165,963	9,400,000
LD-3 Program 4	(select)	880,734	5,000,000
SFM-1	(select)	1,281,055	4,600,000
SFM-3	(select)	1,737,294	1,000,000
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
Total Project Cost		9,055,046	40,400,001

B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: To reduce elephant poaching and the illicit ivory trade and improve community livelihoods in Gabon.

Project Components	**Financing Type[22]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
Protected Areas and Wildlife Management	Inv/TA	Improved National Park and wildlife management, with increased stakeholder involvement. Increased METT scores for 4 Parks. Elephant population in the 4 Parks and surrounding area stabilized. Decrease in PIKE value.	5,015,000	25,380,000

[20] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[21] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[22] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

Support for integrated landscape management and local community participation	Inv/TA	Improved connectivity of elephant populations within the landscape through sustainable land and forest management resulting in an overall strengthened stakeholder engagement and coordination and livelihoods. Improved areas under sustainable forest management approaches, reforestation, and climate-smart agriculture measures by various forest management actors.	2,850,000	10,000,000
Regional Cooperation and Collaboration (Gabon-Congo)	Inv/TA	Enhanced regional and global coordination on efforts to maintain forest reources, enhance forest management and restore forest ecosystems through the transfer of international experience and know-how	737,294	3,000,000
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
		Subtotal	8,602,294	38,380,000
		Project Management Cost (PMC)[23] GEFTF	452,752	2,020,000
		Total Project Cost	**9,055,046**	40,400,000

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

C. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
GEF Agency	IBRD-Skills Development Project	Loans	29,000,000
Donor Agency	Agence Française de Developpement	Loans	11,400,000
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
Total Co-financing			40,400,000

[23] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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.

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS a)

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b) b)	Total (c)=a+b
WB	GEFTF	Gabon	Biodiversity	(select as applicable)	5,155,963	464,037	5,620,00
WB	GEFTF	Gabon	Land Degradation	(select as applicable)	880,734	79,266	960,000
WB	GEFTF	Gabon	SFM	(select as applicable)	3,018,349	271,651	3,290,000
(select)	(select)	☐	(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)	☐	(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
Total GEF Resources					**9,055,046**	**814,954**	**9,870,000**

a) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.
b) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.
c) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Project Overview

A.1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION. **BRIEFLY DESCRIBE: 1) THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND/OR ADAPTATION PROBLEMS, ROOT CAUSES AND BARRIERS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED; 2) THE BASELINE SCENARIO OR ANY ASSOCIATED BASELINE PROJECTS, 3) THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO, WITH A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT, 4) INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING AND EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BASELINE, THE GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, AND CO-FINANCING; 5) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEFTF) AND/OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF); AND 6) INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING UP.**

1) Sector issues

Forests cover 85% of the Republic of Gabon's territory, which accounts for approximately 15% of the Congo Basin rainforest. These forests house one of the last strongholds for forest elephant (Loxodonta Africana cyclotis) populations, with a population estimated between 23,457 and 60,000 elephants, or 50% of all remaining forest elephants in Africa. Gabon is also one of the most important countries for the conservation of the Western Lowland Gorilla and Chimpanzees (Pan troglodytes). Gabon encompasses three of the world's globally important eco-regions and it has a particularly high level of biodiversity and endemic species. This biodiversity is afforded protection through a network of protected areas, including 13 National parks created in 2001, totaling 1,293,000 ha, and with the park buffer zones covers over 15% of Gabon. Important populations of elephants, gorillas, and other species reside outside national parks, within forestry and oil concessions, as well as village lands, and afforded protection through laws pertaining to hunting regulations.

Gabon's wealth in diversity and abundance is primarily due to its long-standing political stability; its low demographic pressure on natural resources; the highly urbanized population with more than 85% of its population living in urban areas, predominantly in Libreville (the capital), Port-Gentil (the economic capital), and Franceville (the mining region), and the rural population is widely dispersed in small villages and towns. However, Gabon's natural resource wealth is currently under threat, with wildlife populations declining and forests as illegally exploited. Forest elephants are declining at a rate of about 9% per year (Maisels et al 2013). Elephant populations are being targeted for their ivory, whilst other species are targeted to supply the commercial bushmeat trade. The

impact of the illegal poaching and illicit wildlife trade includes risking the potential for wildlife tourism development, which whilst at present tourism is not an important source of revenue. Land use planning is rapidly changing pace, as each Government department is outlining its requirements for land - for extractive industrustries concessions (oil, forestry, or mining), agricultural, industrial, or urban development, or transport links, Gabon's previously relatively unchartered forests are being carved up to meet developmental requirements.

The Government of Gabon is strongly committed to sustainable forest management and safeguarding biodiversity, with it regularly being on the agenda from the highest political level. In 2009, the new Government proposed a new economic vision for Gabon, 'Emerging Gabon,' a roadmap laying out how to modernize Gabon and turn into an emerging green economy by 2025. It is based on 3 pillars – 'Gabon Industriel,' 'Gabon Vert,' and 'Gabon des Services.' The actions for the Green Gabon pillar (Gabon Vert) includes the institutionalization of sustainable forest management and the transformation of Gabon into a global leader for certified tropical timber production; the development of agriculture and livestock farming to improve food security and creation of sustainable and responsible fisheries; and the development of ecotourism. This Project would enhance and augment the current funding for Gabon and would complement the actions of the (i) Central African Elephant Conservation Strategy and (ii) Gabon Vert – the Government's vision.

ICCWC developed The Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit" to assist countries to carry out a situational analysis of the factors determining the ability of different government agencies to combat wildlife and forest crime on wildlife crime. The Governement of Gabon was the first country in Africa to request ICCWC to implement the toolkit in their country. The ICCWC, led by UNODC with WB funding (DGF) successfully completed the assessment in Gabon (Oct 2014). The report is still confidential and has not been released to the public, only to the Government of Gabon and ICCWC partners. A typical report indicates the areas where the government needs to strengthen its legislation, institutions, governance and criminal justice systems, and law enforcement. This project design will be able to benefit from the recommendation of this report.

2) Baseline Scenario

Gabon was one of the first countries that signed up to the WBG Waves program (Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystems Services). This program is well underway and is operating at the highest level within the Finance Ministry. Gabon has also requested to the WBG a $100 million IBRD loan for the Gabon Skills Development Project. The objective of the proposed project is to improve and expand vocational Skills Development Project. The objective of the proposed project is to improve and expand vocational Training Supply and Quality Improvement in TVET in key growth sectors and improve youth skills, 2) Employability Development, Youth Integration and Entrepreneurship Promotion, and 3) Institutional Capacity Support and Project Implementation. The Project will be under the auspices of the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Vocational Training. A newly created Project Coordination Unit (PCU) will handle the fiduciary aspects of the project. The PCU and other implementing agencies will enter into a subsidiary agreement that spells out their respective tasks and responsibilities to ensure smooth project implementation. During preparation, areas of training relevant to the Gabon GEF-6 project will be included such as: judicial systems and criminology, anti-money laundering and asset recovery, intelligence gathering and forensic investigation, specialized training for park rangers as well as local community skills development to improve their livelihoods. We have estimated that the amount of training relevant to this project will be approximately US$ 29 million. The French Development Agency (AFD) through debt conversion agreement is planning to provide 10 million Euros to a project entitled "Gabon Elephant Project" which aims to combat wildlife crime and ivory trafficking in Gabon. This provides a strong baseline of activities to complement the proposed project. All these planned investments constitute the baseline for this project.

3) Alternative Scenario

Project Design: In complement with the baseline activities, the GEF resources under the proposed project will be developed as a multi-focal area operation, combining several GEF strategic goals and will be fully consistent with GEF-6 strategies and policies. The proposed project fits well within the Program Framework on Wildlife Conservation, Crime Prevention and Sustainable Development. The proposed objective of this project is to reduce elephant poaching and the illicit elephant ivory trade and improve community livelihoods in Gabon. This objective will be measured by the following indicators:

- Evolution of the elephants population in the project areas (stable or increase);
- Income generated by local populations based on local economic activities developed by the project

As conceptualized, the proposed project is expected to target four national parks in the South of the country namely: Moukalaba Doudou, Loango, Mayumba and Waka National parks. Activities which will be defined during preparation will complement an ongoing similar AFD-financed project in the amount of Euro 10 million focused on the national parks in the North of the country.

The proposed projects are structured through four key components that will support the achievement of the project objective.

Component 1: Protected areas and wildlife management

- Build the institutional and operational capacity of the General Direction of Fauna and Protected Areas (DGFAP) to enhance Parks surveillance and anti-poaching activities in close coordination with the National Agency of National Parks (ANPN);
- Implement priority activities derived from the management plans of Moukalaba-Doudou, Mayumba, Loango and Waka and their buffer zones;
- Enhance parks co-management with local communities;
- Develop national legislation on illegal ivory traffic in line with CITES provisions;
- Identify the best areas for connectivity between the elephant stronghold blocks between Loango Moukalaba Doudou , Mayumba national parks and through to Waka national park, assure their protection through intelligence-led law enforcement efforts, effective land use planning for agriculture, extractive industried and road development;
- Strengthen capacity of partner administrations in law enforcement to include law enforcement officers, wildlife authority, customs, and other major key stakeholders and to enhance understanding of legislation and certain legal procedures to understand trade routes and certain legal enforcement mechanisms to control the illicit ivory trafficking trade;
- Augment extractive industries implication in protecting elephant populations through collaboration on patrols, information exchange, and capacity building;
- Strengthen law enforcement efforts within the targeted National parks through improved crime scene analysis, with equipment provision, capacity building and implementation of investigative law enforcemenet techniques.
- Strengthen crime scene forensic analysis methods available for development of credible cases and reinforce intelligence networks.
- Develop and monitors a national database on information on ivory trafficking and prosecutions.

Component 2: Support for integrated landscape management and local community participation

- This component will include support for innovative and selective interventions at selected landscapes. Interventions that sustain or re-establish habitat connectivity at landscape level with support of local communities, for example, through Participatory Forest Management Landscapes (shortlisted activities for support will be identified during preparation).
- The component will also review the Human Elephant Conflict mitigation efforts, actions and effectiveness, and investigate new approaches such as environmental risk insurance schemes, effective government compensation schemes, and linkage to guidelines for farmers and local administrations on how to minimize crop raiding using methods available.
- Implement human-wildlife conflict toolkits prepared by the Government with the support of the FAO.
- Develop and implement local economic activities to benefit communities in order to improve their living conditions.

Component 3: Regional Cooperation and collaboration (Gabon-Congo)

- Support Cross-border plans and strategies to improve wildlife management and elephant corridors

- Enhance cross-border wildlife surveillance and patrols
- Rehabilitate control posts at the border to enhance capacity of monitoring trade

Component 4: Monitoring and evaluation and project management

- This component will provide support for management, coordination, monitoring, and reporting on institutional and landscape level interventions.

4) Incremental Reasoning:

Current efforts within Gabon to stem the decimation of habitats, plants and animals in the wild are not succeeding. New levels of investments and cooperation between government departments; communities and other partners in an integrated approach for biodiversity conservation and natural resources management, tourism development and poverty reduction. A unified multi-disciplined, multi-sectoral, coordinated approach will have a greater chance of success. This Project aims to harness the momentum Gabon has set to tackle the problem of wildlife trade, land degradation and climate change, and utilize and augment existing mechanisms and systems. The Proejct will maximize the high level political will demonstrated by the Government and facilitate this will into actions on the ground. Single sector approaches, isolated projects, and individual institutions can not sufficiently address the multi-disciplinary challenges posed by land degradation and climate change.

This project aims to enhance and further existing country initiative and strategies, and support their implementation, of for example national elephant action plans (NEAP) as well as country obligations for example CITES ivory regulations for ivory management. The project will aim to work with experts in different disciplines, maximizing local knowledge and experiences.The project and its activities are aimed to equip wildlife authorities, protected area managers, local governments, communities, and indigenous people with skills, techniques, and understanding to effectively and sustainably manage their land and its resources. This will include an element of change management; transforming communities and governmental and non-government organizations interactions with the natural environment. It is expected that the improved management will result in more cost effective, higher yielding results, and therefore engage an increased level of ownership and stewardship amongst men and women within local communities and other stakeholders.

5) Global Environment Benefits

The Project will have many global environment benefits. It will be specifically aligned with the following GEF's focal area strategic objectives to achieve these benefits:

Biodiversity focal area strategic objectives:

- BD-1: Improve management effectiveness of protected areas.
- BD-2: Reduce threats to globally endangered species.
- BD-4: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use into production landscapes and production sectors.

Climate Change focal area strategic objectives:

- CC-2: Demonstrate systemic impacts of mitigation options. Program 4: Promote conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks in forest, and other land use, and support climate smart agriculture.

Sustainable Forest Management strategic objectives:

- SFM-2: Increased application of good management practices in all forests by relevant government, local community, and private sector actors.

The GEF funded activities would all be incremental to the overall project baseline and address the elephant poaching crisis that is going rampant in the Africa region by supporting policy and regulation changes, strengthening the capacity to enforce anti-poaching and anti-trafficking measures and working with local communities to enhance their benefits derived from wildlife and forest management.

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes ☐ /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation:

This project will build on a far-reaching network of stakeholders at the local, national, and regional levels. At the national level, government commitment is key to the success and sustainability of this project, as described above. As a result the project will provide a platform to magnify its interventions across all branches of government including the Executive, the Legislative, the Judiciary and Ministries of Justice, Finance, Tourism, Defense, Planning and Natural Resource Management, to name just a few. Working with law enforcement and protected area agencies with jurisdiction over the species and their habitats, rural communities dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, the transportation networks illegal wildlife travels within, the borders it crosses and the court systems the criminals are brought before, is critical.

The project will also work closely with community-based organizations and local communities, who are invested in the sustainable management of biodiversity, including wildlife, and the income and job opportunities that it provides. This engagement will go beyond consultation to actively involve communities in the design and implementation of child projects and in the learning across the project.

The project will also work with national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private actors who will be a key part of the delivery of Program activities. These entities include traditional environmental and conservation organizations, tourism entities, business leaders, religious leader, celebrities, marketing firms and advocacy organizations with established expertise in wildlife management, community development, and deterring wildlife crime.

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

High (H) – risk greater than 75 percent probability that the outcome/result will not be achieved
Substantial (S) – risk between 50 and 75 percent
Modest (M) – risk between 25 and 50 percent
Low or Negligible (N) – risk of less than 25 percent that the outcome/result will not be achieved.

Critical risks	**Risk Level**	**Proposed measures**
Political instability within the region with limited security of the borders of Gabon	S	Gabon has been able to buffer impacts of political instability in the region to date through strong law enforcement
Weak coordination and limited collaboration between the ANPN/DGFAP and other Goverment Agencies especially in relation to buffer zone management	M	The legal mandates between the different government agencies exist. The ANPN and DGFAP have strong collaroation and will have a collaboraiton agreeent for this project.
Government elections with might result in changes in poltical direction	M	Elections are expected to occur in Gabon during the time frame of this project, which may lead to changes in political direction. Supporting the concretisation of the current policies into Goverment depertments will strength thier sustainbility.

Shortcomings of Gabon's enabling environment for tourism in general (ineffective local operators, costly air travel, weak hotel services) make it difficult to take advantage of the parks' potential for eco-tourism; and failure to develop eco-tourism undermines Government and local stakeholders' commitment for biodiversity	H	ANPN is actively involving relevant stakeholders (private sectors, other ministries) to help improve the enabling tourism environment and remove extra-sectoral constraints. More broadly, it should be noted that full success with eco-tourism is not absolutely necessary to achieve the project's objectives. Conservation efforts are likely to generate other socio-economic and environmental benefits.
Apathy of the locaal community to participate in development and community projects	M	Outreach and awareness campaigns, together with full stakeholder involvement with the development of the project, using the local community goverence structures, will be undertaken to generate support.
Resource tenure policies are fragmented, weak, or missing. Weak tenure can lead to low levels of investment in the resource and a perverse incentive to exceed sustainable use.	S	The Program aims to develop a range of incentive mechanisms, delivered through community structures and consistent with traditional land tenure systems. The projects will pursue different design strategies such as working in areas with clear resource tenure, promoting community driven development, raising institutional and community capacity to carry out land capability mapping and land use planning, promoting natural resource rights, and so on. Lastly, the World Bank's social safeguards include tenure and land use issues, which will also help reduce risks. Each project will face unique circumstances that will inform the risk mitigation strategy.
Countries and donors may not sufficiently work together to ensure alignment and mobilized cofinancing, and resources.	M	The platform of the EPI and convening power of the various partners will strengthen alignment. The existent high level of political commitment to implement the EPI will also strengthen alignment.
Low community demand to implement or sustain new technologies	M	The Program will pay particular attention to local benefitsin selection of activities. Participatory land and watershed planning exercises will build local awareness and establish incentives required. The projects will also be encouraged to have the flexibility to focus on smaller range of more readily accepted technologies, if necessary.

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

There are many donors in Gabon supporting natural resources management activities and the proposed project will draw synergies with the initiatives as preparation proceeds on the ground.

1) Name of project: Reinforcing the institutional capacity of Gabon's national park service: a multi-pronged, multi-institutional initiative to enhance national park and buffer zone management in the Republic of Gabon.
Financier: U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).
Amount: $15 million over five years (2013-2017).
Status: Under implementation.
Goal: Conserve Gabon's wildlife heritage by enhancing ANPN's capacity to effectively manage protected areas and to provide leadership for conservation in Central Africa.

2) Name of project: Sector governance project (Projet de Gouvernance Sectorielle, PAGOS).
Financier: FED Gabon, dons UE.
Amount: the PAGOS Environment is 4.750.000 euros including 2.100.000 euros for ANPN component, 1.300.000 euros for the Directorate of Environment (DGE), 1.000.000 for the FLEGT component and 350.000 euros for the "clean development mechanism" component.
Status: Under implementation.

Goal: Contribute to the improvement of governance in the environmental sector and in particular of Gabon national parks.

3) Name of project: African Wildlife Forensic network – capacity and coordination for law enforcement.
Financier: Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund.
Amount: £250,000 (2015-2017).
Status: Awarded January 2015.
Goal: Develop an effective, cooperative network of wildlife forensic capacity to help investigate IWT and support enforcement of CITES regulations for endangered species.

4) Name of project: Tridom (Tri-National Dja-Odzala-Minkebe) Project.
Financier: European Union (EU).
Amount: 500,000 euros for TRIDOM of which 150,000 for Gabon.
Status: ended in June 2015 with possible extension for end 2015.
Goal: Reduce the rate of forest degradation and loss of biodiversity through increased local, regional and national natural resource management capacity.
Executing agencies: WWF.
Coordination:

Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1 **IS THE PROJECT CONSISTENT WITH THE NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSEMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS? FOR BIODIVERSITIY RELATED PROJECTS, PLEASE REFERENCE THE AICHI TARGETS THAT THE PROJECT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ACHIEVING. (YES X☐ /NO☐). IF YES, WHICH ONES AND HOW: NAPAS, NAPS, ASGM NAPS, MIAS, NBSAPS, NCS, TNAS, NCSAS, NIPS, PRSPS, NPFE, BURS, ETC.:**

This country-level project is in line with strategies and priority activities and needs identified in country-driven exercises such as action plans related to the Elephant Protection Initiative. For example, in Gabon, a new roadmap highlights the three pillars, 'Gabon Industriel,' 'Gabon Vert,' and 'Gabon des Services,' to turn Gabon into an emerging green economy which includes the institutionalization of sustainable forest management to transform Gabon into a global leader for certified tropical timber production.

3. Integrated Forest and Sustainable Land Management Program (ZIFL-P) (Zambia)

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[24]

Project Title:	Integrated Forest and Sustainable Land Management Program (ZIFL-P)
Country(ies):	Republic of Zambia
GEF Agency(ies):	WB (select) (select)
Other Executing Partner(s):	Forestry Department Zambia Wildlife Authority
GEF Focal Area(s):	Multi-focal Areas

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[25]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD-1 Program 1 (select) (select)	GEFTF	1,600,086	5,000,000
BD-2 Program 3 (select) (select)	GEFTF	1,083,400	0
(select) CCM-2 Program 4 (select)	GEFTF	1,341,743	15,000,000
LD-1 Program 1 (select) (select)	GEFTF	1,341,743	5,000,000
(select) (select) SFM-3	GEFTF	2,683,486	15,000,000
Total Project Cost		8,050,458	40,000,000

B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: Increase the effective management of the Conservation Areas and enhance the overall living conditions of communities in and around the Conservation Areas to catalyze economic development.

Project Components	**Financing Type[26]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
Increased Carbon Stocks	TA/Inv	Targeted policy, legal and regulatory frameworks to address the drivers of increased emissions from and depletion of carbon in agriculture, forest, and other land-use adopted and enforced Sustainable management practices that lead to long-term climate change mitigation and carbon sequestration adopted in agricultural lands, forests, and in the wider landscape introduced	1,300,000	23,000,000

[24] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[25] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[26] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

Poverty Reduction	TA/Inv	Good management practices are applied in all forests by relevant government, local community, and private sector actors. Enhanced forest-based livelihoods for communities and smallholders.	1,797,248	5,000,000
Institutional Strengthening	TA/Inv	Forest management plans and community conservation plans that inegrate agriculture with forestry/wildlife management plans Capacity building of local government in REDD+ design, implementation, monitoring, and overall management	1,950,688	5,000,000
Biodiversity Conservation	TA/Inv	Improved management effectiveness of new protected areas Reduction in poaching rates of rhinos and elephants and other threatened species and increase in arrests and convictions Increased area of production landscapes that integrate conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into management	2,600,000	5,000,000
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
		Subtotal	7,647,936	38,000,000
		Project Management Cost (PMC)[27] (select)	402,522	2,000,000
		Total Project Cost	8,050,459	40,000,000

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

C. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
GEF Agency	Biocarbon fund	Grant	40,000,000
		Loans	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	

[27] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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.

(select)		(select)	
Total Co-financing			40,000,000

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS a)

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b) b)	Total (c)=a+b
WB	GEFTF	Zambia	Biodiversity	(select as applicable)	2,683,486	241,514	2,925,000
WB	GEFTF	Zambia	Climate Change	(select as applicable)	1,341,743	120,757	1,462,500
WB	GEFTF	Zambia	Land Degradation	(select as applicable)	1,341,743	120,757	1,462,500
WB	GEFTF	Zambia	SFM	(select as applicable)	2,683,486	241,514	2,925,000
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
Total GEF Resources					**8,050,458**	**724,542**	**8,775,000**

d) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.
e) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.
f) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Project Overview

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Sub-Saharan Africa's rich biodiversity endowment serves as the foundation for many local and national economies, including the livelihoods of millions of people. Yet, the decimation of habitates, plants, and animals in the wild continues at an unprecedented pace. The recently published Living Planet Report (2014) states that overall terrestrial species populations have declined by 39% between 1970-2010.

In Africa, this decline in biodiversity is reflected in population trends for the iconic African Elephant Loxodonta Africana which have experienced dramatic declines in all regions of Africa, predominantly a result of poaching to supply the wildlife trade. It is estimated that forest elephants have declined by 62% between 2002 and 2011. This significant decline in elephant populations reflect the fact that wildlife poaching has been and is a growing threat.

In 2009, Zambia scored 35% (110th rank among 135 countries) on the Human Poverty Index (HPI-1). The percentage of population living under the poverty line in Zambia is 68 and rural poverty is significantly higher than urban poverty. Such high poverty, and its underlying human development indicator, creates a situation whereby communities have few alternatives but transform natural ecosystems for energy, farm land, and food. The Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) has recognized that cross-sectoral and integrated rural development approach including biodiversity conservation and promotion of eco-tourism through the protected

area network is an opportunity to enhance rural livelihoods strategies and options. The challenged is to achieve cost-effective conservation while enhancing livelihoods particularly of adjacent communities around protected areas.

Baseline: Parent Project Description and Background

The World Bank is assisting the Government of Zambia in preparing a project called the Zambia Integrated Forest and Sustainable Land Management Program (ZIFL-P). It will be financed by the BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (BioCF ISFL). Conceived to be initially a US$ 10 million technical assistance grant, it will be followed by about US$ 30 million of carbon financing through the BioCarbon Fund. This project's geographic focus will the Eastern Province of Zambia and the proposed Project Development Objective is to promote reduced greenhouse gas emissions from the land sector in the Eastern Province, while simultaneously improving rural livelihoods and wildlife conservation.

The discussions to date between Zambia's GEF Focal Point and the World Bank have pointed to the country's interest in a set of GEF-financed investments in the Eastern Province that would be a multi-focal project with investments in biodiversity protection, sustainable forestry management, and sustainable livelihoods. There is a remarkable confluence of ideas and proposals between the ZIFL-P and a proposed GEF investment, so it is proposed to blend GEF financing with the BioCarbon Fund-financed project. This will ensure the available of co-financing for the GEF investment, will allow for a larger project overall, and will increase the leverage and impact of the GEF funds and bring a relatively greater benefit to Zambia.

Alternative Scenario: Indicative Project Structure

Sections below provide a description of the proposed components in the BioCF/GEF blended project and a more explicit explanation of the proposed use of the GEF resources. It is important to mention that more details cannot be provided in this PIF as the full scoping mission to detail activities is scheduled for March 23 to April8, 2015. The government has however endorsed the GEF resources for this project based on this indicative project structure.

The GEF funded activities would all be incremental to the overall program and address the institutional and financial sustainability of public conservation areas, private sector game farms and community conserved areas.

The proposed pillars of the project, which could eventually become project components, are the following:

Pillar 1: Increased carbon stocks

The proposed BioCF investments would include activities that directly address drivers of deforestation and would promote sustainable agricultural land management resulting in improved soil carbon and enhancement of carbon stocks through afforestation and reforestation.

GEF financing of $1.5 million (possibly more if LDCF funding can be accessed; see footnote on first page) would add additional resources to help achieve GEF outcomes: i) "Targeted policy, legal and regulatory frameworks to address the drivers of increased emissions from and depletion of carbon in, agriculture, forest, and other land-use adopted and enforced"; and ii) "Sustainable management practices that lead to long-term climate change mitigation and carbon sequestration adopted in agricultural lands, forests, and in the wider landscape introduced."

Pillar 2: Poverty Reduction

Activities will be supported that will reduce poverty, improve livelihoods and provide alternatives to deforestation-dependent communities. A variety of possible investments and approaches are under consideration.

GEF financing of US$ 1.5 million from the Land Degradation window would be added to the project design to support conservation agriculture livelihood investments, particularly in areas adjacent to critically important protected areas.

Additionally, the GEF would provide $US 3.0 million from the Sustainable Forest Management Financing window. Investments would help achieve the two following GEF outcomes: i) "Good management practices are

applied in all forests by relevant government, local community and private sector actors"; and ii) "Enhanced forest-based livelihoods for communities and smallholders."

Pillar 3: Institutional Strengthening

Under this component, the BioCF would finance forest management plans and community conservation plans that integrate agriculture with forestry/wildlife management plans.

GEF financing from any or all of the windows could be included under this component if the intention is to specifically support institutional strengthening.

Pillar 4: Biodiversity Conservation

The BioCF project intends to support national strategic protected areas. Support could include carbon payments, capacity building, and support to protected area management.

GEF financing would add substantial additional funding (US$ 3.0 million) to support national parks in the project area, as agreed with ZAWA and the GEF FP. There is an expectation that the project would build on the GEF-financed Nyika Transfrontier Conservation Area Project, currently under implementation, and the GEF financing would focus substantial investments in Lukusuzi National Park, promoting wildlife connectivity with Kasungu National Park in Malawi, both integral parts of the Nyika TFCA. It should be noted that under a separate GEF-funded project in Malawi, being prepared by Malawian authorities and the World Bank, complementary financing would be provided to Kasungu National Park.

The two national parks of Lukusuzi and Kasungu are separated by an important corridor for wildlife movement of customary land of about 12-25 km wide and 490 km2. This corridor is under threat and its loss would be a major loss to regional conservation goals. The total size of the TFCA component, including the former corridor, is about 5,639 km2 with Kasungu National Park contributing 2,316 km2 and the Lukusuzi National Park 2,729 km2. This complex is connected in turn to the national parks in the Luangwa Valley via several Game Management Areas, parks that are expected to be the focus of the BioCF investments.

Specifically, three GEF outcomes would be supported: i) "Improved management effectiveness of new protected areas"; ii) "Reduction in poaching rates of rhinos and elephants and other threatened species and increase in arrests and convictions"; and iii) "Increased area of production landscapes that integrate conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into management".

It is expected that financing from German cooperation (KfW) will be available as additional parallel co-financing as they are developing a project with Zambia to support the northern parts of the Nyika TFCA, but not in the area of the Lukusuzi NP.

Incremental Reasoning: In complement with the baseline activities, the GEF resources under the proposed project will be developed as a multi-focal area operation combining several GEF strategic goals that are fully consistent with GEF-6 strategies and policies. The proposed project will be specifically aligned with the following GEF's focal area strategic objectives:

Biodiversity focal area strategic objectives:

1) BD-1: Improve sustainability of protected area systems
2) BD-2: Reduce threats to globally significant biodiversity.

Land degradation focal area strategic objectives:

3) LD-3: Integrated landscape management practices adopted by local communities based on gender sensitive needs.

Climate Change focal area strategic objectives:

4) CC-2: Demonstrate systemic impacts of mitigation options. Program 4: Promote conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks in forest, and other land use, and support climate smart agriculture.

Sustainable Forest Management focal area strategic objectives:

5) SFM-1: Maintained Forest Resources: Reduce the pressures on high conservation value forests by addressing the drivers of deforestation.

6) SFM-4: Increased Regional and Global Cooperation: Enhanced regional and global coordination on efforts to maintain forest resources, enhance forest management and restore forest ecosystems through the transfer of international experience and know-how.

Global Environmental Benefits:

Global environmental benefits resulting from the project include:

Biodiversity

- Conservation of globally significant biodiversity
- Sustainable use of the components of globally significant biodiversity.

Land Degradation

- Improved provision of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem goods and services;
- Reduce soil erosion and watershed degradation; and
- Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in productive landscapes.

Climate Change

- Promote conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks in forest, and other land use, and support climate smart agriculture

Sustainable Forest Management

- Reduction in forest loss and forest degradation; and
- Maintenance of the range of environmental services and products derived from forests.

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes ☐ /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation:

This project will build on a far-reaching network of stakeholders at the local, national, and regional levels. At the national level, government commitment is key to the success and sustainability of this project, as described above. As a result the project will provide a platform to magnify its interventions across all branches of government including the Executive, the Legislative, the Judiciary and Ministries of Justice, Finance, Tourism, Defense, Planning and Natural Resource Management, to name just a few. Working with law enforcement and protected area agencies with jurisdiction over the species and their habitats, rural communities dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, the transportation networks illegal wildlife travels within, the borders it crosses and the court systems the criminals are brought before, is critical.

The project will also work closely with community-based organizations and local communities, who are invested in the sustainable management of biodiversity, including wildlife, and the income and job opportunities that it provides. This engagement will go beyond consultation to actively involve communities in the design and implementation of child projects and in the learning across the project.

The project will also work with national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private actors who will be a key part of the delivery of Program activities. These entities include traditional environmental and conservation organizations, tourism entities, business leaders, religious leader, celebrities, marketing firms and advocacy organizations with established expertise in wildlife management, community development, and deterring wildlife crime.

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

The risk section will be filled out upon return from the detailed scoping mission.

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

The Norwegian Government is supporting COMACO Ltd. With a $14.5 grant (2014-2018) to scale the CAMACO model to 160,000 households across the Luangwa Vallery, with support to integrate carbon markets in the mix of economic incentives directed at communities demonstrating compliance to sustainable land use and agricultural practices. Adding to these efforts is a further $6 million grant (2012-2015) from USAID to provide direct farmer support services in conservation agriculture and farm product development. As a stand-alone, non-profit commercial enterprise, COMACO seeks to achieve $25 million in gross sales of farm and off-farm products under the brand *It's Wild!* As a source of revenue to sustain farmer compliance to conservation agriculture and to community conservation plans.

The Government of Zambia is leading the implementation of a $4.49 million United Nations Joint Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD) with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The UN-REDD programme has been implementing and concluding major outputs, including analytical work and studies such as on the drivers of deforestation, economic context of REDD+, legal preparedness for REDD+ , finance, incentives and benefit sharing options and opportunities for REDD+, forest management practices and initiatives of relevance to REDD+, assessment of capacity and capacity needs for REDD+ implementation, and role of private sector in REDD.

Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1 **IS THE PROJECT CONSISTENT WITH THE NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSEMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS? FOR BIODIVERSITIY RELATED PROJECTS, PLEASE REFERENCE THE AICHI TARGETS THAT THE PROJECT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ACHIEVING. (YES ☐ /NO☐). IF YES, WHICH ONES AND HOW: NAPAS, NAPS, ASGM NAPS, MIAS, NBSAPS, NCS, TNAS, NCSAS, NIPS, PRSPS, NPFE, BURS, ETC.:**

This project is designed within the broader development agenda, known as the Vision 2030, which aims to make Zambia a "prosperous middle-income country by 2030" with guidance from the Sixth National Development Plan (SNDP). This project helps develop relevant actions at the jurisdictional level in key sectors such as agriculture, energy, and forests that align to the Climate Response Strategy and the National REDD+ Strategy through public private partnerships.

This project will also contribute to achieving Target 12 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets: "by 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained." Countries participating in this programme have identified poaching and the illegal wildlife trade as a significant threat in their National Biodiversity Strategies (NBSAPs).

4. Strengthening the management of wildlife and improving livelihoods in northern Republic of Congo _ (WB as implementing agency)

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[28]

Project Title:	Strengthening the management of wildlife and improving livelihoods in northern Republic of Congo
Country(ies):	Republic of Congo
GEF Agency(ies):	WB
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Forest Economy and Sustainable Development
GEF Focal Area(s):	Multi-focal Areas

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[29]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD-1 Program 1 Improve management effectiveness of protected areas	GEFTF	1,000,000	0
BD-2 Program 3 Reduction in rates of poaching of rhinos and elephants and other threatened species	GEFTF	2,660,169	0
LD-2 Program 3 Improved forest management and/or restoration	GEFTF	546,697	14,000,000
SFM-1 Cross sector policy and planning approaches at appropriate governance scales	GEFTF	400,000	30,000,000
SFM-2 Increased application of good management practices in all forests by relevant government, local community and private sector actors	GEFTF	1,703,434	30,000,000
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
(select) (select) (select)	(select)		
Total Project Cost		6,310,300	74,000,000

E. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: To improve wildlife management in northern Republic of Congo and to protect habitats while improving local livelihoods

Project Components	**Financing Type[30]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
1:Strengthening Institutions and policies for natural resources management	Inv/TA	Reduction in rates of poaching of rhinos and elephants and other threatened species and increase in arrests and convictions Capacity building of local government in REDD+ design, implementation, monitoring, and overall management	684,485	14,000,000

[28] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[29] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[30] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

		Cross-sector policy and planning approaches at appropriate governance scales, avoid loss of high conservation value forests.		
2: Management of protected areas and forest landscapes involving communities	Inv/TA	Improved management effectiveness of protected areas Support mechanisms for forest landscape management and restoration established Improved forest management and/or restoration Increased application of good management practices in all forests by relevant government, local community (both women and men) and private sector actors.	5,310,300	56,300,000
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
	(select)			
		Subtotal	5,994,785	70,300,000
		Project Management Cost (PMC)[31] GEFTF	315,515	3,700,000
		Total Project Cost	6,310,300	74,000,000

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

F. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
GEF Agency	IDA	IDA loan	10,000,000
Donor Agency	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Carbon Fund	Equity	64,000,000
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
Total Co-financing			74,000,000

G. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS [a)]

		Country/	Focal Area	Programming	(in $)

[31] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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.

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Regional/ Global		of Funds	GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)[b)]	Total (c)=a+b
WB	GEFTF	Republic of Congo	Biodiversity	(select as applicable)	3,660,169	341,801	4,001,970
WB	GEFTF	Republic of Congo	Land Degradation	(select as applicable)	546,697	53,331	600,028
WB	GEFTF	Republic of Congo	SFM/REDD+		2,103,434	197,566	2,301,000
(select)	(select)	☐	(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)	☐	(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
Total GEF Resources					6,310,300	592,698	6,902,998

d) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.
e) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.
f) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

PROJECT OVERVIEW

A.1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE: 1) THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND/OR ADAPTATION PROBLEMS, ROOT CAUSES AND BARRIERS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED; 2) THE BASELINE SCENARIO OR ANY ASSOCIATED BASELINE PROJECTS, 3) THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO, WITH A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT, 4) INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING AND EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BASELINE, THE GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, AND CO-FINANCING; 5) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEFTF) AND/OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF); AND 6) INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING UP.

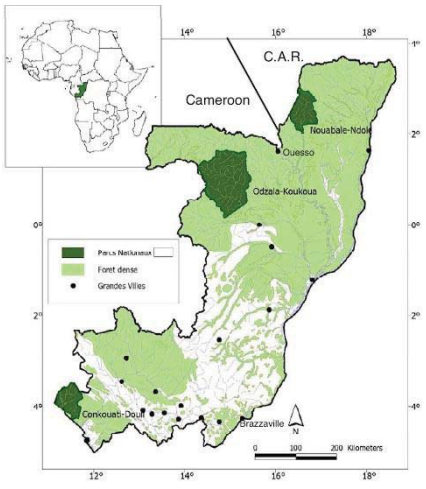
1) Global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes, and barriers

The Republic of Congo, with a population of an estimated 4.45 million (2013), has a low population density, with the majority of inhabitants (64%) living in urban areas (Brazzaville and Pointe Noir being the largest urban centers. Population density is therefore extremely low in the rural areas. The country boasts numerous assets: substantial oil reserves, close to 22 million hectares of forests, 10 million hectares of arable land, a highly developed hydrographic network, a climate conducive to agriculture, and abundant mineral resources.

Congo's forest biodiversity is significant. Its forest estate is one of the richest and most biologically important on the planet. Around 65% of the country is covered by lowland tropical forests, which includes large tracts of intact forest. Congo's forests possess a wealth of biodiversity, including forest elephants, western lowland gorilla, chimpanzees, leopards, and bongo antelope. The country also harbors primary forests with mahoganies and other centuries-old tree species that, particularly in the north of the country. Within Congo, a vast section of the northern portion of the country still has important elephant populations, including the national parks of Odzala and Nouabale-Ndoki and the FSC-certified timber concessions that connect and surround these parks.

The forests are important sources of income and livelihood products for many local communities – for example firewood, timber for construction, food plants, traditional medicines, and bushmeat as a source of protein. However, these rich biological resources are under threat from unregulated anthropogenic activities. The forest habitats are being fragmented and destroyed due to unregulated forestry, and the uncontrolled harvesting of non-timber forest products, shifting cultivation, and bushfires.

Protected areas in the Congo now cover 4.1 million ha, which represents 12% of total surface area. Four protected areas have approved management plans: the three National Parks of Odzala-Kokoua, Nouabalé-Ndoki and Conkouati-Douli (Fig. 1), and the Lossi gorilla sanctuary.



In addition, Congo has an important trans-boundary conservation areas. The Sangha River Tri-National Protected Area with a total area of 2.8 million ha, encompasses Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park in the Republic of Congo, the adjacent Dzanga Sangha Special Reserve in the Central African Republic, and the Lobéké National Park in

Cameroon. This transboundary conservation area complex is home to globally significant populations of forest elephants and gorillas, among others. The forested regions northern Congo, southwestern CAR, and southeastern Cameroon contained the region's highest elephant densities and almost all the nationally important elephant populations.

In spite of the relatively large area covered by protected areas in Congo, wildlife populations are declining from unsustainable hunting to supply the bushmeat trade and illegal income generation from the illegal wildlife trade and hunting trophies. A recent report on forest elephant populations demonstrates a widespread and catastrophic decline in the numbers of forest elephants in Central Africa: over 60% have been lost, and their range has been reduced by 30%, and a corresponding range contraction of approximately 30%, during the nine-year period 2002–2011 (Maisels 2014). Poaching in Congo has escalated due to an increase in the number of automatic weapons available from recent civil wars in the region. Additionally, the recent expansion of the road network by logging companies allows easy access to previously remote forest sectors and to transport products out to the markets.

Commercial hunting is the main driver of the decline of terrestrial biodiversity in northern Congo. The relative ease with which major urban areas (Brazzaville, Kinshasa, Mbandaka, Yaounde, Douala, Bangui) can be reached by road and river has exacerbated this problem. Commercial logging in the north of the country has modified the forest, but because logging is limited to selective approaches, the main impact of commercial logging on biodiversity is mammal hunting, as formerly inaccessible forest tracts open up with the construction of logging roads in the timber concessions.

Terrestrial biodiversity in northern Congo also is threatened by land use change. The installation of palm oil concessions in the north threatens to turn large tracts of land into hostile areas for most medium- to large-sized mammals, because they will either be unable to survive in oil palm monoculture or because they pose a threat to crops and will be pursued by plantation managers. Maintaining connectivity between remaining natural forest tracts will thus be an utmost urgency for preserving the state of large mammals in the region over the longer term. By contrast, shifting cultivation has a relatively low impact because of the Congo's low population density, especially in the north of the country)

Key barriers to resolving these issues center on the government's challenges in containing wildlife crime and habitat conversion, both of which threaten endangered species of large mammals directly (through poaching) and indirectly (through habitat conversion). Barriers can be summarised as:

- Deficient capacity within the law enforcement and legal system, and insufficient information and tools for combatting the illegal wildlife trade;
- Deficient enabling framework for protected areas management and the fight against the illegal wildlife trade;
- Deficient management and enforcement at site and landscape levels; and
- Deficient transboundary coordination in control of natural resources.
- Deficient land use planning systems.

2. Baseline scenario

The Bank has an active US$ 10 m IDA project (with US$ 22.6m in government co-financing) entitled Forestry and Economic Diversification Project. The project's objectives are to increase the capacity of the Republic of Congo to: (i) promote better implementation of its forestry legislation; and (ii) enhance the policy environment for participation of local communities and the private sector in sustainable forest management and reforestation. This is being accomplished through the following components: (1) Capacity Building and institutional strengthening of the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Forest Economy and Environment; (2) improving the enabling environment for private sector and smallholder activities in the forest sector; and (3) enhancing the participation of local and indigenous communities in forest management. The project targets national administrative structures to

accomplish its objectives. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Forest Economy and Environment.

With Bank's support, the Northern Congo Emission Reductions Program (ER-P) has been selected by the Carbon Fund of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). The ER-P is planning to cover 12.35 million hectares in the northern departments of Sangha and Likouala, an area in which the government is aiming to reduce emissions by some 11 million tons of CO_2e over the period 2016 - 2020. At an assumed carbon price of US$ 5/tCO_2e, this would represent a transaction volume of US$ 55m. The primary emissions reductions investments are currently planned in sustainable cocoa production, improved charcoal production efficiency and utilization of biochar, sustainable forest management, conservation forests, and afforestation / reforestation (including community agroforestry). To prepare the Republic of Congo's institutional framework for REDD+, the World Bank has also been supporting REDD+ readiness activities with US$ 3.8 million from the FCPF Readiness Fund for more than two years. A US$ 5.2million additional funding is currently under consideration by the Preparation Fund of the FCPF. The total expected funds are US$ 64 million.

Although the baseline scenario includes a number of investments that would go a long way toward achieving the project's objectives, they do not permit a focus on capacity building for park management and wildlife management authorities, significant investments in assets inside proteted areas, or community wildlife management. Similarly, investments in ecosystem restoration in particular in forest areas would be severely limited in the baseline scenario. This would imply continued undersupply of wildlife management at a national and local scale, while largely excluding protected areas from being effectively integrated in the Emissions Reductions Program.

3. Proposed alternative scenario

The Congolese government is committed to protecting its natural resources. To stop this illegal activity, specifically the wildlife trade, a multi-faceted approached is needed and actions need to be taken at different stages of the trade through law enforcement linked to intelligence gathering and working within communities to improve forest management and livelihoods. The GEF operation will be working in the Nouabale-Ndoki National Park and its surrounding areas, thus complementing the GEF UNDP project that will work in the Odzala-Kokoua National Park and its surrounding areas.

To address this challenge, several approaches are necessary:

1) At the site level, law enforcement is urgently needed. Patrols working with local communities could be put in place, but improving the livelihoods of these communities will be a prerequisite for a successful intervention. This livelihood program will have to be designed to reduce the pressure that communities exert on wildlife populations, and provide incentives for them to be willing to participate in the fight against poaching.

2) Regarding the traffic of illegal products, there is a need to enhance cooperation between different government services (police, customs, military, etc.), as well as ensure monitoring and tracking illegal activities from the forest to the export locations (airports / ports) by using intelligence and innovative methods that would allow a systematic tracking of offenders or criminals. Anti-corruption programs would also have to be put into place.

To this end, this project will focus on stopping and preventing the trafficking of illegal wildlife products, specifically ivory, at transport pinch points and export points in addition to strengthening the capacity of the criminal justice system as it relates to wildlife and forestry crime. The project will also focus on alleviating human-wildlife conflict to increase the capacity of communities to successfully address human-wildlife conflict.The project will achieve its objective to improve wildlife management in northern Republic of Congo and to protect habitats while improving local livelihoods through the following components:

Component 1: Strengthening Institutions and Policy in natural resources management
This component will support investments and technical assistance to address wildlife crime in a strategic manner. The project will support key interventions at national scale that will allow the various branches and agencies of government to better calibrate its efforts to suppress the illicit trade in wildlife. This will include drawing on tools developed by the International Consortium to Combat Wildlife Crime (ICCWC). To this end, the project will also cooperate closely with a UNDP-led complementary initiative that will work in two other protected areas in northern Congo, while also addressing national wildlife crime priorities.

- Analysis of the illegal wildlife product value chain in the Republic of Congo to derive an appropriate control strategy
- Support the review and if necessary the strengthening of the legislative and regulatory wildlife management framework
- Design and implement an awareness and training program for the judiciary
- Promote intergovernmental communication based on mechanisms for collecting and sharing information
- Strengthen cross-border collaboration to better fight against the illegal international wildlife trade
- Strengthen intelligence networks and investigative capacity at all levels
- Strengthen border controls (incl. international airports and ports) using adapted technologies and tools, as well as proven methods of judicial inquiry
- Improve management of ivory stocks
- Project management

Component 2: Management of protected areas and forest landscapes involving communities This component will primarily focus on investments that aim at improving the management of natural resources inside and around Nouabale-Ndoki National Park. The park straddles the departments of Sangha and Likouala, the two jurisdictions that make up the Northern Congo Emissions Reductions Program. The aim of the component is to integrate the national park and its management in the broader efforts underway in the preparation of the Emissions Reductions Program. A key feature of this activity will be a focus on supporting livelihoods for local communities, with attendant expected benefits for both wildlife management and the Emissions Reductions Program.

- Conduct capacity assessment of national parks service with a view to developing an action plan to increase performance
- Improve protected area law enforcement through capacity building and equipment, implement innovative law enforcement techniques utilizing known forest elephant ecology and distribution
- Community engagement among local populations with a focus on improving livelihoods
- Sustainable forest management involving local communities in protected area buffer zones and the broader landscape, conservation-sensitive landscape-level participatory planning of use zones integrated in REDD+ processes
- Review (inventory / effectiveness) current measures to prevent or compensate for damages resulting from human-wildlife-conflict, promote innovative crop raiding prevention and compensation mechanisms such as environmental risk insurance schemes to address any shortcomings
- Assess possibility for implementing payments for environmental services to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, in complement with REDD+ activities
- Engage forestry and mining sectors in wildlife protection (participation in patrols, provision of motorized transport, information exchange, capacity building, access limitation, etc.).

At the end of the project, the rate of biodiversity degradation in targeted protected areas is expected to slow and natural habitats will have been maintained in their original state of preservation. The livelihoods of local populations will be improved. More specifically, institutional coordination and cross-border cooperation will be improved with a view to controlling illegal wildlife trafficking and poaching. Local communities will benefit from functional compensation mechanisms, but also payments for environmental services.

To complement the baseline activities, the GEF resources under the proposed project will be developed as a multi-focal area operation, combining several GEF strategic goals. They will be fully consistent with GEF-6 strategies

and policies. The proposed project will be specifically aligned with the following GEF focal area strategics objectives:

Biodiversity:

- BD-1: Improve sustainability of protected area systems: Program 1: Improving Financial Sustainability and Effective Management of the National Ecological Infrastructure
- BD-2: Reduce threats to globall significant biodiversity: Program 3: Preventing the Extniction of Known Threatened Species

Land Degradation:

- LD-2: Generate sustainable flows of ecosystem services from forests, including in drylands: Program 3: Landscape, Management and Restoration

Sustainable Forest Management:

- SFM-1: Maintained Forest Resources: Reduce the pressures on high conservation value forests by addressing the drivers of deforestation.
- SFM-2: Enhanced Forest Management: Maintain flows of forest ecosystem services and improve resilience to climate change through SFM

4. Incremental/additional cost reasoning and co-financing

The GEF funded activities would all be incremental to the overall program and address the institutional and financial sustainability of wildlife management, communities whose well-being is critical to said management, the control of the illegal wildlife trade, and.the long-term integration of conservation into pioneering carbon finance projects such as that under preparation in northern Congo.

The incremental cost of $6.9 million that the GEF financing would provide to the $74m baseline project would enable the adoptiong of a more comprehensive approach to the Emissions Reductions Program, thereby including protected and forest areas and wildlife manangement and crime prevention that might otherwise be neglected in the program, and increasing the program's chances of success. This will allow for a significantly increased impact of the overall project, as both areas are important reservoirs of carbon. Moreover, the community-centric inclusion of biodiversity resources in the project is expected to result in increased benefits to local communities, thereby increasing the sustainability of the resources for both wildlife preservation and carbon storage. The GEF resources also address a significant need for improved control of poaching, an area the baseline project cannot address.

Thus, the GEF's contributions will allow for significant investments in capacity building for park management and wildlife management authorities, in assets inside and surrounding proteted areas, and in community wildlife management. The GEF resources are expected to enable improved management of wildlife – including through better control of the illegal wildlife trade – both at national and local level. Part of this goal will be achieved by working closely with surrounding communities, which will also contribute to habitat preservation on a broader scale.

5. Global environmental benefits

GEF funding will help secure populations of globally significant species by improving institutional capacity to conserve its biodiversity through improved protected area management, reduced forest land degradation in areas adjacent to protected areas, improving forest and landscape management by government and communities; and improving the control of the commercial wildlife trade. These benefits will result from capacity building at national and local levels, as well as from integration of a significant protected area into the integrated landscape management framework being developed by the Northern Congo Emissions Reductions Program.

Global environmental benefits resulting from the project include:

Biodiversity

- Conservation of globally significant biodiversity;
- Sustainable use of the components of globally significant biodiversity

Land Degradation

- Improved provision of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem goods and services
- Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in productive landscapes

Sustainable Forest Management

- Reduction in forest loss and forest degradation
- Maintenance of the range of environmental services and products derived from forests

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes ☒ /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation:

This project will build on a far-reaching network of stakeholders at the local, national, and regional levels. At the national level, government commitment is key to the success and sustainability of the project. As a result the project will provide a platform to magnify its interventions across all branches of government including the Executive, the Legislative, the Judiciary, including the Ministries of Forest Economy and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Tourism and Environment, the National REDD+ Coordination, the Ministry of Land Allocation, and the defense and security apparatuses, to name just a few. Working with law enforcement and protected area agencies with jurisdiction over the species and their habitats, rural communities dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, the transportation networks illegal wildlife travels within, the borders it crosses and the court systems poachers are brought before, is critical. Moreover, the project will cooperate and coordinate closely during both design and implementation with a complementary UNDP-led project that is seeking to curb wildlife crime in other protected areas in northern Congo, as well as at a national level.

The project will also work closely with community-based organizations and local communities, who are invested in the sustainable management of biodiversity, including wildlife, and the income and job opportunities that it provides. This engagement will go beyond consultation to actively involve communities in the design, implementation, and learning across the project.

The project will also work with national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), which operates Nouabele-Ndoki National Park, private tourism operators, forest concessionnaires in surrounding areas, and mining companies in the area of the Northern Congo Emissions Reductions Program.

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

Category	*Rating and Risk Management*
Sector Strategies and Policies	Substantial
The sector strategy for conservation and wildlife crime are only just emerging in	The project is designed to build on existing efforts, and Component 1 is intended to

Congo. As a result, many elements are still in flux.	provide inputs and guidance on ensuring that a sound strategy is developed.
Technical Design of Project or Program	Moderate
The project involves components across multiple sectors and across the jurisdiction of multiple divisions and/or ministries. This process is potentially complex, and requires strong collaboration across entities. Without strong political support, there is a risk of limited impact.	Support participatory process and active dialogue and coordination involving key stakeholders in project design and implementation. Representatives of key stakeholders will be part of the project design committee, and representatives of core agencies will be part of the project steering committee. Designing sub-components so that subsequent modification/simplification remains possible and ensuring adequate community consultation during design and before construction.
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	Substantial
The ministry and other agencies involved have different levels of capacity regarding procurement and contract management, financial management, social & environmental management, and M&E. The main implementation agency (Ministry of Forests) may not be able to fully play its guiding, coordinating, and supervising role as needed as a result of being overtaxed with too many other initiatives.	Require MNRT and the LGAs to enhance their staffing; (ii) providing TA and capacity building to implementing agencies; (iii) require MNRT to reinforce its guidance to LGAs by conducting capacity building and strengthening coordination; (iv) providing TA and capacity building to integrated planning at LGA level; and (v) close monitoring of project implementation by the World Bank, with continuous support from the country office and frequent implementation support missions.
Fiduciary	Substantial
The continued fragile situation with respect to fraud and corruption could potentially affect fiduciary compliance with Bank policies.	A strong fiduciary governance framework needs to be put in place and periodically reviewed to enable ongoing strengthening.
Environmental and Social	Substantial
The project involves activities in Critical Natural Habitats, including development of infrastructure. While these investments are intended to improve conservation and management of these areas, there remains the possibility that they could have limited unintended negative impacts. Social risks are considered substantial. The project could potentially consider the resettlement of farmers that have been informally irrigating land in or near the protected areas.	An Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be developed during project preparation to lay out the requirements to ensure sound safeguards management of project investments. In parallel, all project-supported investments in Critical Natural Habitats must be compatible with the management plan for that area. Social safeguards issues will be carefully addressed during preparation, including regarding indigenous peoples and resettlement. It is possible that a Resettlement Framework will be required, as well as a Resettlement Process Framework. Intensive capacity building throughout the project, requirement to strengthen staffing and

	working environment, requirement to budget adequately for land acquisition and resettlement, guidance and supervision from the ministry, and enhanced implementation support from the Bank.
Stakeholders	Moderate
The multi-sector nature of the project requires strong collaboration across a variety of ministries and agencies. Different mandates that cut across the project scope together with unclear roles and responsibilities as a result of weak coordination could undermine the success of project activities.	Project preparation and implementation will draw upon participatory processes, including through the creation of design and steering committees that comprise representatives of key stakeholder groups.
Overall	Substantial

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

The proposed project will be part of a package of investments to promote sustainable forest management for economic growth, carbon sequestration, and biodiversity management across the northern Congo forest landscape.

These include:

- Northern Congo Emissions Reductions Program, US$ 64 million, financing in preparation, funded by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
- Forest and Economic Diversification Project, US$ 10 million with US$ 22.6m in government co-financing, under implementation, funded by IDA and the Republic of Congo
- Integrated and Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Basins of the Republic of Congo, US$ 3.1 million, in preparation, to be funded by the GEF

B.1 IS THE PROJECT CONSISTENT WITH THE NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSEMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS? FOR BIODIVERSITIY RELATED PROJECTS, PLEASE REFERENCE THE AICHI TARGETS THAT THE PROJECT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ACHIEVING. (YES ☒ /NO☐). IF YES, WHICH ONES AND HOW: NAPAS, NAPS, ASGM NAPS, MIAS, NBSAPS, NCS, TNAS, NCSAS, NIPS, PRSPS, NPFE, BURS, ETC.:

The project aligns well with the Congo's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, the National Development Plan 2012–2016. This document identifies the forestry and tourism development sectors as key engines of growth, while stressing the importance of their sustainable management:

- In the forestry sector, the stated vision is to turn the Congo into "one of the global leaders in certified tropical wood, carried by an industry that fully enhances the resource and which is exploited from a forest under sustainable management, playing its role in full of Carbon Sinks and a biodiversity sanctuary."
- In the tourism sector, the Plan puts an emphasis on nature-based tourism, for which wildlife and their habitat represent the *sine qua non*, making their effective management a key piece of the puzzle.

The project also supports the Congo's emerging REDD+ strategy, a key element of which is the Northern Congo Emissions Reductions Program. Furthermore, the Congo's emerging wildlife crime agenda – currently evidenced by its leadership role in organizing the International Conference on Illegal Exploitation and Illegal Trade inWilde Fauna

and Flora in Africa (27-30 April 2015 in Brazzaville) - will also receive a significant boost through the project. In fact, the project represents a unique opening to more firmly implant the fight against wildlife crime among the Congolese government's priorities.

In terms of global priorities, the project will also contribute to achieving the following Aichi Targets:

- Target 5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.
- Target 7: By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.
- Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.
- Target 12: By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.
- Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.

Similarly, owing to its tie-ins with the Northern Congo Emissions Reductions Program and its goals of reducing deforestation and forest degradation, the project also aligns well with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

5. Strengthening the conservation of globally threatened species in Mozambique through improving biodiversity enforcement and expanding community conservancies around protected areas (Mozambique)

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[32]

Project Title:	**Strengthening the conservation of globally threatened species in Mozambique through improving biodiversity enforcement and expanding community conservancies around protected areas**
Country(ies):	Mozambique
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP
Other Executing Partner(s):	Gorongosa Restoration Project (GRP) and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), with National Agency for Conservation Areas (ANAC) under the Ministry of Land, the Environment and Rural Development (MITADER)
GEF Focal Area(s):	Multi-focal areas

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[33]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD2 - Program 3: BD 2 [*Reduce Threats to Globally Significant Biodiversity*] **Program 3** : *Reducing Poaching and Illegal Trafficking of Threatened Species*	GEFTF	3,750,000	20,000,000
BD-1 Program 2 BD 1: [Improve sustainability of protected area systems] Program 2 : Expanding the Reach of the Global Protected Area Estate	GEFTF	3,750,000	15,000,000
LD-3 Program 4: LD-3 [*Reduce pressures on natural resources by managing competing land uses in broader landscapes*], Program 4: *Scaling-up sustainable land management through the Landscape Approach*	GEFTF	3,000,000	9,500,000
SFM 1: [*Maintained Forest Resources*: Reduce the pressures on high conservation value forests by addressing the drivers of and maintenance of high deforestation.]	GEFTF	1,750,000	2,500,000
SFM 2: [*Enhanced Forest Management*: Maintain flows of forest ecosystem services and improve resilience to climate change through SFM]	GEFTF	1,750,000	2,500,000
SFM 3: [*Restored Forest Ecosystems*: Reverse the loss of ecosystem services within degraded forest landscapes]	GEFTF	1,750,000	2,500,000
Total Project Cost		15,750,000	52,000,000

B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: To strengthen the conservation of globally threatened species in Mozambique through implementation of the Conservation Areas Act – improving biodiversity enforcement and expanding protected areas through community conservancies and targeted rural development action

Project Components	**Fin. Type[34]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
1. National strategy to promote the value of wildlife and combat illegal wildlife trafficking	TA	***Outcome 1.*** **National strategy implemented to promote the value of wildlife and biodiversity for Mozambique's national development and to combat illegal wildlife trafficking through a coordinated approach** *Indicators: Establishment of national strategy for combating wildlife crime; Significant improvements*	6,100,000	23,800,000

[32] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[33] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[34] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

Project Components	Fin. Type[34]	Project Outcomes	(in $)	
			GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
		in capacity of key role-players as indicated by customized Capacity Development Scorecard		
2. Strengthening enforcement capacity in key protected areas to combat wildlife crime on the ground	TA	***Outcome 2.*** **Wildlife crime is combated on the ground through strengthening enforcement operations in targeted protected area complexes** *Indicators: Poaching of wildlife is prevented or reduced in target sites; Biodiversity enforcement improved over 6.3 million hectares of important PA Complexes*	3,500,000	13,000,000
3. Establishing conservancies to expand the Gorongosa PA complex, bringing sustainable land and forest management benefits, restoring degraded ecosystems and generating livelihoods	TA	***Outcome 3.*** **Three new Community Conservancies are created in terms of the Conservation Act, effectively expanding Gorongosa National Park** *Indicator: Three new conservancies are established and gazetted, bringing 131,000 hectares under new protection and sustainable land and forest management within the wider 1.5 million hectares of landscape that compose the buffer zone of the Gorongosa-Marromeu Complex*	5,400,000	12,200,000
		Subtotal	15,000,000	49,000,000
		Project Management Cost (PMC)[35] GEFTF	750,000	3,000,000
		Total Project Cost	15,750,000	52,000,000

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

C. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
Recipient Government	Ministry of Finance and/or responsible entity	Grants	8,000,000
Recipient Government	Key government bodies involved in protected areas and biodiversity law enforcement	In-kind	800,000
Donor Agency	Bilateral and multi-lateral	Grants	1,000,000
CSO	Gorongosa Restoration Project (GRP)	Grants	30,000,000
CSO	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)	Grants	10,000,000
GEF Agency	UNDP and partner UN Agencies	Grants	2,000,000
Beneficiaries	Community-Based Organizations around Gorongosa National Park	In-kind	200,000
Total Co-financing			52,000,000

[35] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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.

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS a)

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Progr. of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)b)	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	GEFTF	Mozambique	Biodiversity	SFM	7,500,000	675000	8,175,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Mozambique	Land Degradation	SFM	3,000,000	270000	3,270,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Mozambique	Sustainable Forest Management	SFM	5,250,000	472500	5,722,500
Total GEF Resources					15,750,000	1,417,500	17,167,500

a) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.
b) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.
c) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

PROJECT OVERVIEW

A.1. Project Description.

Briefly describe[36]: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing; 5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

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

Context, issues and global significance. Mozambique still ranks among the least developed nations, with very low well-being indicators. About 70 percent of the country's 22.9 million people live and work in rural areas. Mozambique is also a major repository of biodiversity with profound international importance, and whose management has implications for the entire sub-region. The country contains three areas designated by Conservation International as Biodiversity Hotpots[37] and is also rich in marine biodiversity. The country is equally endowed with a rich natural resource base including arable land, forest, water, natural gas and mineral resources. The central and northern regions harbor extensive miombo forests of varied density (i.e. degree of forest cover) and sub-types. These landscapes, north of 18th parallel south, are crisscrossed by a complex hydrographical network, the main basins being the Zambezi, Pungue, Lúrio and Rovuma. Although miombo forests are fairly common in the sub-region, they are known to render essential ecosystem services to society, relating to food, fodder, water, wood, fiber, medicine, carbon sequestration and soil retention at the landscape level. Twenty-two broad vegetation communities are currently recognized in the country, supporting more than 5500 species of plants including 250 known endemic species, 222 mammal species including several endemic sub-species, and more than 600 species of birds – with many near endemic and restricted-range species. Protected Areas have provided the principle means for protecting the country's biodiversity. The national PA estate includes 47 areas designated for the conservation of flora and fauna, with seven National Parks, including the flagship Gorongosa National Park in the Zambezi Valley, and six National Reserves, including the Niassa Reserve on the northern border with Tanzania.

[36] **FOR IAPS, PLEASE RESPOND TO THESE QUESTIONS INSTEAD: 1) PROPOSED GEOGRAPHY / LANDSCAPE / AGROECOSYSTEM FOR IAP, INCLUDE RATIONALE AND JUSTIFICATION FOR TARGETING; 2) CONTEXT AND BASELINE SCENARIO; 3) PRIORITIES FOR IAP SUPPORT, WITH BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF EXPECTED OUTCOMES, BASED ON PROGRAM COMPONENTS AND RESULTS FRAMEWORK; 4) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS**

[37] Eastern Afromontane in various highland areas located in the center and west of the country; Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa, stretching along the coastal belt; the Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany Hotspot, located in the southern part of the country

Several threats affect biodiversity in Mozambique. As one of the poorest countries in Africa, the livelihoods of most rural communities are highly dependent on the direct use of natural resources (land, water, game, fish and fuel-wood), leading often to overexploitation with few sustainable and economically viable alternatives. FAO reports that Mozambique lost some 4.3 million hectares of forests between 1990 and 2010. The vast savanna woodland plains in Mozambique, which cover 70% of the country's surface, are also generally rich in wildlife. It is known that populations of large mammals suffered a heavy toll during the civil war, but have been slowly recovering since the end of the conflict in 1992. However, for the past five years, the country has been experiencing a significant increase in wildlife crime, adding to the pressures caused by uncontrolled hunting. In Niassa Reserve alone, WCS reports that 2,600 elephants were poached between in 2010 and 2011. In 2013, after significant on-the-ground anti-poaching efforts, this had been reduced to approximately 300-500 animals. However, in 2014 the poaching has increased again. Niassa Reserve holds 70% of Mozambique's elephants, and pre-poaching, together with southern Tanzania was the world's second largest elephant population. Although elephant poaching in Gorongosa was virtually eliminated from 2004 onwards, it is of great concern that in 2014 already two elephants were poached for their ivory by obviously experienced poachers. This indicates that the wave of elephant poaching is descending from the north (Niassa), over Quirimbas National Park to the next target which is the recovering population in Gorongosa.

The growing market for specific wildlife products is fuelled by high profits as demand has grown in overseas markets, and low risks. Ivory is the biggest part of this trade, but rhinoceros and pangolin products are also being trafficked. Entire criminal organizations with international outreach are connecting a complex supply chain that links poor Mozambicans in remote areas, to professional poachers and traders of varied nationalities, to illegal transporting services, and ultimately to consumers, who ignore the full scope of their acts. Other globally threatened species in the greater Gorongosa ecosystem include leopards and African wild dogs. Local poaching of "ordinary" species also threatens other globally endangered species because the methods used are indiscriminate, as non-target animals such as lions are killed or maimed by snares.

New opportunities have opened up with the passing of the 2014 Conservation Act, strengthening the country's commitment to enforcing legislation against poaching and compliance with the CITES convention against wildlife trafficking, and creating new legal vehicles for community co-management of wildlife and associated ecosystems through conservancies. The project will bring together all national stakeholders – from government, the private sector and civil society – to engage in a national dialogue about the value of wildlife and their habitats to the national economy and to the socio-economic development of all Mozambique's people, and the potential for biodiversity-compatible development opportunities. This dialogue will be promoted through enhancing biodiversity education efforts and through stepping up efforts to develop and implement a national strategy against wildlife trafficking – involving all relevant ministries, public prosecution, police and customs, immigration and intelligence agencies. Part of the strategy includes conducting national enforcement training in Gorongosa National Park, through the Conservation Economy Centre and the new ANAC National Ranger Training Centre. The proposed flagship Parque Ecológico de Malhazine may also become a venue for training and public awareness raising. This will be complemented by strengthening enforcement capacity in key protected areas to combat wildlife crime on the ground - strengthening management effectiveness and anti-poaching operations and infrastructure in the Greater Gorongosa-Marromeu Landscape and the Niassa Reserve.

The project will also pilot the establishment of community conservancies through the new Conservation Act, supporting the operation of three new conservancies to expand the Gorongosa PA complex by 131,000 ha, bringing sustainable land and forest management benefits, restoring degraded ecosystems and generating livelihoods. This will include 26,500 ha of Miombo woodlands brought under protection, which might otherwise be gradually deforested for agriculture. In addition to this area, there will likely be agricultural areas in the eastern conservancy, where there are pockets of soil unsuitable for crops, where woodland can be preserved, and restoration carried out in areas important for connectivity. In and around these conservancies, efforts will be made to improve the management of land, water, soil, fire and natural resources, through a suite of sustainable forest and land management measures and techniques. This will include developing capacity for community co-management of wildlife and ecosystems, promoting public-private-community partnerships for biodiversity-compatible livelihoods, e.g. ecotourism and sustainable bushmeat. Gorongosa-based facilities

will be used to conduct national biodiversity surveys that determine potential for other conservancies nationally and help develop capacity to operate them, for example through training community-based organizations in ecotourism.

2) The baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects

Wildlife crime is becoming a serious issue in Mozambique. It affects key protected areas directly by stripping them from some of their most precious resources. It can be a cause of institutional instability. It undermines governance and the livelihoods of local community that could otherwise benefit from the presence of emblematic wildlife populations. Addressing it through a 'national strategy' approach requires consistent collaboration and partnerships. It will involve a new level of coordination between a range of governmental sectors. The recently created Ministry of Land, the Environment and Rural Development (MITADER) will play a leading role in the implementation of this national strategy coordinating and coalescing the much needed partnerships.

Sites. The key geographic focus of this project is central and northern Mozambique. In particular, it will focus site-level efforts on two zones containing core and non-core protected areas: ***(i)*** **the Greater Gorongosa-Marromeu Landscape** and ***(ii)*** **the Niassa Reserve**:

(i) The former site includes the Gorongosa National Park and its northern, southern and eastern buffer zones (which includes Mount Gorongosa, various prospective community-based Conservancies and other sites within the former Coutada No. 1), plus Coutadas No. 12, 11, 14 and 10 (which encompass part of the corridor between Gorongosa and Marromeu) and the Marromeu National Reserve. Approximately 20,000 people live in the buffer zone of the Park. Together this zone covers some 2,127,900 ha wedged between the Pungue and Zambezi rivers with varied ecosystems that mark the southern border of the Rift valley. The area has huge importance for faunal migration, ecosystem services and livelihoods. The Gorongosa National Park itself is under a co-management concession between ANAC and the NGO Gorongosa Restoration Project (GRP), while the Marromeu Reserve is directly managed by ANAC. Other sites are under varied management arrangements, including with hunting concessionaires. CBO management of conservancies is yet to emerge.

(ii) The latter site, the Niassa Reserve, is has its northern border on the Rovuma river. It connects to various PAs on the Tanzanian side of the border and encompasses some 4,200,000 ha. The Reserve is divided into 16 tourism blocks, (of which 6 are for photographic tourism and 10 allow hunting). There are 35,000-40,000 residents in 40 villages in 3 main concentrations in the Reserve, and the newly developing community strategy is proposing to pilot the conservancy model within the Reserve. Niassa Reserve is the most important site for elephants in Mozambique, with 70% of the national population. This population is contiguous with the southern Tanzanian elephant population – together they were the world's second largest elephant population, poaching has probably reduced this status to 3rd or 4th. The Niassa Reserve alone was thought to harbor some 15,500 individuals of the total ca. 22,144 elephants counted in the 2009 national AGRECO wildlife census. Since 2012, Niassa Reserve has been co-managed by ANAC and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), including oversight of management activities in the privately concessioned tourism Blocks.

Baseline Programs. The National Agency for Conservation Areas (ANAC) is responsible for directly managing PAs in Mozambique, including under different modalities of co-management. It was previously under the Ministry of Tourism and is now under MITADER. ANAC was only established as a distinct agency a few years ago and it still requires support for improving its operational, technical and strategic capacity and fulfilling its role. A related domain to PA management is the management of timber resources in forest reserves, and of faunal resources in hunting preserves (Coutadas). Government oversight for these resources was previously under the ministry responsible for agriculture, but this could change in light of on-going ministerial reforms. At the time of writing, it is not clear which entity will have these attributions. Regardless, the broader legal framework for PAs management and how this relates to NRM are now better defined through

Mozambique's new Conservation Law, approved in 2014. It defines both what a 'conservation area'[38] is and provides a guiding framework for resource use under different categories of PAs, among them community-based conservancies, which can now be formalized. This was a key milestone set by the 2014 Conservation Law and it is paving the way for the establishment and effective management of this new type of PA in Mozambique, where organized local communities are the key protagonists. Various laws and regulations are otherwise in place for securing the sustainable management of PAs and natural resources in the country.[39] Across the board, a key constraint has been the limited capacity to enforce existing legislation, implement policies and to apply adequate management strategies to NRM. Mozambique has a reasonable PA coverage, which encompasses some 17% of the national territory. Yet, in many areas, including in the buffer zone of established PAs, land is prone to deforestation and degradation and wildlife species prone to poaching.

The financial baseline for this project amounts to approximately $52 million. The baseline project is composed of recent, current and planned investments, programs, projects and initiatives that have relevance for the theme of this project and that will represent the underlying finance upon which a GEF investment is expected to incrementally make a difference. The baseline project has three distinct elements. The first element concerns State investments, at both the national and sub-national levels as relevant, and where the key focus is on (i) expected government expenditure on the management of forests and protected areas and ecosystem services in general; and (ii) investments in making agriculture more sustainable, but more specifically within the zone of influence of Marromeu and Gorongosa PAs in Sofala Province. The first element of the financial baseline reaches some $15 million for the duration of the project, of which we estimate that two-thirds of it refers to the first sub-element and the remainder to the second.[40] The specific State investment in the fight against poaching was assessed as very limited at this current stage. The second part of the baseline project pertains to investments made by site-level concessionaires and their partners in the management of core protected areas and in fighting poaching on the ground. The main focus is on Gorongosa, Marromeu, Niassa and other areas within the targeted landscapes. This second element reaches some $25 million in total. Last, but not least, communities themselves, as well as partners, contribute significantly to the third element of the project's financial baseline, namely for what the establishment of concessions and the value of ecosystem services are concerned. This last element was currently assessed at $12 million, but may later increase, as the number of operational conservancies expand. This amount generally includes investments that both beneficiary communities and core PA concessionaires are making and intend to make in operationalizing the management of non-core areas (i.e. conservancies) in the buffer zones. We highlight e.g. that GRP intends to invest reasonable amounts in the development of the nascent conservancies in the Gorongosa buffer zone and in the Gorongosa-Marromeu corridor. Donor partners are also likely to co-support such initiatives. Although it is difficult at this stage to estimate with precision the third element of the project's financial baseline, the proposed amount would not be too far from intended investments. All baseline finance calculations are anyway approximate and will be more closely assessed at CEO Endorsement. Although government has recently passed the Conservation Act, and there is increased attention to and investment in efforts to establish conservancies and combat poaching, this does not include a strong focus on the international implications of illegal wildlife trafficking or on the securing of global biodiversity benefits.

The Long-Term Solution. The focus of the project is on strengthening the conservation of globally threatened species in Mozambique through improving biodiversity enforcement and expanding community conservancies around protected areas. This includes a focus on the supply chain behind the illegal wildlife trade, which drives a series of impacts on individual species, landscapes and on local communities engaged in poaching activities. The issue also has implications for governance and stability in the country. The long-term solution is to address it from both a short- and long-term perspective, and to combine interventions at the local, national and international levels. Mozambique can do much to address it from a 'supply' side (addressing it from the

[38] In Mozambique, protected areas are generally called 'conservation areas' ('*áreas de conservação*'). In this proposal, both terms are assumed as synonymous, though in other contexts, PAs could be considered a broader concept than 'conservation areas'.

[39] In the current legislation, forest reserves ('*reservas florestais*') are treated as 'production forests' and are not considered PAs under the Conservation Law.

[40] Estimates are based on the State's General Budget for 2013 for the then Ministry of Tourism and Ministry of Agriculture, more specifically for the management of PAs, enabling support to the maintenance of ecosystem services and some investments in agriculture specific to Sofala. Extrapolations for the period 2014-2020 are based on the 2014 Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (source SISTAFE). Amounts will be updated based on new State budgetary data during the PPG stage, including in light of important changes in ministerial attributions and mandates.

'demand' side is outside the scope of this project). Elephants are a priority focus for strengthening the fight against poaching and illegal trafficking of threatened species. However, it is expected that the strengthening of actions on surveillance, monitoring and enforcement on the ground to combat wildlife poaching will also result in improved protection for several other species and landscapes. This includes protection of forest both within core areas and in their buffer zones, where hardwood species are under increasing threat by illegal logging operations that are becoming widespread across central Mozambique. The most pressing needs that require immediate action pertain to strengthening enforcement and improving the general management of PAs, including through involving communities in having stake in the long-term sustainable management of the landscapes where they live. The longer term perspective focuses on bringing sustainability to these actions and building national capacity for various aspects of management. This implies making poaching risky and other ecosystem degrading practices economically unattractive, whilst promoting biodiversity-compatible livelihoods and economic development.

Barriers. There are three overarching barriers that stand in the way of advancing the preferred long-term solution:

Barrier #1. National level action to realize the long-term solution is not sufficiently coordinated. Mozambique is a signatory of CITES. It can and should do more to live up to its commitments. Lack of support to do so is the most glaring barrier. There is no effective strategy that coalesces all actors at the national level and makes them work together. There are also a few gaps in legislation and regulations that need to be addressed for making poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking a much more unattractive activity than it is right now in the eyes of the perpetrators. However, capacity for complex enforcement, including the necessary equipment, training and manpower, are a core constraint. Today, technology can be pivotal in supporting intelligence-led enforcement. Yet, it would be meaningless without institutional coordination, key data and analysis. This pertains to the short-term approach. The long-term approach includes the engagement of CBOs in sustainable landscape level management. This is now made possible through the new Conservation Law. However, the support structures and capacities for achieving this goal are not yet in place. Mozambique could learn much from similar experiences in the sub-region. Finally, Mozambique is willing to be part of a wider and global effort to curb wildlife crime. The means to carry out effective cross-border collaboration are however not in place.

Barrier #2. All evidence shows that site level enforcement is still sub-effective, due to gaps in equipment, means of transport, communication, coordination and training. Because of the project's general fit vis-à-vis other related interventions, two sites were chosen (the Greater Gorongosa-Marromeu Landscape and the Niassa Reserve). For the past few years there has been rapid and impressive progress in operationalizing the management of these sites, in spite of challenging conditions. State of the art methods of PA management are now being brought to Mozambique, thanks to significant investments, technical assistance and partnerships with civil society organizations. The involvement of the private sector has also been pivotal. However, the situation and challenges evolve dynamically and there are several gaps and barriers that need to be addressed related to planning, organization, collaboration, equipment, infrastructure and means of transport. The surge in poaching is an added challenge that requires decisive, urgent interventions, but also sustainability. With respect to the latter, the managing entities of both Gorongosa and Niassa PAs are well positioned to contribute much more to building the national capacity for PA management. Yet, they face operational and financial constraints to bring these efforts to scale.

Barrier #3. There is potential for realizing the multiple social and environmental benefits of CBO-managed conservancies, but the structures, capacities and economic incentives are still lacking. In order to sustain the long-term benefits of wildlife crime enforcement at the level of affected local communities, there has to be alternative, sustainable—and preferably more profitable—economic activities that makes poaching a highly unattractive and risky activity. A key legal barrier was recently overcome. The new Conservation Law creates enabling conditions. Yet, the planning, physical investments and capacity constraints need to be addressed. Also, in order for the management of natural resources to be sustainable in the sites where conservancies can be potentially established, other conditions, specific to resource use governance, need to be in place. At the national level, little is known e.g. about the actual level of land degradation the potential for restoring ecosystem services in these sites. Only a few preliminary studies that could potentially support the

development of conservancies in the Greater Gorongosa-Marromeu Landscape have been carried out. Even there, stakeholder consultations are still incipient. Communities are small and live far apart[41] and many are not yet organized. This creates logistical difficulties, but they can be addressed. The issue of human-wildlife conflict also needs to be tackled. Finally, sustainability at the local level is best built through self-reliance and broader societal sustainability. As it is, local communities in the zone still rely heavily on itinerant agriculture based on slash-and-burn techniques. This risk spreading fire and degradation to forested areas – they are generally not sustainable and also open up areas for more extensive deforestation. At the same time, these communities in the buffer zone lack access to knowledge on sustainable cultivation techniques and more profitable markets to distribute their produce. Creating sustainable and community-based businesses, including on the basis of niche agricultural products, is possible, but a good analysis of local conditions and potential is a clear gap. So is the emergence of entrepreneurial capacity to make it happen.

3) The proposed alternative scenario, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project

Outline of the Project Strategy. The project is designed around three Components

Component 1: National strategy to promote the value of wildlife and combat illegal wildlife trafficking

Component 1 Key Outputs	
1.1	Coordinating national efforts on a strategy involving all role-players to promote compliance with national legislation and the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
1.2	Establishing ANAC's National Ranger Training Centre in Gorongosa National Park to develop national capacity for preventing wildlife crime
1.3	Building capacity of key stakeholders on biodiversity-compatible economic development opportunities and enforcement through Gorongosa's Conservation Economy Centre and public education on the value of Mozambique's wildlife – national heritage and socio-economic development by establishing a biodiversity centre in or near the capital

Coordination at the national level with a focus on intelligence-led, along with targeted preventative and pre-emptive efforts to decrease illegal wildlife trafficking, are the key focus of this first component. The exact details on how it will be operationalized will be subject to confirmation during the project preparation phase. Indicative elements of its work include: completion of a National Assessment using ICCWC's Wildlife and Forestry Crime Analytic Toolkit; formulation of a national strategy to combat poaching and the illegal trade in wildlife products, with defined objectives, components, outputs and key roles for government and non-governmental actors; strengthening of a national level wildlife crime unit to unite the wildlife and security sectors in addressing wildlife crime; provision of direct support to the national CITES Management Authority in the Ministry of Land, the Environment and Rural Development (MITADER); support for addressing legal and regulatory gaps for an effective fight against cross-border wildlife crime, through the development and improvement of legislation and ancillary regulations; and transboundary cooperation to enable intelligence sharing and coordinated patrolling. Partnerships will be formed at various levels for co-supporting Mozambique's fight against wildlife crime, building on the work of government agencies, the private sector, NGOs and community-based organizations.

Responding to the opportunities created by the new Conservation Act, this component will work to build national consensus around the value of wildlife for Mozambique's national development and to coordinate efforts of all role-players in combating illegal wildlife trafficking. This will include using the existing Gorongosa Community Education Centre to undertake education of civil society around the importance of biodiversity conservation and enforcement, including specialized training of the judiciary, law enforcement

[41] Based on census data and more recent studies, it is estimated that 18,000-22,000 people live in the main districts of Muanza and Condue in the eastern rim of the Gorongosa buffer zone, but spread across various local communities.

agents at various levels, local leaders, lawmakers, etc. It will also include the establishment of ANAC's National Ranger Training Centre in Gorongosa to develop enforcement capacity of rangers and scouts from PAs across the country, building on the training they receive *in situ*. Managers of Niassa Reserve are also stepping up efforts to provide ranger training *in situ*. These efforts will be supported by the project along with other efforts at the national level, targeting e.g. the awareness of the Mozambican population about the importance of wildlife and the pervasive impacts of crimes against it. Coordinating national efforts on a strategy involving all role-players to promote compliance with national legislation and the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) could include work supported by ANAC through the project to build the capacity of an inter-ministerial task office to oversee the development and implementation of the strategy. This will includes training, provision of equipment and installation of electronic tagging and filing technologies; liaison with and training exercises with the national CITES Scientific Authority, based at Eduardo Mondlane University; and capacity development through the Gorongosa-based Edward O. Wilson Laboratory of customs officials to identify key species or groups, to empower them to query and refer manifests that may be deliberately mislabeled by smugglers; as well as training on genetic bar coding of samples to enable identification of the origin of seized products.

Component 2: Strengthening enforcement capacity in key protected areas to combat wildlife crime on the ground

Component 2 Key Outputs	
2.1	Strengthening management effectiveness, operations and infrastructure to combat wildlife crime in the Greater Gorongosa-Marromeu Landscape
2.2	Strengthening management effectiveness and anti-poaching operations and infrastructure in the Niassa Reserve

Through this component, key protected areas will be strengthened to promote biodiversity enforcement on the ground, protecting valuable ecosystems and combating the priority threat of illegal poaching and wildlife trafficking. This involves improving leadership, management systems, intelligence, training, equipment, fieldwork and support, in the target sites of the Greater Gorongosa-Marromeu Landscape and the Niassa Reserve. The elements of this work are subject to confirmation in the preparation phase, and may include the establishment or strengthening of tasking and coordination groups in target sites and resourcing them for conducting intelligence-led law enforcement in support of ranger patrols and community ecoguards. Patrol members will be trained in the legal context of wildlife poaching and trade, common poaching techniques and equipment used, appropriate law enforcement measures, conducting patrols, species identification, evidence handling, data recording and reporting, with appropriate equipment supplied and utilized by the network. Where needed, ranger posts and other infrastructure will be constructed or improved, including ranger stores and strongrooms, and basic infrastructure for housing a radio room and equipment. In addition, rangers will be better supported through general equipment such as Bivvy bags equipped with mosquito nets, rain gear, camouflage materials and first aid equipment, tents and uniforms. Rapid response teams will be trained and put in place for both Gorongosa and Niassa landscapes. Improved wildlife crime law enforcement will be supported on the ground through empowerment of rangers and the use of specialized technology, including aerial support, both fixed wing for surveillance, logistics and management oversight, and helicopter for rapid deployment; LE monitoring (SMART), digital radios using built-in GPS functionality, regular GPS, night-vision equipment, satellite tagging and thermal imagery. Community-based monitoring networks will be established and operationalized in conservancies surrounding Gorongosa and Niassa PAs, to support information gathering, together with improved mechanisms for monitoring wildlife and applying data to support intelligence. Coordination for follow-up of arrests with prosecutions will also be supported. Biodiversity data will be better monitored and applied to wildlife crime prevention. Elephants and other targeted wildlife species will be closely monitored using collars and electronic tagging, attachable cameras and camera traps in known poaching areas; the tusks of several members of key herds will be micro-chipped and DNA samples taken and recorded in order to track movements in case of poaching.

Component 3: Establishing conservancies to expand the Gorongosa PA complex, bringing sustainable land and forest management benefits, restoring degraded ecosystems and generating livelihoods

Component 3 Key Outputs	
3.1	Developing capacity for community co-management of wildlife and their habitats
3.2	Restoring degraded landscapes and generating multiple benefits from forests and agricultural landscapes, including through the implementation of the national rural development program within conservancy areas in designated agricultural lands
3.3	Promoting public-private-community partnerships for biodiversity-compatible rural livelihoods, e.g. ecotourism, sustainable bushmeat
3.4	Using Gorongosa facilities to conduct national biodiversity surveys that determine potential conservancy sites and develop capacity to operate conservancies

New conservancies will be established and effectively managed for restoring degraded ecosystems in the Greater Gorongosa-Marromeu Landscape - avoiding deforestation, reducing fire frequency and allowing regeneration of degraded forests. At this stage, it is assessed that the project will directly help establish 131,000 hectares of new conservancies, land that will be more sustainably managed to play a 'buffer zone' role, and that would otherwise be prone to some level of deforestation and degradation, given the human presence and current unsustainable practices such as "slash and burn" agriculture. Activities that will be carried out in the new conservancies include working with smallholders on: a) sustainable farming of key crops – including maize for subsistence, and sesame for sale on local markets, using best-practice techniques such as minimum tillage, and soil and water conservation measures to prevent land degradation and enhance productivity; b) land use planning to set aside pockets of remaining forest and determine sustainable use regimes for them; c) restoration of key pieces of forestland connecting forest parcels in the conservancies with forest blocks in the park and providing corridors for movement of fauna, as well as restoration of key freshwater resources; and d) facilitating negotiations between communities, the park and private sector ecotourism operators with a view to the establishment of public-private-community partnerships for new ecotourism operations in the conservancies, building on the asset base of river and wildlife (Pungue) and limestone gorges and forest (Northern Rift).

At the same time, this area is part of a wider, and 'mosaic-like', landscape that compose the buffer zone of the Gorongosa-Marromeu Complex, which covers some 1.5 million hectares, and where the 'wider' BD-LD-SFM benefits can potentially be generated. Within it, some areas are proposed managed for stricter conservation (e.g. parts of Southern Cheringoma). Other areas with some existing agriculture will be expanded to enhance livelihoods under more sustainable agricultural practices for generating SLM and associated benefits, which may include pastoral activities, to the extent that they can be practiced in a conservation-compatible manner (e.g. by not putting wildlife at risk from zoonosis or spreading the degradation of land through overgrazing). The benefits for agro-ecosystem services and local communities that accrue through this work can be promoted through the work of the Gorongosa's Conservation Economy Centre in training other CBOs involved in establishing conservancies nationwide. This process will include engaging with the Government of Mozambique's agricultural extension services, relevant NGOs and private sector partners. In other areas, e.g. in critical but degraded ecosystems, like watersheds, corridors etc., activities will be geared towards restoration and rehabilitation of habitats at an adequate scale, also working with a range of stakeholders from the public sector and civil society. Altogether, the potential for co-generating livelihoods benefits through these activities will be considered in project and duly developed during the preparation phase (see Annex to the PIF for more information on the background for BD, LD and SFM benefit descriptions and calculations, as well as on the triple benefit that can be achieved through the creation of conservancies).

Involvement by communities in co-management, better law enforcement and respect of the law will result in an increased resource base (especially wildlife) that can realize the economic potential of those areas to the long-term benefit of these communities. Communities living in and around these areas will be involved in managing the conservancies and conducting economic activities in them that are sustainable, for example, participating in public-private-community partnerships to establish ecotourism lodges, practicing sustainable agriculture in selected portions, and conducting sustainable hunting for protein to feed their own families. The three areas that are earmarked for conservancy development, and on which stakeholder consultations will be conducted, both through baseline investments by the Gorongosa Restoration Project and in the project preparation phase, are as follows: Northern Rift Valley Conservancy (75,000 ha north of the park), where a combination of ecotourism based on world treasure paleontological sites and sustainable hunting for community use may be possible; Pungue River Conservancy (20,000 ha south of the park) which has strong wildlife ecotourism potential; and Cheringoma Sub-complex of Conservancies (36,000 ha of land east of the park) combining sustainable agriculture and conserved forest that provides the first stage of a planned corridor linking Gorongosa National Park and Marromeu Reserve.

The work under this component will also include capacity development for conservancies at the national level, including organizational capacity development on long term planning for investment opportunities, formulating business strategies and budgets, as well as increasing the ability of the CBOs to work with partners for negotiating contracts with private investors, effectively forming public-private-community partnerships. In other neighboring countries, support to CSOs engaged in conservancy management has been successfully provided through a specialized umbrella NGO. This model is proposed be trialed in Mozambique. Any needed studies for potentially determining where and how the community-managed conservancies be replicated can also be carried out with the support from the proposed umbrella NGO. In some cases, yet to be determined, this may lead to demarcation of new areas. The umbrella approach is also expected to cater for institutional and financial sustainability, but developing specialized capacity and being well positioned to seek funding for and on behalf of organized CBOs.

More specifically on the proposed conservancies within the GGML, human-wildlife conflict prevention measures will be developed through participatory processes, including measures focusing e.g. on land use types, crops, deterrents and warning systems. An indicative element could include the construction of a fence to protect community croplands in the planned Southern conservancy from damage by elephants. The adoption of spatial level land-use and resource-use planning will also be instrumental in building technical and institutional capacities to identify degraded forest landscapes and to monitor forest restoration. Activities aim at operationalizing the management of agricultural land, forests, water, carbon, biodiversity and associated ecosystem services will be carried out at the landscape level for sustainability. Protection and restoration of Miombo woodlands in the new conservancies will ensure carbon benefits (see table below). The development of national capacity for comprehensive biodiversity and ecosystem services assessments will be supported, including through close collaboration with related initiatives and through the Gorongosa Wilson Lab. National biodiversity surveys conducted in PAs and spatially-based tools will be used to identify potential locations for new conservancies and maintain a database on existing ones. Work on conservancies, sustainable land management, forest restoration and sustainable use regimes will also support the longer-term strategy for discouraging local rural communities from engaging in poaching activities, so that these new categories of PAs in Mozambique can function as effective buffer zones to core PAs, including by co-supporting the maintenance of the ecological integrity of core PAs and their populations of threatened wildlife.

4) Incremental Cost Reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF and co-financing

5) Global environmental benefits

The project's alternative from the baseline and expected global benefits follows:

Current Baseline	*Alternative*	*Global benefits*
▪ Mozambique has been experiencing a significant increase in poaching of wild species. It targets mostly elephants and is of particular concern in protected areas in the north of the country, where populations are being decimated at a rapid and unsustainable pace. ▪ National level coordination and capacity to fight poaching and illegal trafficking of wildlife is very limited and constrained by a number of factors. ▪ Local communities have potential to participate in conservation and in the fight against poaching, but lack adequate incentives and capacity to do so and the new Conservation Act, including the establishment of conservancies, has not yet been effectively implemented. ▪ All areas proposed as community conservancies under the project (~131,000 ha) are prone to extensive deforestation and degradation in the medium to long-run, as well as unsustainable practices such as "slash and burn" agriculture (see Box in the Annex to the PIF for more info).	▪ The project will strengthen the conservation of globally threatened species in Mozambique through a national wildlife strategy and community conservancies. It will address the key drivers to poaching and illegal trafficking in threatened and emblematic species through a short- and long-term approach, which combines interventions at the national, PA-site and local levels. ▪ At the national level, the project will develop and implement a strategy to combat poaching and illegal wildlife trade through an interministerial coordinated approach. ▪ Core PAs and adjacent landscapes will be strengthened to face the surge in poaching and associated illegal wildlife trafficking challenges. The focus will be on the Greater Gorongosa-Marromeu Landscape (GGML) and the Niassa Complex. ▪ The project will also facilitate the operationalization of community-managed conservancies, aimed at making land-use more sustainable and as part of the multi-modal strategy for fighting wildlife crime, and effectively expanded the protected area estate, and providing a demonstration of the multiple benefits of conservancies for sustainable land and forest management, and involvement of communities in co-managing wildlife and their habitats, and the ecosystems on which communities depend. ▪ By creating Community Conservancies, the triple goal of ensuring connectivity, buffering the core PAs from degradation and creating sustainable benefits to the local community can be achieved. This includes heling communities improve the productivity of agro-ecosystems and compensate them through socio-economic benefits in return to a co-supportive attitude towards forest protection (see Box in Annex for explanations).	▪ At site level, the project will help maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services in Gorongosa NP and the new conservancies to be established (including 154,500 ha of miombo forests); and measures to strengthen enforcement in Niassa and Gorongosa PA complexes will lead to improved management of a total of 6,336,400 ha[42], with elephants and Miombo forest being the main priority for protection against poaching, illegal harvest and trafficking in threatened species, but with both protection and sustainable use co-benefits for several other species and ecosystems across the landscapes. ▪ A total of 131,000 ha of new conservancies will be put under protection, with included/adjacent areas under sustainable land management systems, among them agriculture, rangelands, and production forests. ▪ Critical ecosystems across the buffer zone of GGML will be restored and/or rehabilitated (surface and location t.b.d.). ▪ Beyond other ecosystem services benefits to be more closely assessed, this will facilitate the sequestration of approximately 308,155 tons of carbon through preventing the loss or degradation of Miombo woodland forest ecosystems[43].

[42] This includes the full extent of the planned Gorongosa-Marromeu protected area complex, to be created through the project and through baseline investments being made in parallel by Government and the Gorongosa Restoration Project: to the current 567,850 ha, a proposed Marromeu Marine Protected Area of 18,000 ha will be added; the proposed Protected Gorongosa-Marromeu Corridor will add 217,900 ha; the community conservancies to be established and strengthened through the project will add 131,000 ha, the Coutadas or sustainable hunting areas (after corridor protection) will cover an additional 731,050 ha; and sustainable forestry and safari land use based on natural vegetation will be carried out over a further 470,600 ha. The Niassa reserve of 4,200,000 ha is added to reach the total of 6,336,400 ha.

[43] This was calculated using the FAO Exact Tool, assuming that the 26,500 ha of miombo woodland to be brought under new protection through conservancies around Gorongosa would otherwise have been significantly degraded, with 50% of it likely to have been converted to croplands in the absence of the project intervention. Benefits of preservation of pockets of Miombo in agricultural areas and of restoration of highly degraded Miombo may be added, but have not been included at this stage. See Annex to the PIF for more details.

Internal consistency among the project components. Overall, the project's logic follows the idea that, for realizing the global environmental benefits herein proposed and strengthening biodiversity enforcement, including tackling the pressing issue of poaching and wildlife trafficking in Mozambique, action is needed on several fronts, and with both a long and a short term perspective with respect to the results that can be achieved. It is important to note, at the same time, that there are other interventions dealing with different aspects of PA management in Mozambique (e.g. transfrontier, expansion, finance, marine, etc.), but none that specifically focuses on enforcement to prevent wildlife crime. There are also other interventions contributing to sustainable management practices in the forestry sector, some with a rather large scale, but none that specifically targets the consolidation of a PA complex in the terms of the 25-year vision for the GGML. This vision includes the management of the core area, but also the operationalization of community-based conservancies, enhancing the sustainable management of corridors, wildlife and critical ecosystems through a partnerships and capacity building approach. Noting what is being done and not done through other inventions, addressing identified gaps through a single and internally consistent project is what is being proposed here. Component 1 provides the national framework for dealing with poaching and illegal trafficking in threatened wildlife. It also focuses on building national capacity for the improved protection of wildlife and on promoting a national dialogue on the value of biodiversity for development, particularly through wildlife-based tourism. Both the short and long-term perspective are present. We also see this pattern in Components 2 and 3, which act on the ground to strengthen PA management though better enforcement and through developing communities as long-term co-managers of the ecosystems on which they depend. Furthermore, addressing poaching in Niassa is critical and urgent. However, improved enforcement is also important across the GGML, as in other PAs in the country. More importantly, improved patrolling, surveillance and ecological monitoring at site level – and enhanced national capacity to do so – will benefit not just a few threatened species now being targeted, but the entire conservation sector in Mozambique. Finally, Component 3 caters for consolidating the shorter-term conservation gains and benefits with a view to sustainability and decreasing in the long run the costs of enforcement. Local communities need to experience tangible benefits from the sustainable management of their ecosystems for effectively engaging in it and also for supporting the enforcement effort. When catering for their livelihoods sustainably, including through 'green jobs' that can be potentially be generated from sustainable farming, ecosystem restoration and ecotourism, the project will also generate SLM and SFM benefits at scale. This will also positively impact the ecological integrity of the entire landscape.

Co-financing. The indicative co-financing amounts to **$52 million**. Most of it will be availed by baseline programs, though new co-financing will be sought leveraged. An indicative overview is provided in Part I, Table C. It is expected that the co-financing from different categories of partners to this project will contribute to all of the focal area objectives listed in Part I, Table A. An indicative break-down of it is provided in that table and it is approximately in line with the description of the baseline finance and how it contributes to PA management, forest protection, enhancement and restoration, as well as to the sustainability of agro-ecological systems. In this light all aspects are covered.

Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scale-up. Innovation is embedded in the project's landscape approach to changing the way ecosystems, species and biodiversity are managed. The engagement of intelligence-led, targeted preventative and pre-emptive efforts to fight wildlife crime is not yet widespread practice in Mozambique, and the methodologies of the ICCWC's Wildlife and Forestry Crime Analytic Toolkit, which is yet to be translated into Portuguese, will be applied for the first time. The equipment and devices and ways of working that are proposed adopted both by the national wildlife crime unit and at site level are innovations in the national context (e.g. HUMINT and SIGINT). Conservancies are not completely new in Mozambique, but the approach of bringing their formalization and operationalization to scale, mirroring experience in other countries, is innovative. Innovation will also be infused in the training and capacity building methods that the project will promote. Upscaling. Because the project tackles capacity building for all PA staff nationally, the project takes the first steps towards scaling up the on-site enforcement activities piloted through the project across the whole protected area system. It also lays the groundwork for expansion of conservancies across the country, building on the experience of the pilot conservancies to be established around Gorongosa, and conducting nationwide biodiversity surveys and mapping of potential conservancy sites through the project's activities. Sustainability. This element contributes as well to the overall

sustainability of project results – by embedding capacity through a long-term approach in the institutions and entities that need it and can make good use of it. This also has financial sustainability in view, e.g. with respect to communities' self-reliance approach. Replication. Furthermore, the consistent training of CBO from various parts of the country in the management of conservancies is crucial for developing the overall national capacity for it and for the replication of lessons and best practice that may be drawn from the early experience in the GGML – both on enforcement, forest management and on ecotourism and other biodiversity-compatible livelihood opportunities. International exchanges with other countries practicing Community Based Natural Resource Management, such as Namibia, Kenya and South Africa, are envisaged, as well as with protected areas staff and communities from Zambia and Angola, and potential Lusophone South-South Cooperation between Mozambique, Angola and Brazil.

A.2. Stakeholders.

Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people?
(yes ☒ /no☐) : yes to communities; no to indigenour people (as n/a).

Stakeholder	***Relevant Role***
Government	Key entities are the recently created Ministry of Land, the Environmental and Rural Development (MITADER) and, more specifically, its PA agency ANAC. MITADER assumed broad attributions in topics and areas related to environment and rural development that were previously divided between different ministries. MITADER houses the focal points for the CBD, UNCCD and CITES, which are relevant for this project. Another key entity is the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, due to their role in agricultural development. Other governmental stakeholders that are essential for the project strategy to deliver results will include enforcement agents, judges, border control agents, among others.
NGOs	NGOs that hold co-management agreements with government with respect to the operationalization of key PA sites are expected to play a key role in the project, namely GRP and WSC.
CBOs	Local communities, organized through CBOs and an umbrella organization that is still to emerge with project support, will be will be both the protagonist and the beneficiaries of activities under Component 3, and output 1.5, in particular in the implementation of rural development programs in target sites.
Other	Several other partners could be mentioned. A complete stakeholder engagement strategy will be developed at PRODOC stage.

A.3 Risk.

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

Risk and Risk Level	**Management Strategy**
Medium The interests of profit-making groups along the wildlife crime supply chain are stronger that the will to fight the issue from a demand side, undermining the project strategy	A full understanding of the mechanics of the wildlife crime supply chain in Mozambique will ensure that this risk is minimized. Careful and fully consultative project development activities will ensure that the interests of all stakeholders come to light and taken into consideration. The project will seek high-level support and validation. Certain elements such as the WCU and the involvement of law enforcement, justice and customs agents require high-level support.
Low The capacity needed for operationalizing	Capacity building needs will be duly scoped during the project development phase and activities planned accordingly. More specifically, cost-benefit analysis will be applied to proposed economic activities that are expected to

Risk and Risk Level	Management Strategy
conservancies and the feasibility of proposed economic activities are underestimated.	underpin the development of CBO-managed conservancies. At the national level, these methods will be incorporated into the capacity building package to be delivered to CBOs.
Medium Mozambique is still grappling with insecurity and tensions, particularly around Gorongosa Mountain and in border areas.	The project will follow appropriate instructions and applicable protocols from the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS). All project staff will undergo training in security in the field. Prior to any deployment, project staff, consultants and collaborators will apply for security clearance according to UNDSS procedures. Else, the project can always further limit its interventions on the ground and in this manner reduce the impacts of this risk.

Note on climate risks. In Component 3, the project is dealing with forest management, enhancement and restoration, whose benefits not only take a long time to realize, but longer-term processes such as climate change may affect the outcome of implemented activities, including beyond the project's life-time. These are difficult to predict, unless finer-scale, but minimally accurate climate models can be applied. There are gross-scale climate models for Mozambique which predict a generally dryer, warmer and more variable climate in the central and northern areas. These cannot be immediately used for assessing specific risks to forestry investments facilitated by the project. A better assessment of climate risk on an adequate scale will be done at PPG stage, and applicable mitigation measures proposed.

A.4. Coordination.

Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other initiatives:

Programs, and Initiatives	Proposed collaboration
On-going and recently closed UNDP-GEF BD and SLM projects and SGP	This project will build on the successes and lessons of the on-going GEF4 BD project, co-implemented by ANAC, GRP and WWF. It will collaborate with it for aspects such as ecosystem services and PA financial planning. Other GEF projects of relevance include the FAO GEF5 project that focuses on PES and the WB Phase III TFCA, also known as MOZBIO. All these projects are co-supportive of the conservation and ecosystem services agenda, but in different ways and with distinct site-level focus. There is no potential overlap, but rather strong potential for synergies, collaboration and lessons learning.
Baseline programs and other related initiatives	Various baseline initiatives create a strong foundation of investment, upon which this project builds. Some of the baseline programs will co-finance this project and they will automatically become members of governance structures such as the project board, which make key decisions. This will allow for a much more coordinated way of working that fosters collaboration, synergies and good results.
Relevant GEF Programmatic Approach	This project is being submitted to the GEF as part of the Programmatic Approach to Prevent the Extinction of Known Threatened Species. A key focus is on reducing poaching and illegal trafficking of threatened species, the subject matter of the GEF's Program 3, under the Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy. Various other GEF projects form part of the above-mentioned Programmatic Approach and are being submitted for Council approval by different GEF Agencies, with the World Bank playing a coordinating role. UNDP projects under the Programmatic Approach follow a 'national strategy methodology', i.e. they engage key national stakeholders in addressing the issue of preventing the extinction of known threatened species and fighting wildlife crime as an issue of governance and development, as much as it is an issue of NRM.

Description of the consistency of the project with:

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, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, etc.

Policies. This project is country-driven and its current concept is consistent with, and supportive of, the following national development strategies and plans: The project will contribute to meeting the poverty alleviation, sustainable development and good governance objectives of the governments' Five-Year Government Program, both the current (2010-2014) and the new (2015-2019). Baseline calculations for the government's share of it were based on the Medium-term Expenditure Framework. The project supports the Conservation Policy and Implementation Plan 2009-2019 ('Conservation Policy'), which specifically focuses on Mozambique's conservation areas (including the buffer areas), as well as new Law on Conservancies (2014). It generally supports the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and the National Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (NAP), both of which are undergoing revision. The project will also directly support measures that help Mozambique implements CITES.

Aichi Targets. The project will contribute to Mozambique achievement of the Aichi Targets as follows: Target 4, to the extent that the project will engage governments, business and various other stakeholders to manage biodiversity within safe ecological limits (e.g. through the joint site management activities); and Target 11, as the project will contribute to improving the management effectiveness of the PA system; Target 12, as it contributes to the reducing the loss of known threatened species, possibly preventing their extinction across the landscapes; Targets14 and 15, as it relates to the enhancement of ecosystems' functions, their structure and resilience, including in the face of climate change, through the project's mainstreaming approach.

UNCCD: The project addresses several of the thematic priorities of the Convention (as per the new ten-year Strategy), in particular those that relate to the linkages between land degradation and biodiversity (e.g. restoring land and ecosystem productivity and fighting soil loss).

ANNEX TO THE MOZAMBIQUE PROJECT CONCEPT – ANCILLARY INFORMATION

NOTE ON KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

The Programmatic Approach to Prevent the Extinction of Known Threatened Species with a focus on Program 3 (reducing poaching and illegal trafficking of threatened species) includes both national and global projects and initiatives, with which this current project will collaborate and create synergies, foster learning and share experiences. Program 3 projects in Africa share in particular many commonalities with respect to the 'national strategy methodology', to the extent that they address the issue of wildlife crime from a supply point of view (e.g. in Chad and Botswana). These will be complemented by UNDP's global work by focusing on the fight against wildlife crime at the international level, e.g. UNDP's anti-trafficking work on "tusk free ports", and on global demand reduction efforts. This crucial for a more successful global outcome, ensuring learning, collaboration and experience/expertise between global and national initiatives. The documenting of lessons and experiences in a user-friendly manner are an integral part of UNDP's way of working.

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY FOR BD, LD AND SFM BENEFIT DESCRIPTIONS AND CALCULATIONS

Background for MFA benefits in the project overall

Matrix 1. Project's target contributions to global environmental benefits (Summary)

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets

6. 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	*6,336,400 ha*
7. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	*131,000 ha*

Matrix 2. Background for MFA benefits in the project overall

Description	Total approximate surface ('000 ha)	Use in document
Total size of PA complexes	6,336	Indicator for Component 2 (enforcement), GEB for Table F, row 1 – improved management. Includes both sites, with existing and proposed PAs (core and non-core); as follows: *(i) Greater Gorongosa-Marromeu Landscape with 2.136 million hectares* - Core Protected Areas (current Gorongosa & Marromeu with 567,850 ha) - Proposed Marromeu MPA (18,000 ha) - Proposed protected Gorongosa-Marromeu Corridor (217,900 ha) - Community Conservancies (131,000 ha - see Matrix 2) - Coutadas (estimated extent of hunting areas after Corridor protection is 713,050 ha) - Forestry and Safari land use based on natural vegetation (470,600 ha) *(ii) Niassa Reserve with 4.200 million hectares*
Total size of new conservancies	131	Indicator for Component 3 (conservancies), GEB for Table F, row 2 – SLM (see Matrix 3 below).
Total estimated Miombo woodland area likely to be positively impacted by the project's Comp. 3 (and 2) activities	154.5	For estimation purposes, we assume that approximately 26.5 thousand hectares can be directly protected from deforestation and degradation, and/or rehabilitated through natural and assisted regeneration of ecosystems (focus on structure or function according to sites). This will eventually translate into carbon benefits from avoided deforestation/degradation (to be more closely calculated during the preparation phase).

Matrix 3. Background for MFA benefits specific to community conservancies

CONSERVANCIES SUB-SITE IN THE GORONGOSA-MARROMEU COMPLEX	BENEFITS OUTLINE*
Northern Rift Valley Community Conservancy *Proposed surface of conservancy: 75,000 ha* *Features: Mostly floodplain landscape in the Rift Valley that represents an upstream continuation of the floodplains currently found in the Park*	*Benefits for conservation and sustainable land and resource-use:* - High-carrying capacity for wildlife (large numbers of wildlife present in historical times) - Buffers the Park by effectively increasing its size - Maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity through re-stocking with native wildlife *Potential community benefits:* - Wildlife production for sustainable consumptive use (rather than introducing livestock on these productive floodplain grasslands) - Ecotourism (wildlife-based)
Pungue - DingueDingue Community Conservancy with wildlife and tourism linkages *Proposed surface of conservancy: 20,000 ha* *Features: Floodplain landscape Zambezi River Pungue River*	*Benefits for conservation and sustainable land and resource-use:* - Protects an area that was historically important for wildlife grazing during the late dry season - Encompasses wetlands that hold a diverse fauna and provide important breeding/foraging grounds EN6 road Main roads for a number of bird species (in particular a number of old river arms east and west of the current Pungue river bed hold water through the dry season thus providing an important aquatic habitat.) - River conservation corridor - Buffers the southern end of the Park against negative external influences - Protects both banks of the Pungue River - Forms the natural link with the Pungue estuarine system and its mangroves further downstream *Potential community benefits:* - Protects farming land from elephant damage Marromeu linkages - Sustainable agriculture in suitable areas

CONSERVANCIES SUB-SITE IN THE GORONGOSA-MARROMEU COMPLEX	BENEFITS OUTLINE*
	- Ecotourism with PNG (good potential being located between the current Park and Beira) - Wildlife production - Sustainable fishing
Cheringoma Sub-Complex of Conservancies *Includes: (i) North-eastern Cheringoma Community Conservancy and archaeological park; (ii) Eastern Cheringoma Community Conservancy and (iii) Southern Cheringoma Community Conservancy.* *Proposed total surface of the sub-complex: 36,000 ha (combines the above with at least 25,000 ha,, plus buffer zones in between – exact surface and contour, still to be more closely defined)* *Features: Mostly miombo landscape and including the northern-most limestone gorges in the north and east*	North-eastern: *Benefits for conservation and sustainable land and resource-use:* - Limestone Gorge - Codzo cave (archaeological importance) - Buffers the limestone gorges and could prevent impact by new limestone quarries *Potential community benefits:* - Tourism to Codzo Cave and limestone gorge - Wildlife production for sustainable use Eastern: *Benefits for conservation and sustainable land and resource-use:* - Connection through good solid miombo woodlands with the forestry concessions on the east and ultimately to Coutada 10 - Buffering of the Park - Protecting the catchment of the limestone gorges *Potential community benefits:* - Ecotourism - Wildlife production for sustainable use Southern: *Benefits for conservation and sustainable land and resource-use (should be integrally protected from consumptive use):* - Protects near-pristine miombo woodlands - Protects the catchment of the Muaredzi River and Archway Gorge - Buffering the Park *Potential community benefits:* - Rental from the Park - Ecotourism

Note: In all conservancies, the project will promote sustainable agricultural practices in suitable areas, using tested SLM techniques -- some farmer schools are in fact already established in selected communities. This is aimed at both limiting the expansion of the agricultural frontier in the Park's buffer zone and at providing alternative livelihoods to local communities that is not based on slash and burn, poaching or illegal harvesting of timber.

Box. The triple benefit from conservancies and what can be achieved in the buffer zone of GGML:

*By creating Community Conservancies, **the triple goal** of ensuring connectivity, buffering core PAs from degradation and creating sustainable benefits to the local community can be achieved, as follows:*

- It is clear from an initial survey in the Gorongosa NP buffer zones, that the ongoing human activities, and in particular the expansion of charcoal production and clearing for agricultural land, are leading to the degradation and loss of woodland cover.
- The 'closed' woodlands cover 40% of the core natural areas in the conservancy and the forests in the limestone gorges cover 13.6% of this area. The latter, based on the NASA FIRMS data, are not subject to fires (period 2000 – 2013).
- However, the clearing for agriculture (that was observed in one of the northernmost gorges) is followed by burning of the cut trees and by regular burning of the crop residues. This will release much of the carbon currently locked up in these dense formations.
- Extreme examples of landscape degradation of the miombo woodlands of the Cheringoma can be observed to the south-east of the Park (south of the proposed Conservancy), where the production of charcoal and small-scale cultivation has resulted in the loss of most of the mature woodland and has substantially increased soil erosion.
- The natural areas will remain accessible to the communities for the harvesting of NFTP. It has been noted that this miombo produced good honey. Farmers will be encouraged to adopt more modern/productive hives and techniques. The use of traditional bark hives requires the full ring barking of large miombo trees. The

harvesting of honey will also be adapted by encouraging the adoption of through apicultural techniques, in such a way as to prevent the spread of wildfire as is often the consequence of the current harvest practices.

- Lastly, the limestone gorges hold potential for adventure and wilderness tourism, though lessons need to be learned. The community near the Codzo Caves e.g., in the far north-east have previously developed some limited tourism infrastructure. This has however fallen in disrepair. However, the potential to restore and expand this tourism activity will be significantly enhanced through the partnership with the National Park.

6. Integrated and Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Basins of the Republic of Congo (Congo Republic) (UNDP as implementing agency)

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[44]

Project Title:	Integrated and Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Basins of the Republic of Congo
Country(ies):	The Republic of Congo
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP
Other Executing Partner(s):	
GEF Focal Area(s):	Multifocal areas

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[45]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD-1 Program 1	GEFTF	325,050	4,000,000
BD-2 Program 3	GEFTF	758,450	5,000,000
LD-3 Program 4	GEFTF	450,000	4,000,000
SFM-1	GEFTF	1,041,750	4,000,000
CC-2 Program 4	GEFTF	550,000	3,482,400
Total Project Cost		3,125,250	20,482,400

B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective:				
Project Components	**Financing Type[46]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
Component 1: Improving the effective management of globally significant protected areas in the Congo Basin	TA	1.1. Improved management effectiveness of PAs in the Congo Basin, specifically Odzala-Kokoua, Ntokou Pikounda, the Ngombe concession, Messok Dja and the Sembe panhandle, an area of over two million ha. *Indicators: Improved management effectiveness as measured by the METT scorecard; Stable gorilla population in the landscape; Stable elephant population in the landscape; Reduction in the encounter rate and distribution area of hunting signs (from 2013 baseline in Messok Dja and 2014 baseline in Ntokou-Pikounda and the Ngombe Concession for the gorilla, elephant and hunter sign indicators)* [Baseline and targets	980,000	6,100,000

[44] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[45] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[46] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

		will be established during the PPG]		
Component 2: Strengthening capacity for effective PA and Illegal Wildlife Trade governance in Congo	TA	Outcome 2.1. Biodiversity and Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) priorities are integrated into key national policies and plans and harmonized with regional initiatives. *Indicators: Establishment of harmonized National PA Strategy and National IWT Strategy; Significant improvements in capacity of key role-players as indicated by customized Capacity Development Scorecard.*	938,988	7,200,000
Component 3: Reducing poaching and illegal trade in threatened species [site level].	TA/INV	3.1. Wildlife crime is combatted on the ground by strengthening enforcement operations in targeted PA complexes. *Indicators: Biodiversity enforcement improved over 16.908 Km2 of important PA complexes; LD benefits covering >65,000 ha [64.917 ha]; Reforestation leading to defined carbon benefits [to be determined at PPG]; Increased prosecutions and convictions relating to IWT [to be determined at PPG].*	1,050,000	6,158,280
		Subtotal	2,968,988	19,458,280
		Project Management Cost (PMC)[47]	156,262	1,024,120
		Total Project Cost	**3,125,250**	**20,482,400**

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

C. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
Recipient Government	Congo Government	In Kind	3,122,400
Donor Agency	Odzala Kokoua Fondation	Grant	3,500,000
CSO	Congo Conservation Society	Grant	11,360,000
Private Sector	Forestry Industrial Ouesso	In Kind	2,500,000
Total Co-financing			**20,482,400**

[47] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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.

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS [a)]

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)[b)]	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	GEFTF	Congo Republic	Biodiversity		1,083,500	97,515	1,181,015
UNDP	GEFTF	Congo Republic	Land Degradation		450,000	40,500	490,500
UNDP	GEFTF	Congo Republic	Climate Change		550,000	49,500	599,500
UNDP	GEFTF	Congo Republic	Multi-focal Areas	SFM	1,041,750	93,758	1,135,508
Total GEF Resources					**3,125,250**	**281,273**	**3,406,523**

a) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.
b) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.
c) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Project Overview

A.1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION. **BRIEFLY DESCRIBE: 1) THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND/OR ADAPTATION PROBLEMS, ROOT CAUSES AND BARRIERS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED; 2) THE BASELINE SCENARIO OR ANY ASSOCIATED BASELINE PROJECTS, 3) THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO, WITH A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT, 4) INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING AND EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BASELINE, THE GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, AND CO-FINANCING; 5) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEFTF) AND/OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF); AND 6) INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING UP.**

1. Project Description

The Problem: The Republic of Congo covers a surface of 342.000 km2 and straddles the Equator; it extends between the 5° from Southern latitude and the 4° of Northern latitude and between longitudes 11° and 19° East. It is bordered in the north by Cameroon and the Central African Republic, in the east by the Congo river and its affluent Oubangui, which separates it from the Democratic Republic of Congo, in the south by the Democratic Republic of Congo, in the south-west by the Atlantic Ocean and in the west by Gabon. The Congolese Atlantic Ocean coast is 170 km long. Congo is home to one of the richest and most biologically important and intact-forest ecosystems on the planet. Around 65% of the country is covered by lowland tropical forests, which includes large tracts of intact forest. These areas are home to a diverse range of rare and endangered mammals, insects and plants – forest elephants, chimpanzees, western lowland gorillas, leopards and bongo antelope are just some of the species of large mammals. The country also boasts old growth forests containing enormous mahoganies and other tree species which are many hundreds of years old, particularly in the forestry concessions in the north of the country.

With the creation of the new Ntokou Pikounda protected area (PA), the total PA estate now covers 4.142.400 ha or 12% of total surface area. The PAs have as a principal objective the protection and the conservation of wild fauna, flora and ecosystems. Among these protected areas, four have approved management plans: the three National Parks of Odzala-Kokoua, Nouabalé-Ndoki and Conkouati-Douli, and the Lossi gorilla sanctuary. Congo harbours several ecozones and is covered mainly with forests (65% of the territory), which in total account for 13% of the

whole of the African humid dense forests. They are primarily divided into three principal solid massifs: Mayombe, Chaillu and the Congo North massif.

The Congolese zone within the the Minkébé-Odzala-Dja Inter-zone in Gabon, Congo, and Cameroon, also known as the TRIDOM area and is a key IWT hub. The 147,000 km² trans-border zone covers 7.5% of the Congo Basin Tropical Rainforest, the world's second largest expanse of rainforest. Twelve PAs in the area are connected through a thinly populated "interzone" that is essential for maintaining ecological connectivity and long term maintenance of ecological processes. This Ecoregion and its biodiversity are threatened, especially for its bush meat and ivory. Its forests are target for poachers and its roads and towns a transit route for trafficked wildlife from Central African Republic (CAR), Congo and Gabon. Trafficking is often led by local elites who exploit poorer community members, co-opted into poaching for their tracking and hunting abilities and to transport illegal wildlife products. Local people accrue little of the benefits, see their natural resources depleted, face compromised security in their daily lives and feel disempowered in the face of criminal elites.

This situation is compounded by the fact that in recent times, managers have lacked the resources and technical support to efficiently manage the protected areas that are the core of the landscape. More broadly, law enforcement agents lack capacity to gather and use intelligence information, collect evidence, follow due process and build robust cases. Low pay and morale means they are vulnerable to corruption and intimidation. Prosecutors and judges often show a reluctance or to apply relevant laws, and are usually subject to tempting offers to waive cases or to release prisoners. Border agents lack the resource and skills to effectively secure the frontier against trafficking, or worse, are complicit in affording safe passage to traffickers in return for bribes. IWT undermines the rule of law, nurtures corruption, disrupts communities and hinders economic development. It also threatens the regions' wildlife. Forest elephant populations in Congo declined by 50% between 2002-2011 and a huge number of pangolins are trafficked to markets in East and South East Asia. As a consequence, IWT threatens the integrity of the forest system itself and the continued provision of essential ecosystem services on which many rely.

The principal factor influencing the state of terrestrial biodiversity in this area is by far the practice of commercial hunting (mostly for the burgeoning urban populations of Congo, Cameroon and DRC). Over 64% of Congo's populaton lives in cities or towns. Kinshasa, an enormous city of 14 million people lies within easy reach down river from the TRIDOM complex, and the cities of Southern Cameroon can be easily reached by road in less than 48 hours. The practice of commercial selective logging throughout the north of the country has resulted in a visible modification of the forests, but because extraction is limited to a few trees per hectare, the main deleterious effect of commercial logging is a very high hunting rate of all mammal species, because remote inaccessible forest tracts have now become easily accessible following the creation of the network of forestry roads throughout all the timber concessions. Large mammal populations only survive in any numbers in concessions where there is a very strict practice of employing forest guards whose main task is anti-poaching. Where there is no anti-poaching, and where these roads remain open to vehicles or foot traffic after the completion of timber extraction, hunting continues until almost all the medium to large mammals have been killed, smoked, and transported into the very active chain of commercial meat trade either within Congo itself or to the other nearby large regional hubs, such as Yaounde and Douala in Cameroon (containing roughly 3 million people each), Mbandaka and Kinshasa (now thought to have perhaps as many as 0.5 and ~14 million people, respectively) in DRC. The towns within "easy striking distance" of the TRIDOM within Congo include Pokola (13,500 people in 2014) and Ouesso (over 30,000 people in 2012). Transport to Brazzaville, much further south (at least 1.5 million people) is now greatly facilitated by a new tar road linking Ouesso and Brazzaville: the journey can be done in a single day. Thus, forest "goods", such as ivory and meat, are rapidly trafficked in various directions from the TRIDOM using the constantly improved transport network in the region.

The second factor influencing the state of terrestrial biodiversity is the destruction of natural habitats and the overexploitation of the terrestrial flora. Slash-and-burn agriculture has a very limited impact, as (i) local people carry out a forest fallow system; and (ii) rural human population density is low throughout most of the country, especially in the Tridom area. However industrial plantations of palm oil – a recent phenomenon in Congo – will render large areas of land uninhabitable for almost all the medium-sized to large mammals of the region, either because they will be unable to survive in an oil palm monoculture or because they will destroy the crop and will in

turn be eliminated by the plantation owners. If no natural forest exists between existing PAs, the will lose the biological links between them, eventually becoming biological islands, leading to local extinctions, reduction in biodiversity, disruption of biological processes, genetic isolation and the loss and impairment of global environmental benefits.

Provision of fuelwood for households constitutes one of the causes of deforestation in and around the urban agglomerations but is not much of an issue in the Congo part of the landscape – yet. Almost the entirety of Congolese households still uses fuelwood as principal fuel for cooking and heating, and the vast majority of the rural population depend on wild protein (either fish or mammals) rather than domestically produced meat. While Congo has a great diversity of agricultural and forest farming systems with food, market-gardening, industrial and fruit-bearing crops, "wild" foods consist for a large part of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP). These are subject to intense exploitation, which unmanaged, will lead to unsustainable use of forest habitats. It is clear that Congo still harbors an abundant biological diversity, but that, in spite of this great biological richness, the average Congolese lives in severe poverty. The link between this wealth of biodiversity and the poverty of the people has been identified in major policies, strategies, plans and national programmes, demonstrating that concerns related to the safeguarding of the environment are now pivotal in the Congolese national development plans.

Baseline: The Congolese government has made significant contributions towards protecting the forests through the creation of national parks and other PAs, and has demonstrated its commitment to the long-term sustainable management of forest resources and sustainable development. Much of the forest protection activity is a direct result of the Summit of Central African Heads of State held in Yaoundé in March 1999, in which high-level commitment was made to the concepts of forest conservation, sustainable management and trans-boundary collaboration. In order to ensure effective implementation of the Yaoundé Declaration, the signatory States established an institutional mechanism, the Central African Commission for Forests (COMIFAC), and defined implementation strategies in the "Plan de Convergence". The latter prioritises protecton of twelve priority transborder conservation areas and Congo is a signatory.

Several initiatives have already been implemented in Congo and the region. These initiatives constitute a baseline and are detailed below.

- The UNDP-GEF project 'Conservation of trans-boundary biodiversity in the Minkebe-Odzala-Dja interzone in Gabon, Congo and Cameroon' (1583); known as the regional TRIDOM project. This started in 2008 for a period of 7 years. It is a conservation project which aims to preserve ecological functions of this area and ensure in the long-term that the transboundary system of protected areas remains preserved. It has worked towards the following expected outcomes: Land-use and the governance structures of a trans-border complex for biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource use are designed, endorsed and operational; capacity to monitor trends in biodiversity, resource exploitation and ecological functions and to minimize pressures on natural resources is strengthened in TRIDOM; benefits from community-based natural resource management contribute to poverty alleviation; and sustainable funding is mobilized for the conservation and sustainable management of the TRIDOM.
- Regional project providing specific country support to Congo to support implementaion of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to and Benefit Sharing (ABS) of Biodiversity.
- The UNDP-GEF project on 'Sustainable Financing of Protected Area Systems in the Congo Basin' (2906).
- Sectoral Forest and Environment Program (FESP): Under the auspices of the World Bank, Cameroon, Gabon and Congo are developing and implementing Sectoral Forest and Environment Programs (Programme Sectoriel Forêt et Environnement, FESP). The objective of the Forest and Economic Diversification Project in Congo is to increase the capacity of the Republic of Congo to: (i) promote better implementation of its forestry legislation; and (ii) enhance the policy environment for participation of local communities and the private sector in sustainable forest management and reforestation.
- Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT): The Congolese government and the European Union signed on May 17, 2010 a Voluntary Agreement of Partnership (APV) on the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). The purpose of this trade agreement, come into effect on March 1, 2013, is

to improve the forest governance in Congo and to make sure that wood and wood products of Congo fulfill the legal requirements of the country.

Barriers: Key barriers revolve around the challenges faced by the government and key agencies to control wildlife crime and destruction of habitats, which are threatening large mammal endangered species, notably the largest species with slow reproductive rates (forest elephant, western lowland gorilla, and central chimpanzee), the very large herbivores (bongo and forest buffalo), and, more recently, Giant (and other species of) pangolins which are hunted for their commercial value in the markets of the Far East. Barriers can be summarised as:

- Lack of capacity and corruption within the law enforcement and legal system, and insufficient information and tools to understand, regulate and combat illegal wildlife trade;
- Lack of robust enabling framework (policies, etc.) for protected areas management and IWT;
- Ineffective management and enforcement at the site and landscape level; and
- Limited transboundary coordination in planning and control of resource use are factors contributing to unsustainable exploitation of natural resources in the interzone.

The Alternative Scenario

The Long-term Solution is to strengthen the conservation of globally threatened species in the Basins of the Republic of Congo by improving biodiversity enforcement, resilience and management. This will be achieved through three interconnected components with the set outcomes, as summarised in the project framework table in Section B. This project will implement activities at three geographic levels; the national (central government) level in the Republic Congo; at a number of key sites within Congo that harbour globally significant biodiversity threatened by increasing rates of wildlife crime and poor management; and a small and select number of activities designed to facilitate inter-country coordination between Gabon, Congo and Cameroon (in the TRIDOM area). The project will evaluate its impact against the rate of loss of biodiversity within Congo, achieved through improved biodiversity management in targeted PA complexes and a reduction in wildlife crime.

Component 1: Management planning for PAs. Under this Component, the project will support anti-poaching and intelligence work that will assess threats and risks at the system level and build them into the management plans for the area. Based on the recently completed biodiversity assessments of the Messok Dja, Ntokou-Pikounda, Odzala and Ngombe landscape components (2013, 2014, 2012 and 2014 respectively), the PA management plans will be created for the existing Ntokou-Pikounda NP and for the soon-to-be-gazetted Messok Dja PA. These management plans include plans for the maintainance and official recognition of biological corridors for connectivity threatened species and buffer zones that will promote the restoration of degraded lands and forests in partnership with local communities and private sector players. These are critical to the unique possibility to maintain a viable link between Nki National Park in Cameroon and Odzala Koukoua National Park in Congo. It is also critical to give chance to wildlife habitat to be maintained during and after the construction of the Cholet Dam. In parallel, the capacity of PA staff will be developed to improve management systems, ensure the application of PA and IWT legislation and enforcement measures, and improve planning, budgeting and equipment, etc. Staff will also be trained in controlling poaching and trafficking, preventing the unsustainable exploitation of bushmeat, securing wildlife populations and assuring PA integrity.

Component 2: Strengthening capacity for effective PA and IWT governance in Congo. Under this Component, the preparation and enforcement of legislation recognizing the new transboundary UNESCO MAB in Odzala and outlining management arrangements will be completed. This will tie into the formulation and implementation of updated National Protected Areas Strategy and a new National Strategy for Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade to support national implementation of CITES. A National Wildlife Crime Task Force will be established (involving Congo's Gendarmerie, the judiciary, customs, intelligence and relevant ministries) with the mandate for enhancing government systems and institutional capacity for combating IWT in accordance with the new IWT Strategy, and a nationwide system for monitoring wildlife trade and wildlife crime cases will be established for the first time and operationalized.

Component 3: Reducing poaching and illegal trafficking of large mammal threatened species [site level]. Under this Component, enforcement, judicial and forensic capacity will be strengthened to support criminal investigations and prosecution of wildlife crime cases. A Ranger Training Centre will be established in in Odzala and >2 other National Parks to develop national capacity for preventing poaching and other wildlife crimes [these will defined during the PPG stage]. This will be complemented by the introduction of Wildlife Crime Units operating in and around >3 PAs and the national border (incorporating joint committee litigation monitoring on wildlife), >6 teams of border patrols and twelve village game scout units (monitoring the conversion of recidivism and the poaching of large mammals). In addition, private sector enterprises will be engaged and integrated into a coordinated IWT approach across the landscape leading to the reduced illegal exploitation of threatened species. Through national small grants mechanisms, potentially including GEF SGP, grants are channelled to forest-dependent communtities to pilot sustainable livelihoods based on SLM and CBNRM to i) reduce deforestation, IWT and unsustainable bushmeat exploitation; and ii) support land use planning over oil palm concessions; and iii) support efforts to improve forest landscape management and protect carbon sinks.

Incremental Reasoning

The incremental approach can be summarised as follows: The government of Congo has clearly identified strengthening and consolidating the national PA system as a priority action for conserving biodiversity and preventing domestic and transnational illegal wildlife trade. However, despite strong commitment from the government, actions are seldom taken to concretely remove the barriers to effective PA management and enforcement against trafficking and poaching of highly threatened species. In particular, legal inconsistences and corruption at the national (and regional) level are compounded by the lack of management and enforcement capacity at the site level. Together these limit the potential for effective action. In terms of IWT, the capacity and understanding amongst law enforcement agencies is low, regional collaboration is weak, and existing mechanisms to regulate legal wildlife trade are not being appropriately applied. The proposed intervention is particularly timely given the sharp increase in illegal wildlife trade volume globally and the emergence of Congo as a key source country in regional wildlife trade networks as well as significant transit country for transnational wildlife trafficking.

In the baseline situation, a weak enabling environment, a lack of coordination between agencies, a lack of capacity and resources, and an inability to upscale successful models will mean that endemic unsustainable resource exploitation in Congo's globally significant protected areas will continue. Illegal wildlife trade will continue to operate as organized crime. Wildlife trade, both illegal and legal will continue to substantially increase, which has already resulted in widespread local declines of key wildlife species throughout most of the south of the country outside of the Conkouati-Douli National Park and, in the forested north of the country, in logging concessions which have not been subject to strict antipoaching activity over the last ten years or so. In particular, elephants (at highest risk because of the very high profit margin offered by ivory trafficking) are already absent from large areas of the country and will eventually be hunted down to extremely low densities. At that point, their ability to act as important functional elements of the forest ecosystem (dispersal and nutrient transport) will be destroyed; and beyond that point their ability to reproduce successfully will become exceedingly difficult. It is likely that degradation and fragmentation of the Congo's forests will continue. Wildlife trade, both illegal and legal will substantially increase or, at best, will continue unabated, resulting first in local declines followed by outright extinctions of key Congolese wildlife including elephants, gorillas and rhinos.

In the alternative scenario enabled by the GEF, systemic and institutional barriers to effective action to strengthen the management effectiveness of the Congolese PA system, while combating illegal wildlife trade, will be removed at national, local and landscape levels through improved regulatory and institutional frameworks, anticorruption, and enhanced and coordinated government action. Core PAs and adjacent landscapes (the Odzala-Odzla Koukoua National Park (13,546 km²), Lossi-Pikounda-Ngombe-Ntokou landscape and the Souanke-Sembe landscape Gorilla Sanctuary (350 km²), Messok-Dja National Park (1,450 km²) will be strengthened to support the conservation of globally threatened species in Congo. Coordinated National PA and IWT Strategies will underpin integrated action at local, national and regional levels, involving private sector and communities as part of a multi-

modal effort to strengthen the protected areas estate, fight wildlife crime, demonstrate the multiple benefits of sustainable land and forest management, and involve local people in co-managing wildlife and their habitat – the very ecosystems on which they depend. Capacity amongst national and regional enforcement agencies will be increased, there will be greater awareness of the importance of reducing the use of wildlife products, and enhanced high-level political will to act. A nation-wide system for monitoring wildlife trade and wildlife crime cases will be established for the first time and operationalised. The Congolese state and people will benefit economically while the globally significant wildlife of Congo, such as forest elephants and gorillas, will be lifted from the threat of extinction caused by unsustainable exploitation.

Global Environmental Benefits: The Republic of Congo is one of the most biodiverse regions in the world, and supports many mammal and bird species including endemic and endangered species threatened by commercial wildlife trade, such as forest elephants, western lowland gorillas, and giant pangolin, among others. Congo is home to one of the richest and most biologically important forest ecosystems on the planet. Around 65% of the country is covered by lowland tropical forests, much of which is made up of large tracts of undisturbed virgin wilderness. GEF funding will secure populations of globally significant species through dramatically improving the systemic and institutional capacity of the nation to conserve biodiversity through the establishment of more effective management of protected areas; preventing land degradation through reduced illegal logging and land conversion in areas adjacent to PAs; helping to mitigate climate change through enhanced protection of the region's vast carbon sinks; and controlling commercial wildlife trade and associated overexploitation of species and their habitats. In addition, the GEF finance will significantly reduce the role of Congo as a supplier for transnational wildlife trafficking networks, especially for African elephant ivory. These benefits will emerge from capacity building as well as from coordinated approach to integrated landscape management, involving all stakeholders in the area. The project will generate these benefits by helping to build fundamental management capacities needed to generate revenues, working according to management and business plans and ensure an enabling institutional and policy environment that is conducive to adequate and dependable financial flows to PA system managers.

Innovativeness, Sustainability and Potential for Scale-up: The development of cost-effective and sustainable solutions to reduce the detrimental impacts of poor PA management, degradation of adjacent areas and associated wildlife trade is central to all aspects of this project. The project will work to support and strengthen Congolese institutions and authorities to more effectively management the national PA estate and reduce poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking. The underlying premise fo the project is that interest already exists within the Government of Congo, especially within the Ministry for Sustainable Development, Forest Economy and Environment (MDDEFE) to improve management of the PA system located in the TRIDOM zone (with the intention to consolidate important work initiated through the regional TRIDOM project 2008-2015), and to control poaching and wildlife trade. What is needed is a combination of facilitation and demonstration to show that resources can be applied for the benefit of globally important biodiversity and Congo's sustainable economic development. Following the completion of the project,national institutions and authorities will be empowered and better equipped to exercise their mandates, without requiring further external resources. The project will build on existing initiatives and policies to develop better collaboration and information exchange, rather than creating new costly systems. The project will promote legitimate industry over unscrupulous IWT by developing regulatory environment into one which provides a clear competitive advantage to legal, sustainable and responsible trade. Particularly innovative aspects of this project include: i) improved land-use and the establishment of governance structures for a trans-border complex to secure biodiversity conservation and promote sustainable natural resource use; ii) capacity to monitor trends in biodiversity, resource exploitation and ecological functions and to minimize pressures on natural resources; and iii) benefits from community-based natural resource management, which contribute to poverty alleviation.

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes X /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation: A detailed list of all stakeholders will be prepared at PPG.

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

RISK	RISK RATING	RISK MITIGATION MEASURE
Deteroriating political and economic conditions	Medium	Continue project activities as the project seeks to serve as a model for long-term financing of protected areas in countries where political uncertainty and economic constraints currently preclude the government from allocating adequate resources to conservation activities.
Increased loss and degradation of forest due to climate effects	Medium	This risk is clearly more important over the medium to long term. Complementary efforts to maintain resilience and connectivity amongst forest ecosystems at landscape level will be essential to maintaining PA biodiversity over the longer term.
Allocation of budgetary resources to national and regional trust funds remains low	Medium	The project will build on the environmental economic valuation work of the UNDP 'Sustainable Financing' project, to strengthen the business case in favor of Government financing of PAs. It will encourage the integration of PA financing allocations into national planning. At the same time, the emergence of new markets for conservation, also supported by the project, will help to change the cost-benefit calculus surrounding budgetary allocations for PA, corridor and open spots management.
The international community and private investors reluctant to provide resources for biodiversity conservation	Medium	Propose an institutional mechanism that strengthen environmental governance, transparency and maximize credibility. Build partnerships with different groups such as the private sector.
Increases in threats facing PAs due to sectoral activities and/or demographic trends counterbalance improvements in management	Medium	This risk may require action by Government that goes beyond increased PA management to address risks at source. The fact that this project is being developed as part of a multi-donor partnership and within regional frame-works geared to improved forest governance serves to mitigate this risk.
Limited local expertise to carry our implementation and/or follow up	Medium	For project implementation purposes, a combination of national and international expertise is envisaged to provide the technical competencies and skills necessary. However this external expertise is not deemed sustainable and support will include transfer of knowledge, mentoring and training of PA system staff and those agencies managing the interzone.

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

This project is being submitted to the GEF as part of (i) the Biodiversity Focal Area – Programme 1: Improving Financial and Effective Management of the National Ecological Instructure; ii) the Programmatic Approach to Prevent the Extinction of Known Threatened Species. A key focus is on reducing poaching and illegal trafficking of threatened species, the subject matter of the GEF's Program 3, under the Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy. Various other GEF projects form part of the above-mentioned Programmatic Approach and are being submitted for Council approval by different GEF Agencies, with the World Bank playing a coordinating role. UNDP projects under the Programmatic Approach follow a 'national strategy methodology', i.e. they engage key national stakeholders in addressing the issue of preventing the extinction of known threatened species and fighting wildlife crime as an issue of governance and development, as much as it is an issue of NRM; and (iii) the Land Degradation Focal Area – Objective 2: Forest

Landscapes: Program 3: Landscape Management and Restoration. In addition, it will contribute to the SFM Strategy through SFM: Reduce the Pressures on High Conservation Value Forests by Addressing the Drivers of Deforestation; and CCM-2: Demonstrate Systemic Impacts of Mitigation Options; Program 4: Promote conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks in forest, and other land-use, and supporting climate smart agriculture.

Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1 **IS THE PROJECT CONSISTENT WITH THE NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSEMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS? FOR BIODIVERSITIY RELATED PROJECTS, PLEASE REFERENCE THE AICHI TARGETS THAT THE PROJECT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ACHIEVING. (YES ☐ /NO☐). IF YES, WHICH ONES AND HOW: NAPAS, NAPS, ASGM NAPS, MIAS, NBSAPS, NCS, TNAS, NCSAS, NIPS, PRSPS, NPFE, BURS, ETC.:**

The Government of Congo's Ministry for Sustainable Development, Forest Economy and Environment (MDDEFE) is currently working in partnership with AFD on strengthening the National Forest Inventory and Forest Management Planning, and with the EU on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT), timber traceability, and timber tracking. In parallel, the EU is also supporting an Independent Observer of Forestry, implemented by the NGOs Resource Extraction Monitoring and Forests Monitor, in Congo. The Republic of Congo has also adopted, in early 2010, a new law on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Strengthening Congo's Forestry policy and institutions will require close collaboration with other donors working in the forest and related sectors in the country, such as the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the French Development Agency (AFD) and the European Union (EU).

In addition, Congo is involved in numerous regional programs related to the implementation of the CBD (e.g. *Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale* (COMIFAC), *Conférence sur les Ecosystèmes des Forêts Denses et Humides d'Afrique Centrale* (CEFDHAC), *Réseau des Aires Protégées d'Afrique Centrale* (RAPAC), *Partenariat pour les Forêts du Bassin du Congo* (PFBC), and the United Nations initiative committed to ensuring the long-term survival of Chimpanzees, Gorillas, Bonobo in their habitats in Africa known as Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP). Importantly, the project is in line with the COMIFAC '*Plan de Convergence'*, which seeks to guide the actions of member countries regarding the sustainable management of their forests. The project is also in line with the following national strategies and plans: DSCERP, PNAE, PAFN, NBSAP, PAN-LCD, National Biodiversity strategic Action Plan (NBSAP); and Forest and Wildlife Sub-Sector Strategy.

7. Integrated and Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Basins of the Republic of Cameroon (Cameroon)

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[48]

Project Title:	Integrated and Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Basins of the Republic of Cameroon
Country(ies):	Cameroon
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development
GEF Focal Area(s):	Multi-focal Areas

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[49]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD-1 Program 1	GEFTF	888,000	9,000,000
BD-2 Program 3	GEFTF	1,332,000	10,000,000
LD-3 Program 4	GEFTF	385,000	4,000,000
SFM-1	GEFTF	1,302,500	7,750,000
Total Project Cost		3,907,500	30,750,000

B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective:				
Project Components	**Financing Type[50]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
Component 1: Strengthening capacity for effective PA and IWT governance in Cameroon	TA	1.1. PA and IWT policy frameworks in place with implementation capacity. Indicators: Establishment of harmonized of National PA Strategy and National IWT Strategy; Significant improvements in capacity of key role-players as indicated by customized Capacity Development Scorecard.	1,100,125	8,000,000
Component 2: Improving the effective management of globally significant protected areas in the forest landscapes of Cameroon.	TA/INV	2.1: Improved management effectiveness of PAs in forest landscapes (specifically Dja, Boumba Bek, Mengame, Lobeke and Nki) Indicator: Improved management effectiveness as measured by the METT scorecard; 1,413,161 hectares under more effective	1,210,000	9,212,500

[48] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[49] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[50] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

		management in important PA complexes. [Baseline and targets will be finalised during the PPG]		
Component 3: Reducing wildlife crime in the Cameroon forest landscapes affecting threatened species [site level]	TA	3.1 Wildlife crime is combated on the ground by strengthening enforcement operations across target PAs, interzones [landscape matrix surrounding and linking target PA sites] and key trafficking routes/hubs. 3.2 Adoption of management practices and community centred initiatives in the forest interzone that support sustainable livelihoods, SLM and reduce wildlife crime Indicators: Biodiversity enforcement improved over 1,413,161 hectares of forest zone; Number of small grants disbursed in support of SLM and CBNRM; Increased prosecutions and convictions relating to IWT [Baseline and targets will be finalised during the PPG].	1,411,304	12,000,000
		Subtotal	3,721,429	29,212,500
		Project Management Cost (PMC)[51] (select)	186,071	1,537,500
		Total Project Cost	**3,907,500**	**30,750,000**

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

C. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
Recipient Government	Government of Cameroon	In Kind	8,500,000
CSO	ZSL	Grant	2,620,000
CSO	IUCN	Grant	8,380,000
CSO	WWF	Grant	11,250,000
Total Co-financing			**30,750,000**

[51] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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.

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS a)

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b) b)	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	GEFTF	Cameroon	Biodiversity		2,220,000	199,800	2,419,800
UNDP	GEFTF	Cameroon	Land Degradation		385,000	34,650	419,650
UNDP	GEFTF	Cameroon	Multi-focal Areas	SFM	1,302,500	117,225	1,419,725
Total GEF Resources					3,907,500	351,675	4,259,175

a) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.
b) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.
c) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Project Overview

A.1. Project Description. Briefly describe: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing; 5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

1. Project Description

The Problem: Cameroon's forests are a core element of the Congo Basin forest ecosystem, the second largest remaining contiguous block of rainforest on Earth covering almost 200 million ha in Central Africa. The country retains extensive forest cover, with around 42% of the total land area (equivalent to almost 22 million hectares) still forested, 75% of which is dense moist forest and is among the most biodiverse habitats in Africa. These forests are home to an incredible wealth of biodiversity, with 8000 species of higher plants (156 endemic), 250 mammal species, 848 birds, 542 fish (96 endemic), 330 reptiles, and 200 amphibians (63 endemic. The lowland forests of South and East Cameroon in particular contain key sites identified as being exceptional priorities for the conservation of the critically endangered western gorilla and the endangered common chimpanzee and species threatened including forest elephants and pangolins. People are also an intrinsic part of the forest ecosystem and the Baka, Bakola and Bagyéli groups in the region make up a substantial proportion of the 80,000 indigenous people living in Cameroon and they and other forest peoples depend on the forests for a range of goods and services. These forests also support the livelihoods of people in the wider region. More than 90% of the people living in the Congo Basin depend to varying extents directly on forest resources for food, fuel, income, timber and medicine. Cameroon's forests are vital for global climate regulation as a carbon sink and storage (estimated to store 326tC/ha). Despite the importance of these forests, Cameroon has a deforestation rate of around 0.14% per year and much of the remaining forest is affected by degradation, with logging and other extractive and agro-industries known to be a significant contributor to this.

Protected areas form the core of this forested landscape in the south east; from Mengame (121,807 ha) in the west through the Dja Biosphere Reserve world heritage site (526,000 ha), recently established Ngoyla Wildlife Reserve (155,000 ha), Boumba-Bek (238,200 ha) and Nki (309,300 ha). Surrounding and linking these protected areas is an interzone encompassing a matrix of timber concessions which makes up the dominant landuse, community

forests, agro-industry, hunting zones and urban areas linked by roads. A holistic approach to management of this landscape is vital if the forest, its biodiversity and the vital ecosystem services it provides are to be maintained.

Cameroon is home to approximately 23 million people and an estimated 22 million hectares of rainforest. These forest provide fuel and food for millions of people. The management of all forests in Cameroon comes under the legislative framework outlined by the 1994 forestry laws which sought to enshrine the principals of sustainable forest management in national forestry and reconcile development of the sector with social and environmental safeguards. Cameroon's forests are divided into permanent forest estate (DFP) currently making up around 80% of total forest area at around 18 million ha and non-permanent forest estate (DFNP), almost 4.5 million ha. The DFP, which includes protected areas, should cover at least 30% of total national area, be representative of national biodiversity, remain as permanently managed forest and/or wildlife habitat and be sustainably managed according to approved management plans. Typically within the DFP commercial operations are managed under a system of 15 year concessions (<200,000ha per concession) which are renewable once, in effect 30 years, although provision exists for local councils to allocate more extensive harvesting licences. The DFNP offers possibilities for smaller scale harvesting including community managed forests up to a maximum of 5,000 ha but can also be allocated for agro-forestry, crops and private forests. As of 2010, it is estimated that over 7 million ha of Cameroonian forests are managed as timber concessions with an additional 600,000 ha under community management. Forest exploitation and related activities represented 8.9% of national gross domestic product (GDP) between 1992 and 2000 and have grown at a rate of 4.7% per year since 2000, a significant role in the Cameroonian economy. The forestry sector is also a major export earner, accounting for 28.2% of total non-oil exports over the same period. Despite the intentions of the 1994 forestry law, the uptake of truly sustainable practices within the forestry sector, effective management of the protected areas in the zone and alleviation of poverty amongst rural poor communities has been at best a qualified success. Ensuring effective management of the core protected areas, promoting sustainable practices in the forestry sector that makes up the dominant land use in the region and providing sustainable livlihood benefits is essential.

Poaching, overhunting and overfishing are exacerbated by rampant corruption in the government. The country has a thriving bushmeat trade even in Protected Areas (PAs) and the government is not managing to control this. Though Cameroon enjoys relative political stability compared to some other West African countries, law enforcement personnel are often underpaid, under-resourced and demotivated and end up colluding with those engaged in illegal acivities in order to supplement their income. Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) is undermining the rule of law, nurturing corruption, disrupting communities and hindering economic development. It also threatens the regions' wildlife. Forest elephant population have declined by 62% in the last ten years whilst huge numbers of Pangolins are trafficked to markets in East and South East Asia. As a consequence, IWT threatens the integrity of the forest system itself and the continued provision of essential ecosystem services on which many rely.

The Cameroonian zone within the the Minkébé-Odzala-Dja Interzone in Gabon, Congo, and Cameroon, also known as the TRIDOM area, is a key illegal wildife trade (IWT) hub. The TRIDOM area covers around 147,000 km² or 7.5% of the Congo Basin Tropical Rainforest, which is the world's second largest expanse of rainforest. Twelve PAs are connected through a thinly populated interzone that is essential for maintaining ecological connectivity and long term maintenance of ecological processes. This ecoregion and its biodiversity are threatened, especially for its bush meat (endangered species) and ivory. Its forests are target for poachers and its roads and towns a transit route for trafficked wildlife from Central African Republic (CAR), Congo and Gabon. Trafficking is often led by local elites who exploit poorer community members, co-opted into poaching for their tracking and hunting abilities and to transport illegal wildlife products. Local people accrue little of the benefits, see their natural resources depleted, face compromised security in their daily lives and feel disempowered in the face of criminal elites. This situation is compounded by the fact that in recent times, managers have lacked the resources and technical support to efficiently manage the protected areas that are the core of the landscape. More broadly, law enforcement agents lack capacity to gather and use intelligence information, collect evidence, follow due process and build robust cases. Low pay and morale means they are vulnerable to corruption and intimidation. Prosecutors and judges demonstrate limited awareness or ability to apply relevant laws whilst border agents lack the resource and skills to effectively secure the frontier against trafficking.

Cameroon is a signatory to the convention on international trade in endangered species (CITES) and has recently published its National Ivory Action Plan (NIAP) detailing its obligations to address IWT with particular reference to the illegal ivory trade. It is also a signatory to other key initiatives such as the London and Gabaronne Declarations, indicating its commitment to address the impact of IWT and promote sustainable management of natural resources. Cameroon as an active member of Central African Commission on Forests (COMIFAC) and hosts the Head Office. It is committed to address IWT and reduce poaching through implementation of the COMIFAC Action Plan for Strengthening National Wildlife Law Enforcement (PAPECALF), reaffirmed at a meeting of the ECCAS held in July 2014 in Yaoundé. However, support is urgently needed to help the governemnt to meet these commitments.

Baseline: Since December 2004, the Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Developement (MINEPDED) and the Ministry of Forests and Wildlife (MINFOF) have been responsible for biodiversity, ecosystem conservation and forest management in Cameroon in line with Sectorial Programme of Forest and Environment (SPFE). These ministries have made a significative contribution towards protecting the forests through the creation of national parks and other protected areas, and support for the management and oversight of the forestry sector. In addition, it has placed a moratorium on exploitation of a further 8,000 km² of biologically important forest in the TRIDOM interzone, zoned for logging in the national forest management plan, pending the outcome of negotiations on its ultimate use. Several initiatives have already been implemented in Cameroon and the region. These initiatives constitute a baseline and are detailed below.

At the regional level:

- The UNDP-GEF project 'Conservation of trans-boundary biodiversity in the Minkebe-Odzala-Dja interzone in Gabon, Congo and Cameroon' (1583); known as the regional TRIDOM project. This started in 2008 for a period of 7 years. It is a conservation project (closing in mid 2015) which aims to preserve ecological functions of this area and ensure in the long-term that the transboundary system of protected areas remains preserved. It has worked towards the following expected outcomes: Land-use and the governance structures of a trans-border complex for biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource use are designed, endorsed and operational; capacity to monitor trends in biodiversity, resource exploitation and ecological functions and to minimize pressures on natural resources is strengthened in TRIDOM; benefits from community-based natural resource management contribute to poverty alleviation; and sustainable funding is mobilized for the conservation and sustainable management of the TRIDOM.
- Regional project providing specific country support to Cameroon to support implementaion of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to and Benefit Sharing (ABS) of Biodiversity.
- The UNDP-GEF regional project on 'Sustainable Financing of Protected Area Systems in the Congo Basin'
- Sectoral Forest and Environment Program (FESP): Under the auspices of the World Bank, Cameroon, Gabon and Congo are developing and implementing Sectoral Forest and Environment Programs (Programme Sectoriel Forêt et Environnement, FESP). The FESP was set up in 1999 and is a detailed and pluriannual strategic policy for the entire forest sector led by the national government and involving the major donors. It insures coherence vis-à- vis data and macroeconomic planning. It is designed as a national sectoral development program established for the implementation of a sustainable and participatory management policy of forest and wildlife resources in Cameroon.

At the national level, the legal framework for biodiversity conservation is set out by several law and decrees among which are:

- Law 94/01 of 20 January 1994 (also refer as Forestry code) lays down forestry, wildlife and fishery regulations and its subsequent Implementation Decree. Under the Forestry Code, wildlife species are divided into three protection classes: A, B and C; great apes belong to class A which includes all fully protected species. Activities for the commercial exploitation of wildlife are authorized only to those holding legal and valid title from the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife. Poaching is therefore defined as any act of hunting without license. Hunting

is allowed in specific season with authorized equipment and it is forbidden in protected areas. Poaching is severely punished by the law with several months' imprisonment and financial penalties.

- Law N°96/12 of August 5th, 1996 on Environmental Management. Cameroon has a Framework Law on Environmental Management which affirms the need to focus attention on biodiversity management. It notably recommends: the conservation of biodiversity; sustainable exploitation of forests and the management of the maritime coasts as well as the sustainable exploitation of other natural resources and the valuation of national products.
- In 2009, under the the auspices of UNDP, Cameroon has updated the National Environmental Management Plan (PNGE) as a key document of diagnostic on environmental management
- In 2011, a Presidential Decree was signed to enhance territorial management. One important aspect of this Presidential Decree is that it is complementary to the on-going zoning plan mapped out by the forestry administration which has defined a permanent forest domain (production forests, protection forests, etc.) and non permanent forest domain (community forests, etc.). Under this repartition, biodiversity conservation is included in the management plans of all production forests.
- Cameroon has developed a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) as part of its commitments under the CBD. This document, which promotes a participatory approach to biodiversity conservation, identifies opportunities, risks, challenges and solutions to sustainable biodiversity conservation and national development.
- Cameroon also initiated the development of a National Action Plan for the Conservation of Great Apes in March 2003 with the support of Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) and other international NGOs. It aims to translates the political will of Cameroon to contribute to biodiversity conservation efforts and defines the concrete and urgent actions that must be undertaken for the conservation of the great apes species.
- Cameroon has been actively involved in the REDD+ process since inception. Cameroon's National REDD+ Strategy was approved in 2013. Specifically, REDD+ is anticipated to help Cameroon achieve the sustainable development objective established by the government in the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (GESP) for its 2035 vision. The country is also a member of the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF).
- Cameroon has recently published its National Ivory Action Plan in compliance with the CITES Standing Committee (SC65) direction to countries of secondary importance to reinforce their efforts to combat IWT and the ivory trade in particular.

Other projects active in this area include:

- The GEF funded 'Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Ngoyla-Mintom Forest' Project (P118018) is a 5 year project ending in 2017 established to improve the conservation and management of the core area and improve access to income-generating activities for local communities in the project area. There are three components to the project. The first component is strengthening government and civil society capacity for participatory planning and management of the core areas. The second component is to design and implement a Livelihood Support Mechanism (LSM) and the third component is to design and implements a long term monitoring and evaluation system for the Ngoyla-Mintom Forest Massif.
- The Zoological Society of London work across this landscape to strengthen management of the Dja Biosphere Reserve by providing technical and financial support to support park management and working with private sector actors, primarily timber companies, in the periphery zone and the wider landscape to protect High Conserservation Values.
- Phase II of the European Union funded Central African World Heritage Forest Initiative (CAWHFI). Conserving Biodiversity through the World Heritage Convention in the Gabon-Cameroon-CAR-Congo trans-border zones is due to commence in 2015. The focal sites in Cameroon are the Dja Biosphere Reserve [and Lobeke, as part of the Sangha Trinational]. This overall objective of this project is to ensure the integrity of a network of protected areas and the forest landscapes linking them, in the Gabon-Cameroon-Congo-CAR trans-border forest zone through: the use of the World Heritage Convention to promote the protection and monitoring of sites harbouring exceptional and globally important biological values; the strengthening of existing and proposed World Heritage site management activities; and adopting of land use planning (LUP) options and

appropriate mitigation efforts in the inter-zones in order to reconcile biodiversity conservation and economic development.

Barriers: Key barriers revolve around the weakness of the government and key agencies to enforce legislation and control wildlife crime and destruction of habitats. As a result illegal hunting for for the international wildlife trade and national commercial trade is decimating wildlife populations and and driving threatened species towards extinction. Barriers can be summarised as:

- Weak policy and regulatory frameworks for ecosystem and biodiversity management, and insufficient information and tools to understand, regulate and combat illegal wildlife trade;
- Ineffective management and enforcement at the site and landscape level due to weak capacity, lack of resources and poor governance;
- Poor coordination between agencies and institutions on law enforcement;
- Limited transboundary coordination in planning and control of resource use are factors contributing to unsustainable exploitation of natural resources in the interzone; and
- Insufficient involvement of local stakeholders (local communities) in effective forest management to create and to promote to promote the adoption of management practices and community-centred initiatives in the forest interzone

The Alternative Scenario

The long-term Solution is to strengthen the conservation of globally threatened species in Cameroon by improving biodiversity enforcement, resilience and management. This will be achieved through three interconnected components with the set outcomes, as summarised in the project framework table in Section B. This project will implement activities at three geographic levels; the national (central government) level in Cameroon; at a number of key sites within Cameroon that harbour globally significant biodiversity threatened by increasing rates of wildlife crime and poor management; and a small and select number of activities designed to facilitate inter-country coordination between Gabon, Congo and Cameroon (in the TRIDOM area). The project will evaluate its impact against the rate of loss of biodiversity within Cameroon, achieved through improved biodiversity management in targeted PA complexes and a reduction in wildlife crime.

Component 1: Strengthening capacity for effective PA and IWT governance in Cameroon. Under this Component, the preparation and enforcement of legislation regconizing the new transboundary UNESCO MAB in the Dja and outlining management arrangements will be completed. This will tie into the formulation and implementation of updated National Protected Areas Strategy and a new National Strategy for Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade to support national implementation of CITES. A National Wildlife Crime Task Force will be established (involving Cameroon's national police, Ministry of Forest and Wildlife, judiciary and other key players) with the mandate for enhancing government systems and institutional capacity for combating IWT in accordance with the new IWT Strategy, and a nationwide system for monitoring wildlife trade and wildlife crime cases will be established for the first time and operationalized.

Component 2: Improving the effective management of globally significant protected areas in Cameroon. Under this Component, the project will support detailed biodiversity surveys that will determine critical conservation and IWT sites, undertaken threat/risk assessments and establish project baselines. Based on this, PA management plans will be updated and strengthened for the Dja, Boumba Bek and Nki PAs, Megame, Ngoyla Wildlife Reserve and Lobeke Gorilla Sanctuary, covering 1,568,161 ha (13,509 Km²) and will include plans for the improved management of forest landscape interzones between PAs ensuring connectivity and maintenance of conservation values. This will be achieved through the promotion of participatory forest management involving stakeholders who live in and around the interzone. It will also include plans for designated buffer zones to reinforce the core PAs through the adoption of SLM practices by communities and more effective management of human-wildlife conflict. In parallel, the capacity of PA staff will be developed to improve management systems, ensure the application of PA and IWT legislation and enforcement measures, and improve planning, budgeting and

equipment, etc. Staff will also be trained in controlling poaching and other illegal activities through implementation of the SMART approach, preventing the unsustainable exploitation of bushmeat, securing wildlife populations and assuring PA integrity. Pilot projects will be established to develop and test approaches for sustainable financing of the core PAs.

Component 3: Reducing poaching and illegal trafficking of threatened species [site level]. Under this Component, enforcement, forensic judicial capacity will be strengthened to proactively target criminal activities, support criminal investigations and prosecution of wildlife crime cases. PA management will be strengthened to control poaching and other illegal activities through implementation of the SMART approach, securing wildlife populations and assuring PA integrity. Private sector enterprises (e.g. tourism, logging, extractives, trophy hunting) will be integrated into dialogue with government on their role for a coordinated IWT approach across the landscape leading to the reduced illegal exploitation of threatened species. In order to promote the adoption of management practices and community-centred initiatives in the forest interzone that support sustainable livelihoods and reduce wildlife crime, the project will work with the Cameroon GEF Small Grants Programme to channel grants to forest-dependent communtities to pilot sustainable livelihoods based on SLM and CBNRM to i) reduce deforestation, IWT and unsustainable bushmeat exploitation; ii) promote participatory forest management, and iii) resolve human-wildlife conflict. All stakeholders in the forest interzone will be empowered to participate in monitoring and reporting of illegal activities.

Incremental Reasoning

The incremental approach can be summarised as follows: The government of Cameroon has clearly identified strengthening and consolidating the national PA system as a priority action for conserving biodiversity and preventing domestic and transnational illegal wildlife trade. However, despite strong commitment from the government, actions are seldom taken to concretely remove the barriers to effective PA management and enforcement against trafficking and poaching of highly threatened species. In particular, legal inconsistences and weak institutional arrangements at the national (and regional) level are compounded by the lack of management and enforcement capacity at the site level. Together these limit the potential for effective action. In terms of IWT, the capacity and understanding amongst law enforcement agencies is low, regional collaboration is weak, and mechanisms to regulate legal wildlife trade are not being appropriately applied. The proposed intervention is particularly timely given the sharp increase in illegal wildlife trade volume globally, and the emergence of Cameroon as a key source country in regional wildlife trade networks as well as a significant transit country for transnational wildlife trafficking.

In the baseline situation, a weak enabling environment, a lack of coordination between agencies, a lack of capacity and resources, and an inability to upscale successful models will mean that endemic poverty and a lack of economic alternatives will contribute to unsustainable resource exploitation in Cameroon's globally significant protected areas and interzones. It is likely that the degradation and fragmentation of the Cameroon's forests will continue. Existing PAs could lose the biological links between them, eventually becoming biological islands, leading to local extinctions, reduction in biodiversity, disruption of biological processes, genetic isolation and the loss and impairment of global environmental benefits. Wildlife trade, both illegal and legal will substantially increase or, at best, will continue unabated, resulting first in local declines followed by outright extinctions of key Cameroonian wildlife species, including elephants, gorillas, chimpanzees and other mammalians species. Illegal wildlife trade will continue to operate as organized crime, while legal wildlife trade will remain poorly regulated, raising few revenues for the state, and acting as a cover behind which illegal trade can flourish.

In the alternative scenario enabled by the GEF, systemic and institutional barriers to effective action to strengthen the management effectiveness of Cameroon's PA system, while combating illegal wildlife trade, will be removed at national, local and landscape levels through improved regulatory and institutional frameworks, and enhanced and coordinated government action. Core PAs and adjacent landscapes (Dja Wildlife Reserve (5,260 km²), Boumba-Bek National Park (2,383 km²); Nki National Park (3,093 km^2); Mengamé Gorilla Sanctuary (1,206 km²) and Ngoyla Wildlife Reserve (1,567 km²) will be strengthened to support the conservation of globally threatened species in Cameroon. Coordinated National PA and IWT Strategies will underpin integrated action at

local, national and regional levels, involving the private sector and communities as part of a multi-modal effort to strengthen the protected areas estate, fight wildlife crime, demonstrate the multiple benefits of sustainable land and forest management, and involve local people in co-managing wildlife and their habitat – the very ecosystems on which they depend. Capacity amongst national and regional enforcement agencies will be developed, there will be greater awareness of the importance of reducing the use of wildlife products, and enhanced high-level political will to act. A nation-wide system for monitoring wildlife trade and wildlife crime cases will be established for the first time andoperationalised. The Cameroonian state and people will benefit economically while the globally significant wildlife of Cameroon, such as forest elephants, gorillas and chimpanzees, will be lifted from the threat of extinction caused by unsustainable exploitation.

Global Environmental Benefits: Cameroon is one of the most biodiverse regions in the world and supports many mammal and bird species including endemic and endangered species threatened by habitat loss and commercial wildlife trade, such as forest elephants, western lowland gorillas, central chimpanzees and giant pangolin, among others. Cameroon is home to one of the richest and most biologically important forest ecosystems on the planet. According to UN FAO, 42.1% (19,916,000 ha) of the country is forested, almost half of which is made up of large tracts of undisturbed virgin wilderness. GEF funding will secure populations of globally significant species through dramatically improving the systemic and institutional capacity of the nation to conserve biodiversity through the establishment of more effective management of protected areas; preventing land degradation through reduced illegal logging and land conversion in areas adjacent to PAs; helping to mitigate climate change through enhanced protection of the region's vast carbon sinks; and controlling commercial wildlife trade and associated overexploitation of species and their habitats. In addition, the GEF finance will significantly reduce the role of Cameroon as a supplier for transnational wildlife trafficking networks, such as for African Ivory. These benefits will emerge from capacity building as well as from a coordinated approach to integrated landscape management, involving all stakeholders in the area. The project will generate these benefits by helping to build the fundamental management capacities needed to generate revenues, working according to adaptive management and business plans, and ensure an enabling institutional and policy environment that is conducive to adequate and dependable financial flows to PA system managers.

Innovativeness, Sustainability and Potential for Scale-up: The development of cost-effective and sustainable solutions to reduce the detrimental impacts of poor PA management, degradation of adjacent areas and associated wildlife trade is central to all aspects of this project. The project will work to support and strengthen Cameroon's institutions and authorities to more effectively management the national PA estate and reduce poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking. The underlying premise for the project is that interest already exists within the Government of Cameroon, especially within MINFOF and MINEPDED to improve management of the PA system located in the TRIDOM zone (with the intention to consolidate important work initiated through the regional TRIDOM project 2008-2015), and to control poaching and wildlife trade. What is needed is a combination of facilitation and demonstration to show that resources can be applied for the benefit of globally important biodiversity and Cameroon's sustainable economic development. Following the completion of the project, national institutions and authorities will be empowered and better equipped to exercise their mandates, without requiring further external resources. The project will build on existing initiatives and policies to develop better collaboration and information exchange, rather than creating new costly systems. The project will promote legitimate industry over unscrupulous IWT by developing regulatory environment into one which provides a clear competitive advantage to legal, sustainable and responsible trade. Particularly innovative aspects of this project include: i) the formulation and implementation of land-use plans and the creation of the first governance structures for a globally significant transborder complex to secure biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource use; ii) the development of capacity to take national level intervention to address IWT and monitor trends in Cameroon, bringing together state and private sector actors alongside civil society and local communities, to manage biodiversity, reduce resource exploitation and protect ecological functions while minimizing pressures on natural resources and iii) benefits from community-based natural resource management contribute to combat wildlife crime and its wider impacts, including poverty alleviation.

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes ☐ /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation: A detailed list of stakeholders will be prepared at PPG.

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

RISK	RISK RATING	RISK MITIGATION MEASURE
Deteroriating political and economic conditions	Medium	Continue project activities as the project seeks to serve as a model for long-term financing of protected areas in countries where political uncertainty and economic constraints currently preclude the government from allocating adequate resources to conservation activities.
Increased loss and degradation of forest due to climate effects	Medium	This risk is clearly more important over the medium to long term. Complementary efforts to maintain resilience and connectivity amongst forest ecosystems at landscape level will be essential to maintaining PA biodiversity over the longer term. The process to create the Transboundary Biosphere reserve in the region being critical to build up equilibrium between Conservation and Development in the region.
Allocation of budgetary resources to national and regional trust funds remains low	Medium	The project will build on the environmental economic valuation work of the UNDP 'Sustainable Financing' project, to strengthen the business case in favor of Government financing of PAs. It will encourage the integration of PA financing allocations into national planning. At the same time, the emergence of new markets for conservation, also supported by the project, will help to change the cost-benefit calculus surrounding budgetary allocations for PA, corridor and open spots management.
The international community and private investors reluctant to provide resources for biodiversity conservation	Medium	Propose an institutional mechanism that strengthen environmental governance, transparency and maximize credibility. Build partnerships with different groups such as the private sector.
Increases in threats facing PAs due to sectoral activities and/or demographic trends counterbalance improvements in management	Medium	This risk may require action by Government that goes beyond increased PA management to address risks at source. The fact that this project is being developed as part of a multi-donor partnership and within regional frame-works geared to improved forest governance serves to mitigate this risk.
Limited local expertise to carry our implementation and/or follow up	Medium	For project implementation purposes, a combination of national and international expertise is envisaged to provide the technical competencies and skills necessary. However this external expertise is not deemed sustainable and support will include transfer of knowledge, mentoring and training of PA system staff and those agencies managing the interzone.

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

Programs, and Initiatives	Proposed collaboration
On-going and recently closed UNDP-GEF BD	This project will build on the successes and lessons of i) UNDP-GEF project on transboundary conservation, ii) UNDP-GEF project on sustainable financing mechanism, iii) World Bank

Programs, and Initiatives	Proposed collaboration
and SLM projects and SGP	Ngoyla-Mintom Project, iv) UNEP regional project on APA (Biodiversity) and other initiatives ongoing and to name the few, the IUCN project to support multi-stakeholder participation in the REDD plus in Cameroon, the IUCN-RAPAC/ECOFAC initiative on involvement of riparian population to co-management of natural resource in Dja Biosphere Reserve, the joined initiative of IUCN-World Bank and Government of Cameroon on participatory monitoring and evaluation system in Ngoyla-Mintom. These projects are co-supportive of the conservation and ecosystem services agenda, but in different ways and with distinct site-level focus. There is no potential overlap, but rather strong potential for synergies, collaboration and lessons learning. Collaboration with the national Cameroon GEF Small Grants Programme will be sought to potentially channel small grants to communities to support grassroots initiaives to reduce overexploitation of the forest zone, and pilot sustainable livelihoods based on Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) and SLM approaches.
Baseline programs and other related initiatives	Various baseline initiatives create a strong foundation of investment, upon which this project builds. Some of the baseline programs will co-finance this project and they will automatically become members of governance structures such as the project board, which make key decisions. This will allow for a much more coordinated way of working that fosters collaboration, synergies and good results.
Relevant GEF Programmatic Approach	This project is being submitted to the GEF as part of (i) the Biodiversity Focal Area – Programme 1: Improving Financial and Effective Management of the National Ecological Instructure; ii) the Programmatic Approach to Prevent the Extinction of Known Threatened Species. A key focus is on reducing poaching and illegal trafficking of threatened species, the subject matter of the GEF's Program 3, under the Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy. Various other GEF projects form part of the above-mentioned Programmatic Approach and are being submitted for Council approval by different GEF Agencies, with the World Bank playing a coordinating role. UNDP projects under the Programmatic Approach follow a 'national strategy methodology', i.e. they engage key national stakeholders in addressing the issue of preventing the extinction of known threatened species and fighting wildlife crime as an issue of governance and development, as much as it is an issue of NRM; and (iii) the Land Degradation Focal Area – Objective 2: Forest Landscapes: Program 3: Landscape Management and Restoration. In addition, it will contribute to the SFM Strategy through SFM: Reduce the Pressures on High Conservation Value Forests by Addressing the Drivers of Deforestation.

Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1 Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessements under relevant conventions? For biodiversitiy related projects, please reference the Aichi Targets that the project will contribute to achieving. (yes ☐ /no☐). If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, etc.: The project is consistent with the following national initiatives:

- Cameroon's National Environmental Management Plan (PNGE) as a key document of diagnostic on environmental management
- Cameroon's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), which was developed as part of its commitments under the CBD. This document, which promotes a participatory approach to biodiversity conservation, identifies opportunities, risks, challenges and solutions to sustainable biodiversity conservation and national development.
- Cameroon's National Action Plan for the Conservation of Great Apes, developed with the support of Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) and other international NGOs. It aims to translates the political will of Cameroon to contribute to biodiversity conservation efforts and defines the concrete and urgent actions that must be undertaken for the conservation of the great apes species.
- Cameroon's National REDD+ Strategy, which was approved in 2013. Specifically, REDD+ is anticipated to help Cameroon achieve the sustainable development objective established by the government in the

Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (GESP) for its 2035 vision. The country is also a member of the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF).

- Cameroon's National Ivory Action Plan, prepared in compliance with the CITES Standing Committee (SC65) direction to countries of secondary importance to reinforce their efforts to combat IWT and the ivory trade in particular.

8. Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands (Botswana)

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[52]

Project Title:	Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands
Country(ies):	Botswana
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism (Departments of: Wildlife and National Parks; Environmental Affairs and Forestry and Range Resources); Ministry of Agriculture; Kgalagadi District Council; Ganzhi District Council; BirdLife Botswana
GEF Focal Area(s):	Multi-Focal Areas: Biodiversity and Land Degradation

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[53]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
LD-1 Programme 1	GEF TF	1,343,578	4,100,000
LD-3 Programme 4	GEF TF	2,850,000	12,000,000
BD-2 Programme 3	GEF TF	1,803,211	5,100,000
Total Project Cost		**5,996,789**	**21,200,000**

B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: To reduce the volume of unsustainable wildlife trade and the rate of loss of globally significant biodiversity in Indonesia and East and South-East Asia

Project Components	**Financing Type[54]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
1. Effective planning and range management in over 3 million hectares improves range condition, flow of ecosystem services and reduces human-wildlife conflict	TA	• Sustainable land and livestock management in over 3,000,000 hectares improves range condition and flow of ecosystem services to support livelihoods of local communities and biodiversity • Institutional capacity to scale-up SLM and increase investments in landscape level planning and management to reduce land-use conflicts and promote dryland productivity • Integrated framework management plan developed for the western and south-western dryland ecosystem to facilitate sustainable management of natural resources in drylands, including wildlife management	1,500,000	4,950,000

[52] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[53] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[54] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

2. Integrated landscape management practices adopted at community and resource-use levels to reduce competition between land-uses and increase agro-ecosystem productivity	TA	• Improved community rangeland management and pastoral production practices piloted • Improved agricultural land management near protected areas (KTP) to reduce human-wildlife conflict *(particularly addresing livestock predation by wildlife)* • Sustainable harvesting of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) and value addition promoted to increase household income and generate alternative livelihoods from NRM in drylands • Altervative/non-consumptive use of wildlife for income-generating eco-tourism piloted in communities adjacent to protected areas *(in Wildlife Management Areas)*	2,350,000	9,500,000
3. Coordinated capacity for combating wildlife crime/trafficking and enforcement of wildlife policies and regulations at district, national and international levels	TA INV	• National strategy for a Joint Operation Center for combating wildlife crime operationalized to facilitate coordinated control of wildlife crime at district, national and international levels • Increased institutional capacity of law enforcement agencies *(indicated by increased score in the UNDP capacity development scorecard)* to coordinate control of wildlife crime (including poaching, wildlife poisoning and illegal trafficking and trade) • Increased rate of inspections, seizures, arrests and successful prosecution of wildlife crime cases • Increased participation of civil society in combating wildlife crimes (indicated by increased capacity scores in indicators on among others patrol effort, wildlife monitoring, numbers of trained wildlife wardens, within CBO assessments as part of Management Oriented Monitoring System [MOMS] module)	1,664,278	4,750,000
4. Effective resource governance frameworks to facilitate rangeland monitoring and informed decision-making in land-use planning and managenent		• Multi-stakeholder platform/forum to promote SLM dialogue established at district level • Community rangeland biodiversity monitoring and awareness-raising programme developed	196,950	1,000,000
		Subtotal	5,711,228	20,200,000
		Project Management Cost (PMC)[55]	285,561	1,000,000
		Total Project Cost	**5,996,789**	**21,200,000**

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

[55] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grants	1,000,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism	Grants	15,000,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture	Grants	5,000,000
Recipient Government	Kgalagadi District Council	Grants	tbd
Recipient Government	Ghanzi District Council	Grants	tbd
CSO	Birdlife Botswana International	In-kind	200,000
Total Co-financing			21,200,000

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS [a)]

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)[b)]	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	GEF TF	Botswana	Biodiversity	N/A	1,803,211	162,288	1,965,499
UNDP	GEF TF	Botswana	Land Degradation	N/A	4,193,578	377,422	4,571,000
Total GEF Resources					5,996,789	539,710	6,536,499

a) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.
b) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.
c) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

PROJECT OVERVIEW

A.1. Project Description

The goal of this project is to promote an integrated landscape approach to managing the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi drylands in western and south-western Botswana, a vast area spanning more than 220 000 square kilometres/22,000,000ha. This part of Botswana is classified as the Kalahari Savannah and is a desert environment, with little rainfall and virtually no surface water resources. There is therefore, heavy reliance on groundwater for drinking and in particular for watering livestock and partly for wildlife. The area faces several challenges related to balancing the need to sustain rural livelihoods which are heavily dependent on access to and use of natural resources in this poor part of the country, and that of sustaining these finite natural resources into the future. The main challenges to natural resource management in this area include land degradation as a result overstocking of livestock; invasion by alien species of flora (e.g. *Acacia melifera* and *Cenchrus biflora*), over-pumping of groundwater and the resultant potential acquifer pollution, unsustainable harvesting of natural resources. Of key concern is human-wildlife conflict, which fuels retaliatory killing of predators following stock losses, in addition to providing an enabling environment for a trend observed in recent years of increased incidents of illegal live capture of animals which are illegally trafficked to neighbouring countries .

The Ghanzi and Kgalagadi districts are home to some of Botswana's key protected areas: the Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR) and the Kalahari Transfrontier Park (KTP). The CKGR covers an area of about 52,800 km² and the

KTP occupies about 28,400 km². These protected areas contain significant populations of key wildlife species, some of which are endangered or threatened. The Botswana part of the Orange-Senqu Transboundary River Basin, an international river shared with Namibia, South Africa and Lesotho, is also entirely located within the southern and southern-western part of Botswana. Even though the Orange-Senqu river in Botswana is dry, the management of groundwater resources in this area has significant implications of the rest of the river ecosystem.

Traditionally, the Kalahari was a wildlife-dominated system, including both browsers and grazers at low densities, with hunting and gathering activities occurring throughout. These activities were critical in terms of the sustenance they provided to communities in times of drought. Borehole-based cattle keeping changed this, and wildlife declines due to the establishment of veterinary cordon fences in the early 1980s led to the loss of half a million wildebeest and hartebeest. Selective grazing by cattle-dominated herds, combined with changes in the frequency and intensity of wild fires, perhaps aided by the effects of CO2 fertilisation, eventually led to a shift towards less palatable grasses and bush encroachment.

Land use and the management of land and natural resources in the western and south-western part of Botswana is plagued with competition and conflict, and this has negative consequences for conservation and the livelihoods of the poor rural communities in this area. The major conflicts are between livestock production, which supports Botswana's large beef sector, and wildlife conservation, as these main land uses compete for the same resources (grass and water) in the wider landscape. Competition and conflict increases the pressure on the rangelands, water and wildlife resources, further reducing the ability of the ecosystem to provide the goods and services that the local communities depend on for their livelihoods.

This project therefore seeks to promote a landscape approach to managing the biodiversity resources found in this area so as to reduce the pressure that result from the competing land use and ensure that rural livelihoods benefit from this integrated natural resources management.

a. Global environmental problems, root causes and barriers to be addressed

The Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park spans across South Africa and Botswana and lies in the large sand-filled basin in the west of the southern African subcontinent, known as the Kalahari. It covers almost one third of the area and forms what may be the largest "sandveld" area in the world. The Park primarily aims to protect migratory game movements, through the absence of internal boundary fences between the Botswana and South African sections of the park. Animals are thus allowed to move freely through an expansive natural area of approximately 3.6 million hectares. The Kgalagadi is a semi-arid wilderness area that boasts vast open spaces. Despite frequent drought and an extreme climate the Kgalagadi provides habitat for an abundance of species, including megafauna such as gemsbok, springbok, wildebeest, eland, hartebeest, cheetah, hyena and the "Kalahari lion" (*Panthera leo krugeri*) , the apex predator and considered to be a keystone ecological driver.

Botswana plays a vital role in the conservation of six of the seven large African carnivores. It is home to the second largest lion (*Panthera leo*) population, one of the three largest remaining populations of the endangered African wild dog, the second largest population of cheetahs, and one of the two largest populations of brown hyaenas (*Hyaena brunnea*). It is also a core country for one of the five largest transboundary lion populations, the largest transboundary African wild dog population, and the largest known resident population of cheetahs in southern Africa.

As with much of Botswana, the Kalahari rangelands are plagued by land degradation of different forms, including bush encroachment as a result of overstocking of livestock, soil erosion, and infestation by invasive alien species. These have significant ecological effects, including loss of soil moisture, loss of biodiversity resulting in change in habitats (and even local extinction of species), provision of refuges for weeds, and damage to environmentally sensitive areas such as watercourses. Both human wildlife conflict and poaching are an increasing problem in Botswana, with impacts on known threatened species, including Lion, which, as the apex predator in the Kgalagadi, is vital to the ecosystem.

Subsistence poaching in Botswana of species such as Buffalo, Giraffe, Kudu, Gemsbok and Eland has been widespread for decades, escalating during winter and rainy seasons for most of the parts of the country. Hotspots include the

Kgalagadi and Ghanzi drylands (Central Kalahari Game Reserve in particular), as well as Ngamiland, Central and Chobe Districts. Recent years have witnessed a rise in commercial poaching, with poachers increasingly hostile and well versed in military tactics (using assault rifles and sometimes sporting rifles). In the southern part of the country, in the project sites, poaching has diversified into killing of female adult wild cats, including Lion, and the capture of their live cubs. These cubs are then exported to neighbouring countries where there is a lucrative market, for example, supplying canned hunting operations as well as private game reserves in South Africa.

Recently the Lion population of the Kgalagadi has begun to exhibit an alarming trend, in that there are considerably more males than females in the population . Researchers believe that if this skewed sex ratio persists, it will lead to a decline in the population and may ultimately lead to their extinction in the area. As the top predator in the Kgalagadi ecosystem, a decline in lion numbers would have a direct effect on prey and smaller predator numbers. This in turn would have numerous negative effects on the ecosystem as a whole.

The Kgalagadi and Ghanzi dryland ecosystems are home to human communities, livestock and wildlife, co-existing in a delicate balance. In areas where natural prey is scarce, predators often resort to killing livestock which is the most widespread cause of conflict with people. These competing land uses therefore require careful management and planning through integrated approaches that recognize the need to conserve and protect biodiversity in land use planning, management and utilization, while contributing to sustainable access and utilization by communities adjacent to sites of biodiversity management and protection such as parks and wildlife management areas.

The key barriers to intergrated management of the dryland landscapes include:

Barrier 1: Inadequate capacity and skills to integrate competing interests into land-use planning and management, resulting in minimal cross-sectoral integration of SLM into broader landscape planning;

Improper land use planning has been identified as a major contributor to increased competition between different land uses and has exacerbated Human-Wildlife Conflict where protected areas are adjacent to human settlements. The main challenge to be addressed therefore, is the fragmented land-use planning and management practices as they intensify competition for land and other natural resources, and create conflict among different users, with negative consequences on livelihoods and biodiversity. Although knowledge on how to effectively manage savannah ecosystems is increasing, very little of the currently available knowledge is being utilized to manage the livestock and livelihood support systems in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi areas, and indeed other parts of Botswana. This is mainly due to low levels of skills amongst the land and resource managers, and weak technical expertise within the instutions responsible for management of these resources.

The long term solution proposed by this project is to therefore instigate a paradigm shift towards a rangeland management model that encourages civil society, private sector and government to work in partnership to jointly plan for and manage rangelands (especially those subjected to different land-use demands), to diversify SLM income streams, and tap the commercial opportunities that rangelands provide, particularly through nature-based tourism.

Barrier 2: Lack of practical knowledge and skills to adopt SLM approaches into local-level production practices and NRM

Critically, local communities need to participate meaningfully in rangeland governance, and most importantly adopt integrated natural resources management. This requires that individuals, households, communities and local institutions are empowered with skills and technical knowledge and utilize them in their daily use and interaction with the environment as they pursue their livelihoods. This part of Botswana still lacks strong participation of local communities and institutions in NRM, and CBNRM as an approach, still remains weak in these parts of Botswana.

Promoting local level adoption of INRM could therefore be the key to shifting the paradigm in land management towards a more sustainable approach at a wider landscape level.

Barrier 3: Lack of systematic coordination of the various efforts between the different wildlife enforcement agencies at district, national and international levels to combat wildlife crime

Although Botswana set up a National Anti-poaching Committee in 2012, and launched its National Anti-poaching Strategy in 2013, efforts remain unccordinated and poaching is reported to be increasing nationally, with hotspots including Kgalagadi and Gantsi (CKGR in particular), where this project will be implemented. Poaching in this part of the country poaching has diversified into killing of female adult wild cats and the capture of their live cubs, which are illegally trafficked on southern Africa markets.

The Government of Botswana invests heavily in different wildlife conservation efforts through anti-poaching and other programmes, but these are scattered across several law enforcement agencies (about five nationally), with little collaboration in terms of budgeting, planning, joint operations and lesson sharing. This reduces the effectiveness of these efforts and increases the transaction costs of wildlife species protection. For instance, incidences of capturing and subsequent trafficking and illegal trading of wildlife species that predate over livestock are threatening the key wildlife species and jeopardizing conservation efforts in the Kalahari Transfrontier Park. The effectiveness of protected areas as management systems therefore diminishes in areas where pressure is mounting for access to resources such as grazing and water within the park, and because of migration and movement of wildlife outside such protected areas, and increasing interactions with humans and domestic animals.

Building the capacity of institutions to effectively coordinate their various efforts could therefore significantly reduce the barriers to combating wildlife crime in this part of Botswana and provide lessons for other parts of Botswana and beyond.

Barrier 4: Lack of effective governanance and monitoring frameworks to facilitate informed decision-making in NRM

Monitoring and evaluation of the change in biodiversity status and ecosystem services, and economic returns from rangelands, including areas adjacent to protected areas, is weak or non-existent, and where done, lessons are not incorporated into planning. General under-valuation of rangeland and ecosystem benefits, and therefore the lack of capacity to maximize sustainable income generation activities from their use, also means that these values are not fully integrated in planning and management decisions, including at household and community levels. Investing in monitoring systems at all levels of resource use and management is therefore key to ensuring that appropriate use practices are promoted to maintain the integrity of ecosystems so they continue to provide the goods and services they do to society.

Addressing these barriers could therefore reorient rangeland management pathways away from degradation and towards SLM, by valuing natural capital and maintaining it such that it continues to provide the rangeland ecosystems services that both humans and other species depend on.

b. The baseline scenario and associated projects

The baseline is characterized by inadequate emphasis on SLM; lack of legislation regulating pastoral farming and other economic activities in ecologically sensitive areas; haphazard and unsustainable land use patterns; lack of clarity in property rights and access related to natural resources; lack of integrated land policy and land use planning as a tool at national and local levels; and the dying out of community-level participation in resource conservation knowledge, regulations and practices.

Firstly, the land authorities find themselves continually mediating land-use conflicts (especially between tourism interests, livestock keeping, veld product harvesters, and wildlife managers), largely because of both perceived and real conflicts with regards to where such enterprises should be located and practiced. There is therefore a need for an enhanced cross-sector enabling environment for integrated land management tools and methodologies to be developed, tested, and implemented, including the drafting of clear policies and strategies to support integration of domestic, industrial, arable, rangeland, tourism, mining and other land use types within Kgalagadi and Ghanzi districts.

Secondly, land degradation (bush encroachment, soil erosion, sand dune mobility, invasion of alien species of flora) is a serious problem in Botswana's drylands, and the south-western part is most affected. The rangelands are severely affected by invasive species, and by degeradation in general, with significant consequences for livestock production and wildlife. Several analysts have observed a degree of political lock-in to ideas supporting unsustainable practices in land-use, such as fencing and privatization of rangeland areas. They argue that this is having an important impact on land degradation and the costs it brings due to the constraints it places on mobility and rangeland management decision-making.

Thirdly, while the local economy has benefited immensely from livestock, the current production systems are suspected to cause several environmental impacts, including the encroachment of woody vegetation and suspected depletion of groundwater supply (which would negatively impact rangelands and livelihoods). What is clear, however, is that human activities have resulted in large-scale changes to ecosystems; many of these have weakened nature's ability to deliver key ecosystem services (e.g. food, energy, flood regulation and health and social benefits) which are required by people for their well-being.

Despite the growing demand for assessments of status and trends in ecosystems and their services, the development of robust indicators is often impeded by a lack of consistent and robust data and information, resulting in the availability of only a few indicators. This means that often management decisions are not necessarily based on scientitific understanding of the behavior of the ecosystem itself nor the changes that result from human-environment interactions.

In order to determine the Kalahari dryland ecosystem functions and services, and to assess their value for the socio-economic system, additional models and knowledge are needed to better manage it. Thus, there is an urgent need for information about the status and changes in ecosystems and their services in order to facilitate effective protection. This project will fill this knowledge gap by building a knowledge base on especially protected areas (PAs) and WMAs, to inform the different key stakeholders, including; policy makers, PA managers, NGOs, industry and citizens at large. Strong linkages will be made with ongoing resource monitoring programmes, such as the Management Oriented Monitoring System (MOMS) managed by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP), and BirdLife Botswana's Bird Population Monitoring and Important Bird Area monitoring.

The complexity of challenges in managing drylands point to the need for more nuanced approaches to managing land and wildlife resources that don't fragment nature into separate parcels requiring sectoral approaches to their management. More integrated approaches that truly promote Sustainable Land Management (i.e. the use of land resources, including soils, water, animals, and plants, for the production of goods to meet changing human needs, while simultaneously ensuring the long-term productive potential of these resources and the maintenance of their environmental functions) are increasingly required.

c. The proposed alternative and expected outcomes and components of the project

The Government of Botswana is requesting GEF incremental assistance to remove the barriers described above. The project objective is to promote an integrated landscape approach to managing the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi drylands for ecosystem resilience, improved livelihoods and reduced conflicts between wildlife conservation and livestock production.

The alternative scenario funded by GEF and co-financing resources is expected to result in key modifications to the baseline scenario that will generate global environmental benefits (through sustainable land management and effective protection of wildlife and other biodiversity species).

Baseline Situation	Alternative to be put in place by the project	Selected benefits
Competition between wildlife conservation and livestock production	Cross-sectoral land-use and management planning mechanisms (between land and	Reduced conflicts between protected area (Kalahari Transfrontier Park,

are increasing pressure on natural resources and are increasing human-wildlife conflicts	other resource management authorities, communities, park managers, farmers etc.) that facilitate an integrated approach to addressing the challenges that emerge from having competing resource uses within the same landscape	Central Kalahari Game Reserve and Wildlife Management Areas) management institutions and livestock farmers and resulting declines in illegal killing and illegal capature and traficking of wildlife species
Livestock management practices are not in line with SLM or improved range management principles and ignore range carrying capacities and stocking principles	District-wide land-use plan developed through a multi-stakeholder/sectoral approach to upscale SLM Piloting of improved range management system on commercial ranches and communal rangelands, and promotion of a multiple livelihood system on the latter. Multi-stakeholder mechanism established to lead district-level dialogue on mainstreaming SLM considerations in implementation of critical national and regional policies, plans and strategies. This includes policies on livestock production and marketing, and agricultural land use (Tribal Grazing Land Policy, National Policy on Agricultural Development). Particular emphasis will be placed on ensuring community participation in this forum as this has been identified as a weakness in resource governance. Local natural resource management/ community-based management institutions such as community trusts, farmers' committees, village development committees, and Bogosi (local leadership) will be empowered, through a clear mandate and financial and technical resources, to lead the design and implementation of range management principles envisioned in SLM at the local level	Rangeland restoration and sustainable use in line with SLM principles: Improvements in vegetative cover over 3 million ha of rangelands (with the potential for replication to 6 million ha) Improvements in livestock productivity (one calf per cow per annum)
Bush encroachment and loss of grass/ forage is reducing ecological health and productivity of the rangelands	Bush encroachment reduced through mechanical and labor intensive removal linked to alternative livelihoods such as charcoal production and firewood harvesting to return current bush-encroached land into an ecologically healthier "wooded grasslands" with consequent increase in rangeland condition, carrying capacity and productivity	Bush reduction will lead to improvement in the ecological integrity of the wooded grassland savannah vegetation, increasing functionality and cover of dryland woodlands: Reduction in area affected by bush encroachment by 30% (baseline and target to be established at PPG)
Invasion of grasslands/pastures and watersheds by *Prosopis* and *Acacia melifera* is leading to reduced pasture and loss of production, reduced soil moisture, and degradation of watersheds.	Selective removal of *Prosopis* and *Acacia melifera*, with a focus on riverbeds and in areas used for communal grazing to return currently infested areas to return to productivity.	Reduction in area affected by bush encroachment and *Prosopis* by 30% *(baseline and target to be established at PPG)*

The project will contribute to the Land Degradation Focal Area Objective 1 *(Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustain food production and livelihoods),* Program 1 *(Agro-cological intensification), Outcome 1.1 (Improved agricultural, rangeland and pastoral management)* and 1.3 *(Increased investments in SLM),* and Focal Area Objective 3 *(Reduce pressures on natural resources from competition land uses in the wider landscape),* Program 4 *(Scaling-up sustainable land management through the landscape approach),* Outcomes 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 *(Support mechanisms for SLM in wider landscapes established; Integrated landscapes management practices*

adopted by local communities based on gender senstitive needs; Increased investments in integrated landscape management). It will also contribute to the Biodiversity Focal Area Objective 2 *(Reduce threats to global significant biodiversity)* , Program 3 *(Preventing the Extinction of Known Threatebed Species),* Outcome 3.1 *(reduction in rates of poaching and of rhinos and elephats and other threatened species and increase in arrests and convictions).*

The project will be organized around four components and pursue several outcomes as follows:

Component 1: Effective planning and range management in over 3 million hectares improves range condition, flow of ecosystem services and reduces human-wildlife conflict.
Outcomes:

- Sustainable land and livestock management in over 3,000,000 hectares improves range condition and flow of ecosystem services to support liveslihoods of local communities and biodiversity
- Institutional capacity to scale-up SLM and increase investments in landscape level planning and management to reduce landu-use conflicts and promote dryland productivity

Component 2: Integrated landscape management practices adopted at community and resource-use levels to reduce competition between land-uses and increase agro-ecosystem productivity
Outcomes:

- Improved community rangeland management and pastoral production practices piloted
- Improved agricultural land management near protected areas (KTP) to reduce human-wildlife conflict (particularly addressing livestock predation by wildlife)
- Sustainable harvesting of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTPFs) and value addition promoted to increase household income and generate alternative livelihoods from NRM in drylands
- Alterntive/non-comsumptive use of wildlife for income-generating eco-tourism pilot in communities adjacent to protected areas (in wildlife management areas)

Component 3: Coordinated capacity for combating wildlife crime/trafficking and enforcement of wildlife policies and regulations at district, national and international levels
Outcomes:

- National strategy for a Joint Operation Center for combating wildlife crime operationalized to facilitate coordinated control of wildlife crime at district, national and international levels
- Increased institutional capacity of law enforcement agencies *(indicated by increased score in the UNDP capacity development scorecard)* to coordinate control of wildlife crime (including poaching, wildlife poisoning and illegal trafficking and trade)
- Increased rate of inspections, seizures, arrests and successful prosecution of wildlife crime cases
- Increased participation of civil society in combating wildlife crimes (indicated by increased capacity scores in indicators on among others patrol effort, wildlife monitoring, numbers of trained wildlife wardens, within CBO assessments as part of Management Oriented Monitoring System [MOMS] module)

Component 4: Effective resource governance frameworks to facilitate rangeland monitoring and informed decision-making in land-use planning and managenent
Outcomes:

- Multi-stakeholder platform/forum to promote SLM dialogue established at district level
- Community rangeland biodiversity monitoring and awareness-raising programme developed

d. Incremental cost reasoning

The Government of Botswana is requesting GEF incremental assistance to remove the barriers currently hindering the government and the communities concerned from achieving the long term solution to addressing rangeland degradation in Kgalagadi and Ghanzi area. As described in the foregoing section, the alternative scenario funded by GEF and co-financing resources is expected to result in key modifications to the baseline scenario that will generate global

environmental benefits via sustainable land management. A comparison of the baseline project with GEF-project scenarios and associated global benefits are presented in table under (c) above.

e. Global environmental benefits

Botswana is considered one of the most desertified countries in sub-saharan Africa, with the Kahalari drylands amongst the most affected in the country. These drylands are however, home to thousands of heards of cattle and small stock, as well as large populations of wildlife, in particular ungulates. Two of the country's main protected areas, the Kalahari Transfrontier Park (KTP) and the Centrak Kalahari Grame Reserve (CKGR) are also found in these drylands and together with the adjancent wildlife management areas, are refuges for the recovering and increasing numbers of mammalian herbivores such as wildebeest, eland and hartebeest, and carnivores such as Kalahari lion, leopards, cheetahs and spotted hyena. These wildlife species are increasingly being threatened by competition for resources inside protected areas, by both humans and livestock, as well as by poaching, poisoning, capture, trafficking and trading occurring along the protected areas. A lucrative market in South Africa for captured live animals, is resulting in the killing of wild cats in order to capture their live cubs for trading across international borders.

The value of drylands is, however, often not well appreciated, and lack of investments in their management often points to this under-valuation. This is certainly the case in this part of Botswana, where conservation and sustainable management efforts have been concentrated in the more 'glamorous' ecosystems such as wetlands and salt-pans in the central and northern parts of the country.

The Kgalagadi drylands are also host to one of southern Africa's economically important river basins, the Orange-Senqu. The river basin is of critical importance for economic development and human wellbeing within this central portion of southern Africa and possibly one of the most significant in terms of its economic importance to the continent. The Orange River Basin is now seriously threatened at many levels and the capacity to address these levels has been eroded at national and regional level in the wake of tremendous social and political changes in southern Africa. Unsustainable groundwater pumping for livestock watering and the resultant acquifer pollutuion due to salt intrusion among others, overstocking of livestock, and the resultant land degradation as well as infestation by invasive alien species of flora, and their impacts on watersheds, pose the largest threat on the Botswana part of the basin.

Addressing these causes, and the threats presented by competing land uses is therefore of paramount importance in the Kgalagadi, if biodiversity conservation and maintenance of ecosystem integrity are to be ensured. The GEF funding will contribute towards the protection of these dryland ecosystems and biodiversity through improving the systemic and institutional capacity of national and local institutions to control poaching, poisoning, trafficking and trading of species of fauna, as well as the over-exploitation of species of flora.

f. Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up

The project will support to strengthen local and national institutions and communities to reduce the negative effects of competing land uses on natural resources, in particular to address land degradation and reduce incidences of wildlife crime. The government is already investing in these efforts, but the obvious challenge is the lack of skills to integrate sectoral intereventions and up-scale these efforts to a wider landscape where holistic management can be institutionalized and influence policy mechanisms that can realistically be implemented to tackle land degradation and wildlife crime and help shift practices towards sustainability.

Lessons and results from this project can be easily scaled up to the rest of the country where land degradation, human-wildlife conflicts, wildlife crime (poaching) and infestation of invasive alien species are also a challenge. Increased investments in SLM through the creation of an enabling environment and support mechanisms and land use planning and management levels would yield significant benefits for Botswana's dryland and wetland ecosystems and secure the goods and services that they yield, on which the majority of Botswana's rural poor, and the economy at large, depend.

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes X /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation:

The following stakeholders have been identified. Many of the stakeholders have been consulted to develop this concept. All the stakehodlers here will be extensively consulted and the stakeholder table will be further refined during the PPG.

Stakeholder	Interest in SLM	Degree of interest	Level of influence	Comments	Participation in project implementation
1. Subsistence farmers-pastoralists	Grazing and livestock development	High	Low	The survival of their livestock and their livelihood is directly dependent on land, but they have low influence on decision making	• Will participate in the land use planning process through membership in land use planning committee/multi-stakeholder forum. • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS) • Participate in invasive alien species control activities (bush encroachment) • Will participate in the livestock/pastoral improvement practices. • Will participate in the regional consultation forum (via representation by committees)
2. Commercial farmers	Rangelands/ farm land	High	Medium/ High	Their user rights allow them to make decisions on their land. Still depend on government as final decision maker. Have financial power to for example employ lawyers to speak on their behalf.	• Will participate in the land use planning process through membership in land use planning committee. • Participate in range resource assessments and design and implementation of appropriate range management system (including stocking rates) • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS) • Will participate in the regional consultation forum
3. Other resource users in the community – community trusts, fishers, gatherers, etc.	Range resources for subsistence	High	Low	Their livelihood depends on the land but they have no decision making power	• Will participate in the land use planning process through membership in land use planning committee. • Will participate in assessment, planning and piloting community level harvesting, value addition and marketing of veld products • Will participate in the regional consultation forum • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS)
4. Department of Forestry and Range Resources (DFRR)	Management of forest and range resources	High	High	Are empowered by an act of Parliament to manage range resources	• Together with the project management unit will set up the project multi-stakeholder forum and facilitate its capacity development and empowerment • Will participate in the land use planning process as a member of DLUPU and the project multi-sectoral stakeholder forum. • Will participate in range assessment and innovation feasibility studies, piloting and monitoring • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS) and others

Stakeholder	Interest in SLM	Degree of interest	Level of influence	Comments	Participation in project implementation
					suitable for use in ranches. • Will lead and facilitate assessment, planning and piloting of community level harvesting, value addition and marketing of veld products
5. District Land Use Planning Unit (DLUPU)	Land resources use and management planning	High	Medium	While it is a recognized land use planning institution it does not have an empowering mode of operation. It functions as a loose institution with a non-binding participation arrangement.	• Will lead the land use planning process as part of the project multi-stakeholder forum. • Participate in open game farming feasibility studies and pilots • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS)
6. Ghanzi Land Board	Land custodian; allocation, administration and management	High	High	Have the legal mandate to manage land	• Will participate in the land use planning process as a land authority and secretariat of DLUPU and as part of the project multi-stakeholder forum • Participate in open game farming feasibility studies and pilots • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS)
7. Department of Environmental Affairs	Coordination of all environmental and natural resource management	High	High	Legally mandated to overlook all environmental management. EIA act	• Together with the project management unit will set up the project multi-stakeholder forum and facilitate its capacity development and empowerment. • Will participate in the land use planning process as a member of DLUPU and the project multi-stakeholder forum. • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS)
8. DWNP	Wildlife resources management	High	High	Legally backed by the Wildlife and National Parks Act	• Will participate in the development of a national strategy for a joint operation centre to combat wildlife crime • Will participate in the land use planning process as a member of DLUPU and the project multi-stakeholder forum. • Participate in open game farming feasibility studies and pilots • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS) • Will participate in the project multi-stakeholder forum
9. Department of Tourism/ Botswana Tourism Organization	Tourism development	High	Medium	Not land mangers but backed by economic development vision which rates tourism high.	• Will participate in the land use planning process as a member of DLUPU and the project multi-stakeholder forum. • Participate in open game farming feasibility studies and pilots • Will also participate in design and

Stakeholder	Interest in SLM	Degree of interest	Level of influence	Comments	Participation in project implementation
					implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS)
10. Department of Water Affairs	Water management	Medium	Medium	Mandate does not include land management.	• Will participate in assessments of the impact of invasive alien species, in particular Prosopis on the river ecosystems • Will participate in the land use planning process as a member of DLUPU and the project multi-stakeholder forum
12. District Administration (District Officer Development)	Rural Development	High	High	Interest is high because rural economy is dependent on implementation of programs and policies; have the backing of implementation of District Development Plans, and village development plans	• Will participate in the land use planning process as a member of DLUPU and the project multi-stakeholder forum.
13. Tribal Administration	Improved community livelihoods	High	Medium	Interest is high because they care about community welfare, but they do not have legal backing on land use. Often superficially involved.	• Will participate in the land use planning process as a member of the project multi-stakeholder forum. • Participate in pilot harvesting of bushes for charcoal briquettes and firewood as a community business • Will co-lead assessment, planning and piloting community non-timber products harvesting, value addition and marketing • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS)
14. Police Services	Law enforcement	High	High	Police service is tasked with anti-poaching activities in this part of the country. They also have backing of all laws including penal code.	• Will participate in development of the narional strategy for a joint operation center for combating wildlife crime • Will participate in the land use planning process through membership in land use planning committee/multi-stakeholder forum.
17. Social and Community Development	Improved Livelihoods	High	Low	Their interest is in improving livelihoods such as giving the destitute livestock, but they are left out of land use planning	• Will participate in the land use planning process as a member of the project multi-sectoral stakeholder forum • Participate in pilot harvesting of bushes for charcoal briquettes and firewood as a community business • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS) • Will co-lead and facilitate assessment, planning and piloting community non-timber products harvesting, value addition and marketing
21. Department of Animal Production	Livestock development	High	Low	Focused on the animals themselves and less on the range	• Will participate in development of strategies and support pastoral farmers on improved livestock production practices • Will participate in the land use planning process through membership in DLUPU and the project multi-stakeholder forum. • Will participate in range assessment and innovation feasibility studies,

Stakeholder	Interest in SLM	Degree of interest	Level of influence	Comments	Participation in project implementation
					piloting and monitoring • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS and others suitable for use in ranches)
21. Department of Agricultural Research and other Academics	Range and livestock development research	High	Low/Medium	High interest because their core business is research on range land. Influence is low because they can only recommend action; sometimes medium as they have access to Government, Ministry of Agriculture	• Will participate in the land use planning process as a member of the project multi-stakeholder forum • Will participate in livestock value chain analysis and setting up a meat and animal products plant in Ngamiland • Will participate in range assessment and innovation feasibility studies, piloting and monitoring • Participate in the research part of piloting of innovative pastoral system based on a combination of herding, kraaling and livestock movement and CA
22. BirdLife Botswana	Conservation	High	Medium	Civil society not empowered to be involved in land management. But may have access to knowledge and information to access decision making process.	• Will coordinate the participation of CBOs and other NGOs in project activities, especially on CBNRM (eco-tourism) and community-based monitoring • Will participate in the land use planning process as a member of the project multi-stakeholder forum. • Will facilitate assessment, planning and piloting community non-timber products harvesting, value addition and marketing • Will also participate in design and implementation of management oriented monitoring system (MOMS)

A.3 Risk. The following risks have been identified. These will be further investigated and updated during the PPG phase.

RISK	LEVEL	MITIGATION MEASURES
Lack of buy-in from planning institutions and Government. There is a possibility of conflicts arising from perceptions of interference and differences on approaches to how the issues could be addressed, especially between government institutions and civil society organizations.	M	The project requires collaboration and coordination by all key stakeholders. It will, therefore, set-up a multi-stakeholder forum that will ensure dialogue, joint planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation in order to create ownership and accountability. Government institutions participating in the project will be directly driving their own mandates; they will have a direct interest in the successful implementation of the project. Participating government institutions (Departments of Animal Production; Forestry and Range Resources and Kgalagadi Land Board and Ghanzi Land Board) will benefit from the project intervention activities. Civil society organizations will be provided capacity development support.
The benefits generated by the project may be offset by the impacts of climate change, which might exacerbate the usual droughts; indeed, Botswana has encountered 12 dry episodes in the last 22 years with economic	M	The project will address this risk by building a better understanding of the potential impacts of climate change on trends in rangeland condition, particularly the issue of bush encroachment and the apparent thriving of invasive species. The findings of studies to be conducted during PPG phase will contribute to the land use plans, a key element for improving

RISK	LEVEL	MITIGATION MEASURES
consequences for ranches and severe impacts on the poorest communities (Mafisa herders).		ecological integrity of the rangelands and improving ecosystem functionality and cover. This is expected to increase the resilience of ecosystems to climate change induced fire, drought and other perturbations. By reducing existing anthropogenic stressors to ecosystems, the project will enhance their capacity to recover following such perturbations. Building capacity for long-term monitoring of rangeland conditions will increase the possibility of adaptive management, including early detection (and addressing) of climate change impacts.
Weak enforcement of the TGLP has in the past encouraged overstocking in the communal lands since commercial farmers have retained the right to offload excess livestock to the communal areas. Increased access to livestock markets might become a perverse incentive and fuel higher stocking rates, if governance is not improved simultaneously.	M	Enforcement of the TGLP has been difficult in the past since it seemed to benefit the elite, who are commercial farmers. However, losses from the high rate of rangeland degradation in Kgalagadi seem to be causing larger losses than gains from exploiting the weakness in the policy, even for commercial farmers. Combined with the current political support for national policy on beef markets from the President's Office and the highest management of the Botswana Meat Commission, this turn of events provides a conducive environment for change. The project will seek to improve governance at the local level by engaging and capacitating local natural resource management/ community-based management institutions such as community trusts, farmers' committees, village development committees, and Bogosi (traditional leadership). These institutions will be empowered, through a clear mandate and financial and technical resources, to lead the design and implementation of range management principles envisioned in SLM at the local level. The land use plans to be developed will guide decisions on livestock management.
Reluctant participation by local communities due to fear that the project will compromise their livelihoods by introducing strict management systems.	M	Noting that local communities bear the heaviest cost of rangeland degradation, the project will work closely with them to address the challenges in a participatory manner. The project strategy emphasizes the fact that local communities need to participate meaningfully in rangeland governance. The project will provide technical, institutional and financial support for engaging in improved livestock production and mixed livelihood systems. It will also recognize and build on the traditional knowledge and institutions of local communities and fully integrate this in designing management interventions. The project will also improve targeting and distribution of benefits among women. Community-level activities and demonstrations will be conducted and implemented through local-level CBOs under the guidance of NGOs (Birdlife Botswana, Cheetah Conservation Botswana, Thusano Lefatsheng) programming in the project site.
There is a risk of resistance to the empowerment of poorer women from the more privileged sections of the community	M	The project will make deliberate interventions that raise awareness about the importance of participation and inclusion in implementing solutions and most importantly recognize that access to productive resources may be based on qualifications such as age, gender, ethnicity, religion, status, profession, place of birth or origin, common education and many other attributes that constitute social identity. The stakeholder consultations during the PPG phase will engage the services of a sociologist or rural development specialist as part of a team that will conduct participatory rural appraisal as a component of the rangeland assessments. This will mobilize the whole community for participation in the project, build rapport between the outsider project implementers and local communities and make a case for full stakeholder participation and attendant partnerships.
Climate change may undermines the conservation objectives of the Project	L	The project is partly designed to address the impacts of climate change effects on the ecosystems and livelihoods.

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

The proposed project forms a part of the Programmatic Approach to Prevent the Extinction of Known Threatened Species.

Two UNDP-supported, GEF-financed projects with the main objective of mainstreaming SLM principles into the livestock production sector in Ngamiland district specifically in areas adjacent to the Okavango Delta, and in the Makgadikgadi wetlands area, have recently been approved (during GEF 5) and began implementation in early 2014. These projects seek to enhance local communities' participation in rangeland governance, whilst tackling inadequate knowledge and skills for adoption of SLM in livestock management and livelihood support systems, and policy and market distortions that provide disincentives for adopting SLM and sustainable range management principles in the livestock production sector in Ngamiland and Makgadikgadi. The complementarities of the Ngamiland project (which focuses on aspects not covered by the current projects, such as stocking rates in commercial and privately-owned ranches, facilitating new and alternative markets for zones with Foot-and-Mouth Disease, and removing barriers to small-scale, non-beef, livestock product-based enterprises) and the Makgadikgadi project (which emphasises facilitation of the establishment of local-level resource management structures in communal areas, and active community involvement in Makgadikgadi-wide governance structures etc.) allow for ample opportunities for lessons and information-sharing in the other districts, with different ecosystem types and socio-cultural dynamics.

The current proposed project brings a new element of addressing pressures that emerge due to significant competition from wildlife conservation and livestock production, in particular human-wildlife conflict as a result of predation of livestock by wildlife in communities around the Kalahari Transfrontier Park and the CKGR, and the resultant wildlife crimes (poisoning, killing of female predators, and live capturing of cubs for illegal trafficking and trading) as a peverse local strategy for dealing with 'problem animals'.

Two past projects have also been implemented in the Kgalagadi area, also financed by the GEF, one implemented by IUCN *(Kalahari Namib project: Enhancing Decision-making through Interactive Environmental learning and Action in Molopo-Nossob River Basin in Botswana, Namibia and South Africa: April 2011 – March 2015, Agency ID: ADDIS-00355)* and the other by UNDP *(Development and adoption of a Strategic Action Programme for balancing water uses and sustainable natural resource management in the Orange-Senqu River trans-boundary basin: 2009 -2014 – PIMS 3243)*, are of significant importance to the proposed project in terms of learning and scaling-up. The proposed project will build on the initial investments and successes by these projects, and scale up the learning to inform landscape-level actions throughout the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi districts, with a focus on reducing pressures on biodiversity that emerge as a result of competing land uses, in particular between livestock production and wildlife conservation. Communities previously targeted by some of the pilot activities conducted by these past projects will be engaged to build on recent/current mobilization and participation levels and scale-up the successes and fill gaps. The strength of the proposed project is that rather than addressing the challenges separately (e.g. human-wildlife conflicts, bush encroachment, invasive species) it will promote a holistic and integrated landscape approach where these issues are addressed as different facets or manifestations of the same problem (i.e. fragmented land use planning and management). The project will also emphasise exploration of alternative livelihood options that recognize the value of dryland environments and promote the continued flow of ecosystem services to support livelihoods.

UNDP's environment portfolio in Botswana is growing, the project fits within the UNDAF (2010–2016) and the Government of Botswana-UN Programme Operational Plan (GOB-UN POP). Outcomes 1 and 2 of GOB-UN POP focus on supporting Inclusive policy and institutional development for sustainable natural resources management; and Enhanced community capacity for natural resources and ecosystem management, and benefit distribution respectively. UNDP recently supported the Government of Botswana to revise the National Biodiversity, Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) to incorporate the the Aichi Targets under the CBD, is supporting the piloting of the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIO-FIN) in Botswana and will soon support the participation of Botswana in the global programme on the Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing. The UNDP Country Office (CO) has technical capacity in the area of wildlife enforcement and climate change and environmental law within the Energy and Environment Unit, guided by the Deputy Resident Representative. The UNDP Regional Technical Adviser based in Addis Ababa, as well as the global adviser on wildlife trade and enforcement based in Addis Ababa, will provide technical support to the CO for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

B.1 Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessements under relevant conventions? For biodiversitiy related projects, please reference the Aichi Targets that the project will contribute to achieving. (yes ☒ /no☐). If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, etc.:

The project is in line with several national development frameworks, starting with the National Strategy for Poverty Reduction (BNSPR, 2003), the Vision 2016 document, and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These macro-policy frameworks seek to provide the Batswana with tools to meet national aspirations for an educated, informed and prosperous society with sustainable livelihoods and development. The programmes pursued through the National Strategy for Poverty Reduction (BNSPR) include the advancement of sustainable livelihoods through employment creation, support to rain-fed crop production; increasing small stock production; strengthening the Community Based Natural Resources Management Programme; creating employment opportunities in the tourism industry; and building capacity for small and medium citizen businesses. The project is also in line with the country's National Action Plan for Combating Land Degradation (NAP, 2006), formulated to facilitate the implementation of the UNCCD program in the country. The objectives of the NAP are, amongst others, facilitating sustainable use and management of natural resources, Development of mechanisms for mobilizing and channeling financial resources to combating desertification, poverty alleviation and community empowerment, inter alia by promoting, viable and sustainable alternative livelihood projects, strengthening capacity for research, information collection, analysis and utilization.

The principal national legislation for conservation of biodiversity is the Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Act of 1992. The country has also developed single species management and development policies including the Elephant Management Policy, Ostrich Management Policy and the collective Game Ranching Policy. There are other pieces of legislation that protect and manage components of biological resources such as the Agricultural Resources Act, Forest Act and Policy, Fisheries Act and Policy, Water Act and Water master plan, Botswana National Wetlands Policy and strategy, Environmental Research strategy and others. Furthermore, the ongoing National Strategy for Sustainable Development promises to become pivotal in mainstreaming biodiversity in the economic and development planning sector.

The Tribal Land Act, National Policy on Agricultural Development, Strategy for Economic Diversification and Sustainable Growth, Revised National Policy for Rural Development; these and others like them, though not directly biodiversity pieces of legislation, have implications on biodiversity conservation as land resources use, planning and decisions are key for environmental resources, habitat and ecosystems conservation and protection. Similarly, the National Settlement Policy also has implications on biodiversity conservation. All these policies and others which will be added during the implementation of the study and interaction with stakeholders are candidate for the proposed study on impact of current policies, institutions and expenditure on conservation and sustainable management of ecosystems and biodiversity.

In addition, the country formulated its first National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) in 2004, which is periodically (2007 and current - 2014) reviewed as per policy best practice. The new revised NBSAP is fully aligned with the Aichi Targets. This project will specifically contribute to the following Aichi targets: 1, 3, 4, 5, 9 and 12. In order to manage the environment-development nexus, the country has promulgated the Environmental Assessment Act to ensure that the environment is not compromised in the quest to develop the country.

9. Enhanced Management and Enforcement of Ethiopia's Protected Areas Estate (Ethiopia)

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[56]

Project Title:	Enhanced Management and Enforcement of Ethiopia's Protected Areas Estate
Country(ies):	Ethiopia
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Society, Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[57]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD 1 – Program 2	GEF TF	2,614,355	33,317,558
BD 2 – Program 3	GEF TF	3,364,355	42,875,620
BD 3 – Program 7	GEF TF	1,315,785	16,768,482
Total Project Cost		7,294,495	92,961,660

B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective:				
Project Components	**Financing Type[58]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
1. Protected area management and biodiversity conservation	Inv	1. Improved PA management effectiveness (measured by METT) delivers enhanced protection to 200,000 ha in at least two selected PAs. [Preliminary assessments suggest that Gambela National Park, Omo National Park and Babille Elephant Sanctuary are likely candidate PAs; final selection will occur during PPG] 2. Improved institutional and technical capacities to plan and implement biodiversity conservation as measured by 20% increase in capacity scorecard. [Baseline to be established during PPG	2,597,138	32,470,027
2. Landscape approach to forest and agro-biodiversity conservation.	Inv	3. Improved conservation of forestry and agro-biodiversity resources through a landscape	3,600,000	45,009,282

[56] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[57] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[58] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

		approach based on community-based natural resource management of 50,000 ha of natural forests, plantations and agro-forestry areas as well as 5,000 ha of agro-biodiversity resources, as evidenced by increased vegetation cover in these production landscapes. [Preliminary assessments suggest that the Gambela and/or the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Regions are likely candidate areas; final selection will occur during PPG]		
3. Implementation of anti-trafficking measures	TA	4. Strengthened national and local capacity for conservation of endangered fauna and flora through implementation of anti-trafficking and anti-poaching measures, as measured by: - 20% increase in capacity scorecard; and - increased rates of detection and conviction of poaching, illegal harvesting and collecting, and trafficking incidents. [Baseline to be established during PPG]	750,000	11,138,594
		Subtotal	6,947,138	88,618,803
		Project Management Cost (PMC)[59] (select)	347,357	4,342,857
		Total Project Cost	7,294,495	92,961,660

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

C. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grants	200,000
CSO	Born Free Foundation	In-kind	1,242,660
Donor Agency	UKAID	Grants	519,000
Donor Agency	EU	Grants	6,000,000
GEF Agency	IFAD	Grants	85,000,000
Total Co-financing			92,961,660

[59] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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.

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)[b)]	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	GEFTF	Ethiopia	Biodiversity	(select as applicable)	7,294,495	656,505	7,951,000
Total GEF Resources					7,294,495	656,505	7,951,000

a) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.
b) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.
c) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Project Overview

***A.1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION.* BRIEFLY DESCRIBE[60]: 1) THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND/OR ADAPTATION PROBLEMS, ROOT CAUSES AND BARRIERS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED; 2) THE BASELINE SCENARIO OR ANY ASSOCIATED BASELINE PROJECTS, 3) THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO, WITH A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT, 4) INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING AND EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BASELINE, THE GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, AND CO-FINANCING; 5) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEFTF) AND/OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF); AND 6) INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING UP.**

1. Project Description

The problem: Ethiopia is a remarkably diverse country in terms of its topography, fauna and flora. From its lowest point in the Afar (115 m below sea level) to Ras Dashen mountain (4,550 m above sea level), Ethiopia spans over 4,600 vertical metres. Two of Africa's eight global biodiversity hotspots are found in Ethiopia[61], namely the Eastern Afromontane and the Horn of Africa hotspots (the latter of which is one of only two arid hotspots in the world). In addition, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation recognises three biosphere reserves in Ethiopia; these are Kaffa-Bonga, Yayu and Sheka Forest[62]. Until recently, ecosystem classification in Ethiopia was incomplete, but the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) now recognises 8 ecosystem types: i) Afroalpine and Sub-Afroalpine; ii) Dry Evergreen Montane Forest and Grassland Complex; iii) Moist Evergreen Montane Forest; iv) Acacia-Commiphora Woodland; v) Combretum-Terminalia Woodland; vi) Lowland Semi-evergreen Forest; vii) Desert and Semi- Desert Scrubland; and viii) Inland Waters. In total, ~6,000 plant species (~600 endemics), 924 bird species (~23 endemics), 279 species mammal species (~30 endemics), ~200 reptile species (~15 endemics) and 180 fish species (~35 endemics) occur in Ethiopia.

Ethiopia is recognised as a centre of agro-biodiversity, designated as one of eight Vavilov Centres around the world (original centres for the domestication of crops). The Ethiopian population has been actively engaged over millennia in crop domestication and hybridisation efforts to suit local tastes and deal with the vagaries of climate and geo-physical conditions. The country harbours important gene pools of crop wild relatives for at least 197

[60] For IAPs, please respond to these questions instead: **1) PROPOSED GEOGRAPHY / LANDSCAPE / AGROECOSYSTEM FOR IAP, INCLUDE RATIONALE AND JUSTIFICATION FOR TARGETING; 2) CONTEXT AND BASELINE SCENARIO; 3) PRIORITIES FOR IAP SUPPORT, WITH BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF EXPECTED OUTCOMES, BASED ON PROGRAM COMPONENTS AND RESULTS FRAMEWORK; 4) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS**

[61] Mittermeier, R.A., Myers, N. & Mittermeier, C.G. 2000. *Hotspots: Earth's Biologically Richest and Most Endangered Terrestrial Ecoregions.* Conservation International.

[62] http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/ecological-sciences/biosphere-reserves/africa/ethiopia/

species of crops, including grains, pulses, oil seeds, vegetables, tubers, fruits, spices, stimulants, fibres, dyes and medicinal plants.

Ethiopian forests and woodlands are reservoirs and gene pools for important wild plants and wild relatives of domesticated crops. Species richness varies across forests, depending on environmental factors characterizing the forests. The country is also known to be a centre of diversity for a number of important forage species in the genera *Trifolium, Vigna,* and *Dolichos*, among others. Out of the 26 indigenous species of *Trifolium,* eight are endemic to Ethiopia. Similarly, of the total medicinal plant species, 2.7% are endemic to Ethiopia, and most are found in the wild.

This biodiversity is at present under threat from various sources. According to the IUCN[63], five mammal species are critically endangered (including the African wild ass), eight are endangered (including the Ethiopian wolf) and 27 others are vulnerable. Regarding avifauna, five species are critically endangered (including the Sidamo lark), 12 are endangered and 14 are classified as vulnerable. Various migratory birds considered endangered at the international level also visit ~50 sites in Ethiopia during the course of their migratory journeys.

The problem that this proposed project seeks address is that Ethiopia's biodiversity – including forest and agro-biodiversity resources – is at risk to encroachment and degradation both inside and outside protected areas through deforestation as well as illegal trafficking in fauna and flora.

Root causes: Major threats to Ethiopia's biodiversity relate to increasing pressure through overharvesting of natural resources, clearing of forests for agricultural activities, subsistence hunting, limited awareness of the importance of conservation[64] and illegal trafficking in protected fauna and flora. Protected areas (PAs) have been established and theoretically cover 14% of Ethiopia's total area, but some of these areas have yet to be formally gazetted leading to land-use conflict and *de facto* protection of as little as 8% of Ethiopia's total area[65]. Furthermore – despite recent progress relating to land-use policies – implementation and enforcement remain inadequate[66]. Although poaching in Ethiopia is somewhat problematic[67], of greater concern is illegal wildlife trade. Ethiopia is a transit point for various wildlife products *inter alia* ivory, rhino horn and live cheetah. Bole International Airport receives flights to and from at least 22 African cities and a further 16 cities in Asia. It is therefore a regionally important transport hub for both cargo and passengers, with concomitant potential for illegal trade in fauna and flora.

Barriers:

- *Absence of sound and comprehensive land-use policies:* Ethiopia's forest resource conservation, development and utilisation today is not the product of a long-evolving process in which different land-use planning measures have been devised and used to meet changing needs and various ecological conditions of the country. On the contrary, the absence of sound and comprehensive land-use policies encompassing the identification, selection and appropriation of suitable areas for forestry development based on production and environmental protection is an outstanding forestry problem.
- *Few market incentives:* Despite the immense current and future potential in Ethiopia's agro-biodiversity to meet international community's agricultural needs, there have been little or no financial returns from global benefits to Ethiopians at national or community levels. This is mainly owing to the inability of the market to put a price tag on agro-biodiversity conservation values compounded by the failure of the financial sector to recognize crop systems diversification as an asset. These are driven by the fact that there is little knowledge on how to use markets to promote agro-biodiversity conservation. While it is widely recognised that

[63] IUCN 2014. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.* Version 2014.3. <http://www.iucnredlist.org>.
[64] E.g. for maintaining ecosystem services.
[65] Vreugdenhil, D., Vreugdenhil, A. D., Tilahun, T., Shimelis, A. & Tefera, Z. 2012. *Gap analysis of the protected areas system of Ethiopia.* World Institute of for Conservation and Environment, USA.
[66] Moges, Y., Eshetu, Z. & Nune, S. 2010. *Ethiopian forest resources: current status and future management options in view of access to carbon finances*. Ethiopian Climate Research and Networking & United Nations Development Programme, Addis Ababa.
[67] Vigne, L. & Martin, E. 2008. An increase in demand for ivory items in Ethiopia threatens elephants. *Oryx* 42: 483-484.

traditional crop varieties, crop wild relatives and landraces need to be part of, instead of being replaced, in the commercialisation of agriculture and the economic development of the country, it is not clear how markets can bring that about without compromising conservation principles

- *Little prioritisation of PAs and conservation:* There is at present little emphasis placed on biodiversity conservation vis-à-vis the plethora of socio-economic development challenges faced by Ethiopia. The country has made marked progress towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, an achievement that is in part a result of considerable growth in the agricultural sector. However, this growth has been to the detriment of biodiversity conservation as agricultural activities put increasing pressure on populations of indigenous fauna and flora. This is exacerbated by the limited donor support and government budget allocations for activities relating to conservation and PA management.
- *Inadequate legal and management frameworks:* Many of Ethiopia's PAs are have yet to be legally gazetted. Consequently, there is no legal framework within which conservation of important fauna and flora within these PAs can be enforced This results in conflicts with local communities within and adjacent to PAs, as there is no legally binding regulations preventing them from accessing and exploiting natural resources in the PAs. There is also no legal/policy framework – e.g. benefit-sharing mechanisms – by which local communities can be included in management of PAs. While management plans for some PAs have been formulated, conservation efforts have been limited in scope and effectiveness. National planning occurs through formulation of five-year plans for wildlife conservation that have *inter alia* identified resource requirements. However, these plans have not been complemented by associated commitment of government funds for their implementation.
- *Insufficient capacity for enforcement:* The Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA) has the formal mandate for management of PAs. However, staff of EWCA in most PAs lack sufficient capacity for proper management. Capacity gaps include: i) insufficient staff members to patrol large areas of land; ii) insufficient equipment such as vehicles and telecommunication devices; and iii) inadequate knowledge and training. Conservation personnel are therefore unable to develop and implement management plans to effectively protect the biodiversity within Ethiopia's PA network. In particular, game wardens and forest guards are not trained or equipped to resolve conflicts with local communities regarding land-use within PAs. Concerning illegal trade in fauna and flora, there is still insufficient information available to – and inadequate collaboration between – relevant partner agencies[68]. According to the World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) [69], Ethiopia scores 40% on the "Elephant Trade Information System" for law enforcement. As a result, stemming the trafficking in fauna and flora remains problematic.
- *Insufficient integration of conservation and communities' needs:* Many of Ethiopia's PAs date back to the 1960's and were established primarily for the protection of large mammal species. PAs were thus designated where significant refugia harbouring notable species existed. These took little cognisance of the presence of communities already living in the landscapes. As a consequence, a disconnect arose between the needs of local communities and the priorities of conservation authorities. This has caused conflict between staff attempting to enforce conservation within PAs and communities seeking to utilise the same areas for activities such as cultivation of crops, grazing of livestock and settlement.
- *Limited public awareness concerning PAs and associated benefits:* To date, there has been little awareness – at both the federal and local levels – on the benefits of conserving important fauna and flora. This has contributed toward the low priority of conservation. The current focus is primarily on monetary benefits from a limited range of consumptive[70] and non-consumptive[71] activities occurring both within and outside PAs and other reserves. While opportunities for other practices exist[72], there is little engagement with the relevant stakeholders – including local communities, private sector actors and civil society organisations – to form collaborative partnerships that would allow the exploitation of such opportunities. Such exploitation would deliver a range of benefits that could include increased biodiversity conservation, diversified livelihood

[68] I.e. police, customs officials.
[69] Nowell, K. 2012. *Wildlife crime scorecard: assessing compliance with and enforcement of CITES commitments for tigers, rhinos and elephants*. World Wildlife Fund for Nature, Washington D.C.
[70] E.g. timber extraction, hunting.
[71] E.g. entrance to PAs, fees for camping.
[72] For example, an expanded suite of ecotourism activities.

opportunities for local communities and reduced conflict between conservation initiatives. However, such an initiative would require increased public awareness of the benefits of biodiversity conservation amongst all relevant stakeholders including federal and local governments, community members, the private sector and civil society organisations.

2. Baseline

Biodiversity conservation in Ethiopia is currently facing considerable difficulties. Neither federal nor regional authorities responsible for managing forested lands, agro-biodiversity and PAs have the resources (both financial and human) to sustain the operations necessary to adequately protect Ethiopia's biodiversity. Natural resources both within and outside of PAs are under pressure from land use such as deforestation as well as expansion of grazing areas, agricultural lands and human settlements associated with increasing populations. Current trends in management of natural resources are inadequate to maintain viable populations of endemic fauna and flora. For example, existing PAs are not being intensively monitored and patrolled while many also lack management plans. As a consequence, globally important forest, agro-biodiversity and wildlife species are facing the threat of extinction.

The limited understanding of the importance of biodiversity amongst many sectors results in conservation being a low priority. In addition, there is little use of science-based information in decision-making on national and/or regional conservation targets. As a result, there is insufficient institutional capacity for the strategic decision-making to support sustainable and effective conservation of Ethiopia's natural resources.

Local communities living in and adjacent to PAs often conflict with management authorities concerning the right to use natural resources – especially grazing land – in PAs. These communities often do not recoginise PAs as being restricted areas. This is a result of *inter alia*: i) PAs not being gazetted and thus not having legally binding boundaries; ii) the relative novelty of the concept of PAs, especially to nomadic pastoralists from neighbouring countries; and iii) limited local awareness of the existence of new PAs. In addition, communities are likely to ignore boundaries of PAs where their livelihoods are dependent on natural resources that are of limited supply outside of these PAs. Without access to alternative livelihoods and a management paradigm that takes into account local communities' priorities, such encroachment on PAs is likely to continue unabated with concominant continued losses in biodiversity.

Maintaining the integrity of PA borders against such incursions remains problematic. While game wardens have the official mandate to enforce PAs, assistance from the police often necessary when conflicts with local communities arise. This is particularly the case for instances of poaching and where pastoralists are armed. The need for police intervention is in many cases necessitated by the limitations of management authorities in enforcing PAs. This limitations result from: i) inadequate manpower to patrol large areas; ii) poor training of wardens on how to manage conflicts with communities; and iii) lack of equipment such as vehicles and radios to support patrolling. Without support to management authorities, it is likely that grazing, poaching and other resource use in PAs will continue to erode Ethiopia's biodiversity.

In addition to poaching of wildlife in Ethiopia, the illegal trade in fauna and flora passing through the country is of great concern. Such trafficking passes through Ethiopia's borders with other countries as well as Bole International Airport that is a transit point for goods from various African countries that are destined for Asian markets. Stemming this flow of illegal trade is difficult owing to: i) inadequate training of officials; ii) lack of relevant equipment or other means of detecting trafficked goods; and iii) weak collaboration between the various agents involved (e.g. police, customs officials, PA staff).

The ongoing *Sustainable Development of the Protected Area System of Ethiopia* (SDPASE) project is currently nearing completion. It has laid a foundation for improved management of Ethiopia's PAs through *inter alia*: i) mainstreaming of PAs into development frameworks; ii) strengthening the policy framework for conservation; and iii) training and capacity-building of conservation authorities. While SDPASE has made progress towards

building broad-based capacity for financing and management of PAs, there is still a need for enhanced local-level management of natural resources e.g. through inclusion of local communities in decision-making frameworks.

The *Mainstreaming Agro-biodiversity Conservation into the Farming Systems of Ethiopia* project is incentivising farmers to conserve Ethiopia's agro-biodiversity within agricultural systems. This is being done through the establishment of a favourable policy environment for agro-biodiversity conservation, enhanced extension services, strengthening of relevant value chains and the establishment of gene banks/conservation sites. The conservation of Ethiopia's agro-biodiversity is expected to lead to increased livelihood options of local communities with a resultant reduction in the pressure on other natural resources such as forests and animal species. However, this approach requires the inclusion of local communities within decision-making frameworks on land-use planning to ensure that these practices remain in alignment with conservation initiatives such as PA management.

The *Mainstreaming Incentives for Biodiversity Conservation in the Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy* project will reduce current and future threats to Ethiopia's biodiversity by ensuring that negative effects of socio-economic development on biodiversity conservation are minimised. This is to be achieved by greater integration of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity within broader socio-economic priorities. In addition, a Payment for Ecosystem Services model will be piloted in collaboration with local communities in order to create financial incentives for increased conservation of Ethiopia's flora and fauna. This project is likely to lead to greater conservation of biodiversity outside of PAs, but doesn't address the degradation of natural resources – e.g. through grazing, agriculture and deforestation – within designated PAs.

The newly-initiated *Institutional Strengthening for Forest Sector Development in Ethiopia* project will enhance the capacity of the forest sector to fulfil its mandate at all levels. Expected outcomes of the project include: i) increased forest coverage that boosts carbon sequestration and other environmental services; ii) enhanced biodiversity conservation and other environmental services of the forest resources, as well as the promotion of sustainable supply of wood and wood products; iii) the promotion of broad-based stakeholder engagement in forest conservation and development, from strengthened private sector involvement in forest development and marketing; and iv) enhanced forest development policies, strategies and interventions led by innovation and science to the involvement of academia and research institutions in forest development.

The Born Free Foundation presently has an annual budget allocation of ~US$ 310,665[73] (total funding: US$ 1,242,660) to support the Government of Ethiopia in protection of fauna and flora. This support is provided through training of staff on wildlife law enforcement as well as detecting and stopping illegal trafficking of fauna and flora. A new initiative titled the *Border Point Project: Stopping Illegal Wildlife Trade in the Horn of Africa* (total funding: ~US$ 519,000[74]) will be implemented in collaboration with EWCA and UNDP from 2015[75]. It will focus on reducing trafficking in fauna and flora at land border posts between Ethiopia and its neighbouring countries[76]. The proposed project will complement this project by expanding the scope of anti-trafficking in Ethiopia through strengthening of capacity for anti-trafficking measures at Bole International Airport. This will result in reducing the overall incidence of trafficking coming through the majority of Ethiopia's entry- and exit-points with expected reductions in illegal trade throughout the Horn of Africa as well as globally.

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is overseeing an EU-funded *Biodiversity Management Programme* (total funding during proposed project period: US$ 6 million) to protect and promote the regional biodiversity through cross-border collaboration. The areas targeted by this programme include South Sudan-Ethiopia and Djibouti-Ethiopia. Cross-border collaboration will creating a framework for improved conservation of biodiversity on a landscape level through the development and implementation of integrated land-use plans as well as a Development Master Plan. These planning initiatives will promote the inclusion of

[73] UK£ 200,000 p.a.
[74] UK£ 331,657.
[75] Pending final approval of funding from UKAID.
[76] Ethiopia and the countries bordering it (Kenya, Sudan, South Sudan, Djibouti, Eritrea and Somalia).

conservation and PA management within broader land-use priorities. In addition, the programme is supporting the development of alternative livelihood options – based on fisheries, honey and shea butter – for communities that is likely to lead to reduced rates of degradation of natural resources in its operational areas.

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is supporting Phase III of the Pastoral Community Development Project (funding: US$ 85 million). This project is improving the livelihoods of agro-pastoralists in Ethiopia through: i) capacity building for enhanced decision-making on natural resource management; ii) greater participation in policy dialogue; and iii) access to services related to sustainable livelihoods. Improving the livelihoods of agro-pastoralists will result in reduced pressure on natural resources with concomitant benefits for conservation of fauna and flora.

EWCA has annual budget allocations for a range of biodiversity conservation efforts within Ethiopia. Contributions from EWCA include: i) budgets for PA management (the exact amount to be finalised during the PPG phase pending selection of targeted PAs); ii) anti-trafficking activities; iii) ongoing capacity-building; and iv) in-kind contributions of office space.

KfW Development Bank is supporting partner institutions in Ethiopia to manage PAs. This work includes improving professionalisation of PA management as well as long-term financing of PA infrastructure. The extent of support to be provided to Ethiopia is currently being prepared and will finalised in early 2015. This will include national-level capacity development as well as targeted support to specific PAs. The exact amount of co-financing will be finalised during the PPG phase pending the finalisation of KfW Development Bank's contributions as well as the selection of PAs to be targeted by the proposed project.

The *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) is currently preparing a Biodiversity Programme for Ethiopia. This is due to be finalised in early 2015 and will include capacity-building at the national level as well as on-the-ground implementation of biodiversity conservation in yet-to-be determined areas.

3. The Alternative Scenario

The **objective** of this proposed project is to build Ethiopia's capacity for biodiversity conservation through increased effectiveness of protected area management and anti-trafficking measures. The project objectives will be achieved though the delivery of three integrated components as outlined below.

Component 1: Protected area management and biodiversity conservation
Activities under this component will contribute to enhanced capacity for strategic decision-making and implementation of biodiversity conservation and PA management at all levels. This is expected to occur through strengthening of management frameworks concerning biodiversity conservation. In particular, support will be provided to the National Taskforce on Protected Areas and Wildlife Management to improve the inter-ministerial/agency collaboration on biodiversity conservation. In addition, the project will support the development of high-level political support to encourage suitable budget allocations within government programmes for biodiversity conservation of forests and animals. This will occur through lobbying of relevant decision makers and awareness campaigns amongst relevant institutions on conservation priorities and the importance of biodiversity. Furthermore, management activities in two PAs will be strengthened through improved efficiency and efficacy of management functions. This will occur through formulation of PA management plans as well as provision of necessary equipment and infrastructure to operationalise these management plans. The PAs to be targeted through this project will be selected during the PPG phase based on where investments in capacity building will achieve the greatest results. Preliminary assessments carried out during PIF development suggest that likely candidate PAs include Gambela National Park, Omo National Park and Babille Elephant Sanctuary.

Component 2: Landscape approach to forest and agro-biodiversity conservation
Activities under this component will include the piloting of a landscape approach to biodiversity conservation focussed on forests – including both plantations and protected forested lands – and agro-biodiversity. This will

occur through improved engagement of local communities in the management of forest and agro-biodiversity resources that they live in proximity to. Communities will be encouraged to participate in the establishment of community forest and agro-biodiversity conservation areas and the development of alternative livelihoods – such as community-based plantations and ecotourism activities – to reduce pressure on natural resources. Communities will also be the target of public awareness campaigns that will inform them of the existence and importance of protected forests, plantations and important agro-biodiversity resources as well as the legal and socio-economic implications of degradation and loss of these resources. Increased awareness – coupled with the provision of alternative livelihood options – is likely to encourage communities to reduce their encroachment in important biodiversity hotspots and therefore reduce pressure on forest and agro-biodiversity resources in these areas. This is expected to lead to conservation benefits for forest and agro-biodiversity species that are vulnerable to overgrazing and deforestation such as *Acacia prasinata, Acacia venosa, Maytenus harenensis* and *Cussonia ostinii* (all of which are threatened endemics listed on the IUCN Red List). Following a landscape approach to biodiversity conservation will enhance management of protected forest areas, plantations and agro-biodiversity resources. The areas to be targeted under this component will be selected during the PPG phase based on where adoption of such a landscape approach is likely to achieve the greatest benefits in terms of contributing to economic livelihoods of local communities as well as reducing pressure on nearby PAs. Preliminary assessments carried out during PIF development suggest that likely candidate areas include the Gambela Region and/or the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region. These regions have considerable potential for establishment of community-managed conservation areas to reduce pressures on nearby national parks (Gambela and Omo, respectively).

Component 3: Implementation of anti-trafficking measures
In addition, this component will support capacity-building of law enforcement authorities to combat the illegal trade in fauna and flora. This is likely to occur through the strengthening of intelligence networks relating to trafficking in species of concern as well as the provision of equipment – e.g. scanners and/or sniffer dogs – and training to improve detection rates at borders and/or airports. In remote areas where pastoralist communities are well placed to detect and monitor movements of those involved in these illegal activities, community information networks will be established to link with PA staff and police and customs officials. Furthermore, information on transit routes and those involved in illegal trafficking would be passed to regional and federal authorities to build the evidence base and assist with securing the arrest of illegal traders at the national level. In addition, this component is likely to support the implementation of various conservation initiatives[77].

Incremental Reasoning: The incremental contribution from GEF will assist the Government of Ethiopia to implement measures for conserving the country's globally important biodiversity.

Protected area management and biodiversity conservation: Without the incremental contribution, biodiversity conservation is likely to remain a relatively low priority within national decision-making process owing to limited donor support and government budget allocations. This will hinder adequate protection of Ethiopia's globally important biodiversity as key institutions will continue to suffer from inadequate political support at the national level. This will translate into chronic under-budgeting and low prioritisation of biodiversity concerns vis-à-vis other national priorities. Furthermore, management of PAs is likely to continue to suffer from inadequate planning and implementation of key management functions. The incremental contribution is expected to result in increased political support for biodiversity conservation amongst strategic decision-makers at the national level. This is likely to strengthen collaboration between government institutions with positive benefits for biodiversity conservation and PA management at all levels. In addition, the incremental contribution will strengthen planning and implementation of key management functions in PAs.

Landscape approach to forestry and agro-biodiversity conservation: Without the incremental contribution, conservation of forest and agro-biodiversity resources is likely to continue to under threat from other land-use activities, particularly in the context of local communities living in/adjacent to protected forests, plantations,

[77] For example, the National Elephant Action Plan that forms part of Ethiopia's commitment as a founding member of the Elephant Protection Initiative.

agro-biodiversity hotspots and PAs. Such communities will continue to exploit forest and agro-biodiversity resources as well as encroach on PAs to fulfil livelihood needs. This is expected to result in ongoing conflicts with management authorities that may lead to loss of unique and endangered forest and agro-biodiversity resources. The incremental contribution will support the adoption of a landscape approach to forest, agro-biodiversity and PA management that includes the prioritisation of community needs within a management framework. The inclusion of local communities in decision-making processes around management at the landscape level is likely to reduce conflict through increased community participation, benefit-sharing and regulations concerning forest and agro-biodiversity resources. Furthermore, the establishment of alternative livelihoods options – based on conservation of forest and agro-biodiversity resources – will reduce pressure on populations of fauna and flora as communities will have reduced reliance on unsustainable rates of resource extraction for their welfare. The incremental contribution will also support landscape-scale management of populations of vulnerable plant and wildlife species. This will result in more viable populations of these species as they are no longer dependent on ever-shrinking refugia within PAs but instead benefit from broader-scale conservation measures.

Implementation of anti-trafficking measures: Without the incremental contribution, globally significant species such as elephant and cheetah will remain at risk to poaching and other threats in poorly-enforced PAs as well as illegal trafficking. Anti-trafficking authorities will remain under-equipped – in terms of both training and material needs – to enforce measures to reduce threats to biodiversity conservation. In addition, PA staff as well as police and customs officials will remain limited in their capacity to stem the flow of illegal wildlife trade through Bole International Airport and other key transit points. With the incremental contribution, training and equipment needs relating to enforcement of anti-trafficking activities will be substantially addressed. By restricting access to sources of vulnerable species (by improved enforcement of PAs) as well as to potential markets (by improved detection of attempted trafficking), Ethiopia will be able to reduce the illegal trade in fauna and flora both nationally and internationally. This will contribute towards increased protection and conservation of these species. Improved implementation of anti-trafficking measures will also result in greater protection of species that are not necessarily involved in illegal trade but are nonetheless of global significance and have the potential to contribute to towards Ethiopia's socio-economic development e.g. through increased eco-tourism opportunities.

5. Global environmental benefits

The proposed project is expected to result in global environmental benefits within the Biodiversity Focal Area as described below.

Biodiversity Focal Area 1: Improve Sustainability of Protected Area Systems
Programme 2: Nature's Last Stand: Expanding the Reach of the Global Protected Area Estate
The proposed project has been designed to contribute towards Target 11 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets by increasing the extent of terrestrial ecosystems under formal and effective PA management. The project interventions will address capacity gaps at national- and local-levels that constrain effective management of PAs. This will be achieved as described below.

- *Increasing capacity for PA management*. The project will strengthen capacities for planning and implementation of conservation activities at national and sub-national levels. PA management plans will be formulated and operationalised in two PAs to address threats to endangered fauna and flora. Management authorities will be supported to identify risks and design counter-measures with appropriate budgetary and staff allocations. At the national level, institutional and technical capacity to plan and implement biodiversity conservation measures will be strengthened. Knowledge-based decision-making will be supported through the establishment of a GIS-based knowledge management system. In addition, a staff training programme will be developed to provide ongoing capacity-building to PA staff and government officials for improved administration of national- and local-level implementation of PA management. Better forest management will enhance water catchment, reducing soil loss and siltation of major trans-boundary water systems, which

are international public goods. It will also enhance the carbon sequestration ability of the forest as well as maintain habitat for flora and fauna. The improved policies and institutional capacity ensure sustainability of the conservation status for forest and agro-biodiversity while improved markets ensure that agro-biodiversity increase returns on economic as well as conservation status. Biodiversity is less threatened, options for future use of gene pools secured, ecological stability and increased ecosystem services to water harvesting and carbon sequestration from both plantation and protected forest improved, habitat for pollinators and other biodiversity improved.

Biodiversity Focal Area 2: Reduce Threats to Globally Significant Biodiversity

Programme 3: Preventing the Extinction of Known Threatened Species

The proposed project has been designed to contribute towards Target 12 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets through it focus on improving the conservation of known threatened species such as the African Elephant. The project interventions will address drivers of habitat destruction and resource exploitation as well as reduce poaching and trafficking of endangered species. This will be achieved as described below.

- *Increasing capacity for implementing anti-poaching and anti-trafficking measures*. The project will strengthen capacities for planning and implementation of anti-poaching and anti-trafficking measures to stem the trade in endangered fauna and flora. This will be achieved through provision of: i) up-to-date scientific knowledge for planning anti-trafficking activities; and ii) state-of-the-art equipment for detection at border posts. In addition, on-the-ground initiatives will be supported to reduce rates of poaching.
- *Increasing cooperation between enforcement agencies.* The proposed project will strengthen the capacity of the National Taskforce on Protected Areas and Wildlife Management to improve inter-ministerial collaboration. This will enhance mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation across a range of sectors, improve coordination of conservation initiatives and increase political support for biodiversity conservation.
- Through the strengthening of capacity for PA management at the federal and local level, the proposed project will contribute to the conservation of globally significant species such as[78,79]:
- mammals – African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*), Ethiopian wolf (*Canis simensis*), Walia ibex (*Capra walie*) and mountain nyala (*Tragelaphus buxtoni*);
- birds – blue-winged goose (*Cyanochen cyanoptera*), yellow-fronted parrot (*Poicephalus flavifrons*), white-tailed swallow (*Hirundo megaensis*) and Sidamo lark (*Heteromirafra sidamoensis*);
- reptiles/amphibians – Ethiopian mountain chameleon (*Trioceros affinis*), Böhme's Ethiopian mountain snake (*Pseudoboodon boehmei*), Bore River frog (*Phrynobatrachus inexpectatus*) and Largen's clawed frog (*Xenopus largeni*); and
- fish – Ethiopian loach (*Nemacheilus abyssinicus*), Lake Afdera killifish (*Lebias stiassnyae*), *Barbus ethiopicus* and *Garra aethiopica*.
- In addition, improved capacity for reducing the illegal trade in fauna and flora is likely to result in the conservation of such trafficked species as the African elephant and the cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*).

Biodiversity Focal Area 3: Sustainably Use Biodiversity

Programme 7: Securing Agriculture's Future: Sustainable Use of Plant and Animal Genetic Resources

The proposed project has been designed to contribute towards the conservation of Ethiopia's agro-biodiversity. As a Vavilov Centre of Diversity, the country has a wealth of genetic diversity that includes landraces and crop wild relatives of cultivated plants such as *Pennisetum* sp. and *Pisium* sp. Maintaining this diversity of economically and culturally important crops is critical to achievement of improving food security and rural livelihoods. Through the implementation of a landscape approach to community-based management of agro-biodiversity resources, the proposed project is expected to contribute to conservation and sustainable use of such species. By removing barriers to sustainable production and conservation of agro-biodiversity, this project will

[78] The species to be conserved will depend *inter alia* on which PAs are selected during the PPG phase. However, the PAs targeted by the proposed project is likely to include ***at least*** one of these species.

[79] For the sake of brevity, plants have been excluded from this list. However, see the sub-section on *Sustainable use of the components of globally significant biodiversity* as well as the description of Component 2 under Section A.1.3 for a list of endemic plants likely to benefit from the proposed project.

ensure that Ethiopia's diversity is better protected and will therefore be available for use by the international community as the country is a signatory to the major treaties and conventions on biodiversity including the CBD and the ITPGRFA. More importantly, the project will ensure that the country maintains the "Option Values" for future agro-biodiversity use that would otherwise be forfeited as agro-biodiversity is lost with increasing rapidity. This will be a critical contribution to world food security as international market channels and opportunities become available.

The increased involvement of local communities in management of natural resources – e.g. through the establishment of community conservation areas – is likely to result in further opportunities for diversified livelihoods. This approach is also likely to see increased conservation of plant species such as *Podocarpus falcatus, Boswellia ogadensis, Maytenus addat* and *Hagenia abyssinica* that are of economic value as well as being of particular conservation concern[80].

6. <u>Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up</u>

The proposed project is innovative in its approach in strengthening the linkages between various different and complementary aspects of biodiversity conservation across various levels. The strengthening of strategic decision-making will provide an improved framework within which biodiversity conservation actions will be implemented. This top-down approach will be complemented by the bottom-up nature of the landscape approach to conservation that will include the priorities of local communities within local-level decision-making. Furthermore, the linkage of improved PA management with strengthened enforcement of anti-trafficking measures targets different stages of the chain in illegal trafficking of fauna and flora. The project is likely to provide sustainable benefits to biodiversity conservation in Ethiopia. By raising the profile of biodiversity amongst strategic decision makers (see Component 1), future support towards conservation initiatives is likely to be increased. This is expected to result in increased budgetary allocations for biodiversity conservation in the future as well as greater awareness of contributions that various sectors can make towards conservation efforts. Such mainstreaming of biodiversity across sectors will have long-term conservation benefits for globally significant species in Ethiopia.

By following a landscape approach to biodiversity conservation, the sustainability of conservation actions will be considerably enhanced. At present, conservation efforts are hampered by encroachment of[81] local communities seeking to exploit natural resources. Inclusion of local communities in planning for management of forest and agro-biodiversity resources with concomitant provision of alternative livelihood opportunities to these communities is expected to significantly reduce pressure on such resources. The interventions implemented by the proposed project will have considerable potential for scaling up across Ethiopia. The demonstration of a landscape approach to conservation under Component 2 as well as enhanced PA enforcement under Component 3 will provide best practice frameworks for biodiversity conservation within the country. Lessons learned under this project will be able to inform conservation practices within PAs and high value biodiversity areas other than those targeted by the project. This is expected to catalyse a change in approach to biodiversity conservation that will lead to more sustainable management of PAs across Ethiopia.

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes X /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation: A detailed list of all stakeholders to be engaged in the project will be prepared at PPG.

A.3 Risk

[80] Vivero *et al.* 2005. *The Red List of Endemic Trees & Shrubs of Ethiopia and Eritrea*. Fauna & Flora International, Cambridge, UK.

Potential risks and likely countermeasures are outlined in the table below. The risks identified here – as well as new/emergent risks – will be re-assessed during the PPG phase.

Risk	Countermeasure
PAs and related management activities by conservation authorities are not recognised by local communities.	Project's activities will include extensive engagement with local communities to identify opportunities relating to communities' needs (see Component). This is likely to improve community buy-in and support relating to project activities.
External pressure from rural populations and/or development activities undermine biodiversity conservation and management of PAs.	The landscape approach to PA management will be integrate PAs into wider land-use planning. This will be supported by collaboration with local and regional government as well as extensive consultations with local communities to ensure that a range of priorities are taken into consideration during planning and implementation of PA management activities.
Traffickers change routes (away from Bole International Airport) and methods in response to improved enforcement.	The project will coordinate with the Born Free *Border Point Project* (see Section A.5) to strengthen nation-wide enforcement of anti-trafficking. Intelligence networks will be strengthened to provide information on new trafficking routes as they arise. Continuous monitoring of national and international trafficking trends will allow for adaptive responses to changes in trafficking strategies and route
Cooperation between regional and national authorities is not forthcoming, hindering landscape-level approaches.	Regular communication channels and/or formal agreements (e.g. Memoranda of Understanding) will enhance cooperation between participating authorities.
Activities in targeted PAs become unfeasible owing to local/regional instability.	Contingency plans can be developed established for a number of (two or three?) alternative PAs to be implemented if needed. If no such need arises, these plans can form the basis of future biodiversity conservation efforts should additional funds become available.

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

The proposed project forms part of **UNDP's Programmatic Approach to Prevent the Extinction of Known Threatened Species of Flora and Fauna**. As such, it will be implemented in close coordination with other initiatives under this programmatic approach. It will coordinate with other initiatives as described below.

- **Sustainable Development of the Protected Area System of Ethiopia:** This GEF-funded project is strengthening the enabling framework for managing Ethiopia's protected areas. This is being done through broad-based capacity development for financing and management of PAs at the national level. The proposed project will complement this work by providing targeted support for specific PAs to enhance local-level management and enforcement of PA regulations. The mid-term evaluation for SDPASE made various recommendations that have been considered here and will be further examined during the PPG phase. Some of these are summarised in the table below.

SDPASE MTE recommendations	Corresponding aspects of proposed project
Further strengthening partnerships between government agencies.	Strengthening of collaboration between government agencies for improved strategic decision-making (Component 1) and enforcement of anti-trafficking measures (Component 2).
Increased involvement of local decision-makers in the development and management of protected areas.	Adoption of a landscape approach to PA management that will include local communities in decision-making and implementation of conservation measures.
Target a limited number of protected areas to demonstrate effective management.	Selection of key PAs for demonstration of effective PA management (Component 3).

- **Mainstreaming Incentives for Biodiversity Conservation in the Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy:** This GEF-funded project will contribute to the protection of Ethiopia's biodiversity from current and future threats by ensuring that decision-making concerning socio-economic development does not have a negative impact on biodiversity. The proposed project will build on this initiative by further supporting the strengthening of capacity for improved policy- and decision-making concerning PA management. In addition, the project will contribute towards the development of incentives for biodiversity conservation through including local community priorities in PA management.
- **Mainstreaming Agro-biodiversity Conservation into the Farming Systems of Ethiopia:** This GEF-funded project is contributing towards the conservation of Ethiopia's agro-biodiversity. Incentives are being created for agricultural communities to conserve important elements of biodiversity such as farmer varieties, landraces and wild relatives of common crops including tubers, pulses and grains. The proposed project will build on this initiative in seeking complementarities by which livelihoods of local communities can be strengthened. In particular, synergies between the projects are likely to exist in the strengthening of value chains as well as the increased public awareness concerning conservation of natural resources outside of PAs.
- **Institutional Strengthening for Forest Sector Development in Ethiopia:** This project will enhance the capacity of the forest sector to fulfil its mandate at all levels. The proposed project will collaborate strongly with this project to realise synergies between the two initiatives related to: i) increased forest coverage for improved provision of ecosystem goods and services; ii) enhanced conservation of forest and agro-biodiversity resources; and iii) the inclusion of a wide range of stakeholders in planning and decision-making concerning management of forests, agro-biodiversity and PAs.
- **Engaging policy makers and the judiciary to address poaching and illegal wildlife trade in Africa:** This GEF-funded project will strengthen the enabling environment for effectively address poaching and illegal wildlife trade through new and enhanced laws, regulations, and policies. The proposed project will complement this through the implementation of activities aimed at directly reducing illegal trafficking in fauna and flora.**:**

Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1 **IS THE PROJECT CONSISTENT WITH THE NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSEMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS? FOR BIODIVERSITIY RELATED PROJECTS, PLEASE REFERENCE THE AICHI TARGETS THAT THE PROJECT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ACHIEVING. (YES ☐ /NO☐). IF YES, WHICH ONES AND HOW: NAPAS, NAPS, ASGM NAPS, MIAS, NBSAPS, NCS, TNAS, NCSAS, NIPS, PRSPS, NPFE, BURS, ETC.:**

THE PROJECT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE NATIONAL INITIATIVES LISTED BELOW:

- **Sustainable Land Management Programme:** This programme was initiated by the Government of Ethiopia[82] to reduce the effects of land degradation and improve agricultural productivity. Under the programme, approximately 79,000 ha of forest are under participatory forest management with some 50,000 households adopting sustainable land management practices. Lessons learned in participatory land management will be essential for informing suitable approaches to engaging with local communities within the proposed project.
- **The Border Point Project: Stopping Illegal Wildlife Trade in the Horn of Africa:** This UKAID-funded project – to be implemented by the Born Free Foundation – will reduce the cross-border trade in illegal species in the Horn of Africa. This will be achieved through building the capacity of participating countries[83] to detect and prevent trade at border points and strengthening networks within and between governments. The proposed project will coordinate with this project with relation to capacity building of relevant officials on detecting trafficking of fauna and flora.
- **Elephant Protection Initiative:** The Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI) is an African-led approach to address elephant poaching across the continent as well as the escalating international illegal wildlife trade in ivory. Signatory and supporting countries of the EPI – of which Ethiopia is one – recognise that the security and survival of African Elephants necessitate urgent and collaborative actions to successfully tackle the poaching crisis and to address the associated challenges, via bolstering existing agreements and structures. The countries aim to align domestic legislation with the international ban implemented through CITES in 1989, and to ensure that ivory

[82] In collaboration with donors (e.g. World Bank, Finland, EU and Germany) and other stakeholders.
[83] Ethiopia and the countries bordering it (Kenya, Sudan, South Sudan, Djibouti, Eritrea and Somalia).

stocks are put beyond economic use. The EPI aims to secure and disburse critical funding for the protection of elephants through the implementation of the African Elephant Action Plan (AEAP). The nine action points of the AEAP needed to safeguard elephant populations are implemented through tailored National Elephant Action Plans (NEAPs) which outlines the 10-year strategy for elephant populations within the country. The proposed project will support the implementation of Ethiopia's priorities under the EPI and NEAP through improved functioning of PAs (Component 1) as well as strengthening of enforcement measures for reducing trafficking in endangered fauna and flora (Component 2).

- **African Parks Network – Ethiopia:** This not-for-profit initiative takes on responsibility for the management of national parks and other protected areas in African countries through the establishment of public-private partnerships with the relevant governments. From 2015, the African Parks Network will commence work in Gambela National Park to improve management of the park with a view to enhancing its sustainability. The proposed project will take into account lessons learned and best practices from this initiative during the PPG phase to inform project design and ultimately successful implementation.

10. Combating poaching and the illegal wildlife trade in Tanzania through an integrated approach

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[84]

Project Title:	**Combating poaching and the illegal wildlife trade in Tanzania through an integrated approach**
Country(ies):	Tanzania
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (MNRT)
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[85]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD-2 Reduce threats to globally significant BD; Program 3 Preventing the extinction of known threatened species	GEF TF	3,753,211	16,800,000
LD-3 Reduce pressures on natural resources by managing competing land uses in broader landscapes; Program 4 Scaling-up sustainable land management through the Landscape Approach	GEF TF	887,431	4,000,000
CC-2 Demonstrate systemic impacts of Mitigation Options; Program 4 Promote conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks in forest and other land-use, and support climate smart agriculture	GEF TF	713,945	3,200,000
Total Project Cost		**5,354,587**	**24,000,000**

H. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: To combat poaching and the illegal wildlife trade in Tanzania through an integrated approach.				
Project Components	**Financing Type[86]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
1. Strengthening capacity for effective BD management and addressing IWT in Tanzania.	TA	1.1. National Strategy to Combat Poaching and IWT implemented to promote the value of wildlife and biodiversity for Tanzania's national development and to combat IWT through a coordinated approach. *Indicators:Significant improvements in capacity of key role-players as indicated by customized Capacity Development Scorecard.*	1,189,908	7,619,047
2. Reducing poaching and illegal trade in threatened species in targeted landscapes	TA/INV	2.1. Wildlife crime is combated in and around targeted sites – Katavi, Selous, Greater Ruaha ecosystem – covering a total of 117,000 km2	2,379,817	8,571,429

[84] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[85] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[86] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

		[not including corridors or buffer zones, to be determined at PPG] through strengthened enforcement operations on the ground. *Indicators: Biodiversity enforcement improved over 117,000 km2 across the Katavi, Selous, Greater Ruaha ecosystems [not including corridors or buffer zones, to be determined at PPG]; Increased numbers of arrests, prosecutions and convictions [to be determined at PPG].*		
3. Enhancing management of natural resources for sustainable rural socio-economic development.	TA/INV	3.1. Local communities and private sector enterprises involved in co-management of natural resources, which supports i) reduced wildlife crime; ii) participation in monitoring wildlife and wildlife crime, iii) effective co-management of wildlife and their habitats; iv) reduction in human-wildlife conflict; vi) sustainable local income generation, through sustainable land management and climate-smart agriculture, sustainable use of wildlife resources and benefit sharing. *Indicators: Establishment of community-based IWT monitoring network; Number of small grants disbursed in support of SLM and CBRNM; sustainable land management practices implemented over >XX ha; XX metric tons of CO_{2e} mitigated [to be determined at PPG].*	1,529,882	6,666,667
		Subtotal	5,099,607	22,857,143
		Project Management Cost (PMC)[87] at 5%	254,980	1,142,857
		Total Project Cost	5,354,587	24,000,000

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

I. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME*

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grants	1,000,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Natural Resources & Tourism	Grants	8,000,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Natural Resources & Tourism	Grants / In-Kind	6,000,000

[87] 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.

Donor Agency	USAID	Grant	8.500,000
CSO	Wildlife Conservation Society	Grant	250,000
Donor Agency	KfW	In-Kind	250,000
Total Co-financing			**24,000,000**

*The cofinance for this project is an indicative at this stage, to be confirmed at PPG

J. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS [a)]

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)[b)]	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	GEFTF	Tanzania	Biodiversity		3,753,211	337,789	4,091,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Tanzania	Land Degradation		887,431	79,867	967,300
UNDP	GEFTF	Tanzania	Climate Change		713,945	64,225	778,200
Total GEF Resources					5,354,587	481,913	5,836,500

g) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.
h) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.
i) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Project Overview

The Issue: Tanzania is a major repository of globally significant biodiversity, ranking amongst the top countries in tropical Africa in terms of the number of distinct eco-regions represented, and in species richness and endemism. Tanzania lies at the meeting point of six major bio-geographic zones and has over thirty major vegetation communities, housing more than 11,000 plant species with >15% endemism. In terms of vertebrates, there are 300+ mammal species, over 1100 species of birds, with 56 species of global conservation concern, and over 350 species of herpetofauna, of which at least 100 species are endemic.

Protected areas provide the principal means for protecting Tanzania's biodiversity values, and cover 27% of the land area (almost 250,000 km^2) with 651 protected areas sites. In addition to protected areas, Tanzania aims to conserve its biodiversity through sustainable resource use within wildlife corridors and buffer zones in demarcated Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). A host of iconic mammal species such as elephant (*Loxodonta africana*), black rhino (*Diceros bicornis*), lion (*Panthera leo*), cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) and leopard (*Panthera pardus*), plus vast populations of grazers such as wildebeest, inhabit Tanzania's protected and unprotected lands.

Thus wildlife are not only a source of wonder and inspiration, but constitute an important resource that contributes substantially to Tanzania's economy through tourism. The industry, which is wildlife based, accounts for 17% of total national GDP and employs more that 400,000 people across the country. It has great potential to support the economic development of rural communities, living adjacent to wildlife protected areas.

Threats: Tanzania's biodiversity faces a number of major threats.

- *Poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking.* Elephants and rhinos are some of the most valuable species for wildlife tourism. However, in recent years the poaching of elephants and rhinos has surged at an unprecedented

rate. It is thought that 35,000 elephants[88] are now killed per year for their ivory, for which there is strong and rising demand in the Far East, particularly in countries such as China and Thailand, although the United States of America (USA) and Europe are also major consumers. The Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) has estimated that Tanzania's elephant population may become extinct within seven years if current rates of decline continue.[89] Tanzania holds approximately 73% of Eastern Africa's elephant population[90] and is a primary source for the illegal trade in ivory. Tanzania was responsible for the seizing of 21.8 tons of ivory between 2009 and 2011; by far the greatest weight of trafficked ivory among African countries. Tanzania's position on the East coast of Africa also serves as a key point along the illegal wildlife trade route and is therefore most vulnerable to these threats. Since the elephant is a keystone species of the African savannah ecosystem, the effects of their extinction on these habitats and all other savannah species would be devastating. With both elephants and rhinos being such iconic mammals of Africa and attractive species for tourist viewing, their absence would adversely impact Tanzania's tourism sector significantly. This would consequently impact on the socio-economic development of rural communities, preventing Tanzania's achievement of its national priorities such as its Vision 2025 and the MDGs. The illegal wildlife trade also poses a great threat to the security of the country, fuels corruption and results in the loss of vital biodiversity.

- *Human-Wildlife Conflict.* Population growth and poor land use planning has resulted in the blockage of critical migratory routes and dispersal areas for wildlife. This has contributed to an increase in human-wildlife conflicts. These conflicts most often include crop destruction by herbivores such as elephants and wild pigs, or predation of livestock by carnivores such as hyenas and lions. Since the economic losses from these conflicts generally override any gain each household may make from selling their produce, and often mean a loss of food for basic living, households are forced to retaliate against these pest species. Elephants and lions are particularly persecuted species and human-wildlife conflict has been a significant contributor to their decline across Africa, since there is little incentive to conserve these animals. Furthermore, this conflict, plus the income generated from ivory and other animal parts, serves as a significant incentive to become involved in poaching directly.

Baseline: The following initiatives and programmes constitute the baseline for the proposed project.

- *National Task Force (NTF):* Tanzania's National and Transnational Serious Crime Unit (National Task Force, NTF) was established within the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) in 1998 to address serious national crime, including terrorism, armed robbery, human trafficking, poaching, albino murders, drugs trafficking and piracy. With members from the Tanzania Police Force (TPF), the Tanzania People's Defence Force intelligence department, immigration intelligence department and Tanzania Intelligence and Security Service (TISS), as well as others, NTF is well placed to provide strong collaboration and coordination between agencies for criminal investigations and law enforcement.

- *Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs):* In order to tackle rural poverty in Tanzania, the formal implementation of Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) began in 2003. The 19 WMAs now in existence cover roughly 3% of land in Tanzania. WMA regulations, updated in 2012, promote transparent governance, clear community ownership of resources, and sharing of benefits accrued from wildlife utilization. Some of the successes achieved by these WMAs include: increased protection of important dispersal areas and wildlife corridors; greater power devolved to communities; greater benefits received by the communities and improvement in social infrastructure; a clearer framework for private sector investments in wildlife areas; and improved biodiversity conservation in some areas.[91]

[88] G. Wittemyer, J. M. Northrup, J. Blanc, I. Douglas-Hamilton, P. Omondi, K. P. Burnham. **Illegal killing for ivory drives global decline in African elephants**.*Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 2014.
[89] African Wildlife Trust, 2013. Tanzanian elephants could be extinct within seven years. [online] Available at: http://africanwildlifetrust.blogspot.co.uk/2013/05/tanzanian-elephants-could-be-extinct.html [Accessed 25 November 2013]
[90] The Elephant Database: http://www.elephantdatabase.org/. In: UNODC, 2013. *Transnational Organised Crime in Eastern Africa: A Threat Assessment*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.
[91] Tetra Tech ARD and Maliasili Initiatives 2013. *Tanzania Wildlife Management Areas evaluation.* Final evaluation report for review by USAID.

- *Tanzania Wildlife Protection Fund (TWPF):* The Tanzania Wildlife Protection Fund (TWPF) was established in 1978 under an Act of Parliament. The objective of the TWPF is to facilitate and support the following: wildlife conservation inside and outside PAs, for anti-poaching operations and law enforcement; operations of the wildlife protection unit; conservation of wildlife; development of communities living in rural areas adjacent to wildlife PAs; conservation education, training and awareness creation in wildlife matters; capacity building in wildlife management; wildlife management research; and any other activity related to wildlife conservation. The Fund is supported by the parliament, with funds sourced through the following means: 25% of proceeds of sale of every animal, trophy, weapon, vehicle, vessel, aircraft, tent or other article forfeited pursuant to WCA no. 5 of 2009. In addition, any sum or property which may in any manner become payable into the fund; and any sum or donation, bequest, gift, grant given by other agencies, institutions, persons or government/international organisations.

- *Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA):* The Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) is currently being established, under WCA no. 5 of 2009, in order to help manage wildlife in areas outside jurisdiction of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority and Tanzania National Parks Authority (TANAPA). Some of TAWA's functions will include: to address all land use conflicts affecting wildlife in collaboration with relevant authorities; to manage human-wildlife conflict in collaboration with other wildlife management institutions; to ensure the systematic management of financial, human and natural resources for the conservation of wildlife; to collaborate with other institutions, private sector and communities to increase wildlife-based investments; to undertake law enforcement and curb the illegal offtake of wildlife resources; to participate in implementation of government commitments to national, regional and international obligations with regards to the development of the wildlife sector.

Barriers: This project is structured around the two main barriers currently hindering the fight against poaching and illegal trafficking of wildlife in Tanzania:

1. *Lack of National Coordination:* Wildlife crime is a transnational crime and therefore requires strong collaboration between law enforcement agencies both across borders and between supply and consumer countries. This level of international collaboration in law enforcement is currently lacking in Tanzania. Various international taskforces have been established, such as the Lusaka Agreement Taskforce; however, the latter lacks in expertise and support for data sharing and communications. However, coordination uses go beyond this. National coordination is lacking: line miniteries do not communicate effectively nor do they share expertise. Home Affiars do not link with Naturla Resources for example, to the level that they could do. A national system for coordination or requested between ministeries and departments that are relevant to tackling wilidlife crime, such as immigration, customs, police, the judiaciaty and natural resources. The multiplicity of stakeholders and differences in stakeholder goals also hampers law enforcement and anti-poaching efforts. Different stakeholders hold differing views on wildlife conservation and on the strategies to be employed preventing coordinated engagement. However various consensus building initiatives within the government and with other stakeholders in the private sector, NGOs and international partners is building momentum for a shared vision. Implementation of controls for wildlife trade under CITES (not just ivory and horn) need to be improved and professionalised. This includes improvements to the legal trade in wildlife permitting, tracking and oversight, including MNRT, Ports Authorities, Customs Officers, Border Agents, Airport Regulations etc.A national strategy has been formerd which focuses in otermintserial and intergancy coordination and copweratin but this need to be put into practice.

2. *Limitations in law enforcement capacity:* A primary barrier obstructing effective law enforcement for wildlife and forestry crime is that, despite the implications of wildlife trafficking with corruption, civil unrest and violence, national economic damage, wildlife crime is not recognised as a serious crime, and therefore there are no systems in place to link criminal activities in national parks (for example) to national police and criminal

investigative services. Currently, the WD and TANAPA have their own anti-poaching units, the NTF has a department for anti-poaching, and TAWA is concerned with land outside of national parks and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, but insufficient communication (both within the wildlife sector and between that and security sectors) results in efforts made by anti-poaching units often being ineffective due to lack of investigative capacity. In turn, NTF anti-poaching departments are ineffective due to lack of communication with conservation managers; this allows criminal activities to continue, in some cases at a highly sophisticated level, with minimal risk of exposure. Gaps and weaknesses in legislation are being exploited by poachers and organized criminals and reduce the ability of law enforcement officials to tackle these crimes. Capacity and resources available for law enforcement in and out of protected areas is generally weak. Rangers are ill equipped and insufficiently trained in patrolling, evidence gathering and data recording to effectively enforce the law. In addition, given the size of many protected areas, the number of staff often remains inadequate in controlling criminal activity due to the fact that law enforcement activities are relatively basic and routine, with a relatively randomised spread of effort, and so rely on numbers of staff and area coverage of monitoring to increase chances of arrest. A lack of intelligence-led law enforcement is restraining the ability to better target efforts and resources. Of the 1,115 staff of the Wildlife Division, only 50 are trained as intelligence officers.[92] With better intelligence of the type and location of criminal activity, efforts may be targeted at specific geographical areas, with appropriate resources and support allocated based on the intelligence findings, thereby greatly increasing efficiency.

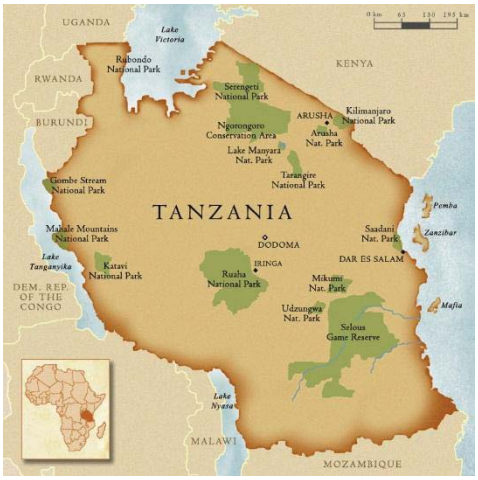
3. *Limited Co-Management and Community Benefits:* A barrier to combating poaching in the southern circuit of Tanzania is the lack of involvement by communities in the positive benefits generated by wildlife based tourism. Until recent years, despite policies for decentralisation, Tanzanian governance of wildlife areas has been largely centralised, with the MNRT controlling the management of all natural resources and all related revenue generation through TANAPA (which manages the NPs), the NCAA (which manages Ngorongoro Conservation Area) and the Wildlife Division (which manages other PAs, including Game Reserves and Game Controlled Areas, and unprotected areas). The decentralisation that has occurred is related to the creation of Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) which have enabled limited benefits to communities in the south from game meat and trophy hunting. However the WMA model has yet to come to majority and see significant benefits flowing to the communities. As with many other countries, inadequate sharing of benefits amongst local stakeholders results in overall losses experienced by rural communities who also bear the costs of living amongst wildlife, including damage to crops and livestock. A lack of alternative livelihood opportunies keeps rural communities in poverty and can provide an incentive to get involved in poaching directly or indirectly. Related to this is a lack of extension support and inputs which leads to unsustainable farming practices such as ‘slash-and’burn’ that cause land degradation, loss of carbon stocks, low crop yields and depletion of soil fertility. Support is needed for the diversification and enhancement of income generating activities for benefits to reach households more directly.

The Alternative Scenario

The long-term solution is to strengthen capacity to tackle poaching and wildlife trafficking in and around targeted sites in the **Southern Circuit of Protected Areas** in Tanzania, covering a total of approximately 117,000 km2 [not including buffer zones or corridors], including:

[92] Ngowi, J. (Wildlife Division) 2013. Capacity gaps of the Wildlife Division. (Personal communication, November 2013)

- The extensive Katavi-Rukwa-Lukwati ecosystem in south-west Tanzania, which encompasses Katavi National Park (the country's third largest park), Rukwa, Lukwati and Luafi Game Reserves and numerous forest reserves, covering 25,000 km2;
- The Selous Game Reserve (and UNESCO World Heritage Site) in the south of Tanzania, which is one of the largest faunal reserves in the world, covering 54,600 km2;
- The Greater Ruaha Landscape (GRL), which encompasses Ruaha National Park (RUNAPA), Kisigo, Rungwa and Muhesi Game Reserves as well as a number of Game Controlled Areas (GCAs), Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and open areas, covering 37,000 km2; and
- A suite of wildlife corridors and buffer zones [to be determined at PPG], which are important for ensuring the long term health and effective management of the Southern Circuit.



The project will address both supply and demand aspects to tackle poaching and IWT, including: strengthening the national biodiversity and IWT governance framework; strengthening cross-sectoral collaboration and coordinated, intelligence-led law enforcement on the ground; increasing community involvement in wildlife crime enforcement and monitoring activities; promoting sustainable livelihoods that reduce dependency on vulnerable habitats/wildlife; and raising awareness of conservation and wildlife crime, and the ivory trade, among citizens and authorities in Tanzania and in neighbouring countries.

This will be achieved through three interconnected components with the set outcomes, as summarised in the project framework table in Section B. This project will implement activities at three geographic levels; the national (central government) level in Tanzania; at a number of key sites within Tanzania that harbour globally significant biodiversity threatened by increasing rates of wildlife crime and poor management; and a small and select number of activities designed to facilitate transboundary coordination to prevent IWT. The project will evaluate its impact against the rate of loss of biodiversity within Tanzania, achieved through improved biodiversity management in targeted sites and a reduction in wildlife crime.

Component 1: Strengthening capacity for effective biodiversity and IWT governance in Tanzania.

- Outcome 1.1. The National IWT Strategy is implemented to promote the value of wildlife and biodiversity for Tanzania's national development and to combat IWT through a coordinated approach.

  Outputs:

  1.1.1. A Ministerial Committee on Wildlife Security will be formed, chaired and hosted by the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism to provide oversight of the newly formed national Wildlife Crime Unit (to be housed in MNRT's Wildlife Division; see below). Other line ministries, including the Ministry of Defence, Office of the President and Ministry of Home Affairs, will serve as members of the Committee.
  1.1.2. A national-level inter-agency Wildlife Crime Unit (WCU) will be established within MNRT to unite the wildlife and security sectors in addressing wildlife crime. The WCU include members of the Wildlife Division, the nascent Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA), Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) and Tanzania Forest Services (TFS), with secondments from the police, judiciary, customs, immigration, intelligence and public prosecutions.
  1.1.3. Tasking and Coordination Groups (TCGs) will be set up to tackle poaching and IWT on the ground in the project's target sites of Katavi, Greater Ruaha and Selous. The 'inter-agency' TCGs, reporting to the national WCU, will be resourced to achieve intelligence-led enforcement in support of Wildlife

Division rangers/TAWA, National Park rangers, the police and local government rangers in key ecosystem-level poaching and IWT hotspots.

1.1.4. A National Wildlife Security Doctrine will be formulated and implemented to provide a recognized and accepted framework of best practice guidelines for every level of wildlife security. This will include elements on ranger welfare to inter-agency cooperation and coordination. It will act as a natonal wildlife security plan and guide every level of implementation of Tanzania's IWT Strategy.

1.1.5. The national policy and legislative framework will be strengthened to ensure greater support against wildlife crime. A process will be conducted to review current policies and legislative frameworks and to strengthen these in order to deter poachers and illegal traders.

1.1.6. A national assessment of Tanzania's wildlife and forestry crime issues, the mitigation required and relevant capacity needs will be completed to gain full understanding of the true situation and the degree of support required.

1.1.7. A national system for monitoring wildlife crime cases will be established and operationalized for the first time.

1.1.8 The capacity of key staff (including relevant ministries and agencies including the police, judiciary, customs, police, immigration, intelligence, etc.) will be developed in relation to IWT legislation, enforcement systems, intelligence gathering, forensic investigations, human resources management and operations management, etc.

1.1.9. Transboundary cooperation will be strengthened with neighbouring countries to promote enforcement [border controls, immigration, INTERPOL, UNODC].

Component 2: Reducing poaching and illegal trade of threatened species [site level]

- Outcome 2.1. Wildlife crime is combated through strengthened enforcement operations in and around targeted sites [Katavi, Selous, and the Greater Ruaha ecosystems covering approximately 120,000 km2] and key trafficking routes/hubs.

  Outputs:

  2.1.1. Enforcement and crime scene management capacity (forensic, judiciary, police, intelligence) is strengthened in and around target sites to proactively target criminal activities, support criminal investigations and prosecute wildlife crime cases.

  2.1.2. Capacity development and training support is provided to the staff of the newly formed inter-agency TCGs to ensure that they are fully operational and can function effectively as mobile rapid response units.

  2.1.3. Capacity development and training support is provided to the national cadre of rangers, who are responsible for mobilizing TCGs to respond rapidly and effectively to arrest suspected criminals and prevent loss of threatened species, including training support to rapid response teams.

  2.1.4. Basic infrastructure and field equipment (e.g. equipment, field transport, communications/radio, GPS, night vision, etc.) are deployed for rapid responses to poaching and IWT threats.

  2.1.5 Improved mechanisms for biodiversity monitoring and data collection are set up to support intelligence gathering to prevent wildlife crime.

  2.1.6. Private sector enterprises (e.g. tourism) and NGOs are integrated into dialogue with government on their role in combating IWT and wildlife/habitat protection.

  2.1.7 Intensive, collaborative law enforcement mechanisms are put in place across all poaching hotspots, common transport routes and country exit/entry points to prevent IWT [especially Zanzibar, Mtwara and Dar Es Salaam Ports Authorities].

Component 3: Enhancing management of natural resources for sustainable rural socio-economic development.

- Outcome 3.1. Local communities and private sector enterprises involved in wildlife crime law monitoring and enforcement activities, which support i) reduced wildlife crime; ii) effective co-management of wildlife and their habitats; iii) restoration of degraded landscapes; and iv) sustainable local income generation.

  Outputs:

  3.1.1. Through national grants mechanisms being established to implement the national strategy (in part initatied by UNDP core funds), grants are channelled to communities to pilot sustainable livelihoods [i.e. SLM, climate smart agriclture, sustainable harvesting of WMA-linked resources, ecotourism].
  3.1.3 Wildlife Management Area (WMA) governance is strengthened in three sites (selected WMAs surrounding Katavi, Selous and Ruaha ecosystems), to ensure the flow of conservation-related benefits to rural communities; WMAs will be selected at PPG stage.
  3.1.4. Economic and enterprise opportunities and implementation enhanced in selected WMAs
  3.1.5. Community-based monitoring networks are established and operationalized in poaching hotspots to support WCU and TCGs in information gathering, utilizing WMA structures where appropriate.
  3.1.6. Wide public awareness of EBD conservation and wildlife crime is achieved through comprehensive multimedia and education campaigns.
  3.1.7. Employment in wildlife conservation promoted through nation-wide scholarship and fee subsidies programme for young people to obtain qualifications in wildlife protection
  3.1.8. Human-wildlife conflict prevention measures developed through participatory process and piloted to establish most effective measure.

Incremental Reasoning and Global Environmental Benefits

The incremental approach can be summarised as follows: The government of Tanzania has clearly identified the implementation of the National Strategy to Combat Poaching and Illegal Wildlife Trade as a priority action for conserving biodiversity and preventing domestic and transnational illegal wildlife trade. However, despite strong commitment from the government, actions are seldom taken to concretely remove the barriers to effective wildlife/habitat management and enforcement against trafficking and poaching of highly threatened species. In particular, legal inconsistences and weak institutional arrangements at the national (and regional) level are compounded by the lack of management, community co-management and enforcement capacity at the site level. Together these limit the potential for effective action. In terms of IWT, the capacity and understanding amongst law enforcement agencies is low, regional collaboration is weak, and mechanisms to regulate legal wildlife trade are not being appropriately applied. The proposed intervention is particularly timely given the sharp increase in illegal wildlife trade volume globally, and Tanzania's role as a key source country in regional wildlife trade networks.

In the baseline situation, globally significant biodiversity in Tanzania, particularly elephants and rhinos, will continue to be ever-increasingly threatened by the illegal wildlife trade. Despite the significant efforts of the Government of Tanzania (described in the baseline section), without implementation of this national and local level, multi-pronged approach to combat ivory demand, rural poverty and weak law enforcement, iconic wildlife species will continue to decline to extinction. Wildlife management and security is currently poorly coordinated between various types of protected area and unprotected lands due to separate management systems for each and insufficient communication. It is also poorly coordinated between wildlife authorities and general security and law enforcement authorities, meaning that neither have the full capacity to tackle wildlife crime. Resources, including human, equipment and intelligence, are insufficient for effective wildlife security, meaning that operations are inefficient and very much response-based rather than targeted and preventative. Gaps and weaknesses in legislation also hamper law enforcement efforts to address this crime. In addition, those who bear the greatest costs of living with wildlife currently receive the lowest benefits, through poor local governance and management of wildlife and other natural resources. While WMAs have the potential to improve the equitable distribution of benefits across rural communities, governance is weak, with insufficient coordination of duties and awareness of regulations and processes. Awareness is relatively poor with regards to the impacts of wildlife poaching and trading upon wildlife, security and rural development.

In the alternative scenario enabled by the GEF, wildlife security will be highly coordinated within and between both wildlife and law enforcement authorities, with the creation of an all-encompassing Ministerial Committee on Wildlife Security and a Wildlife Crime Unit, which will provide the link between conservation authorities and general

policing and immigration authorities. The work of the WCU will be intelligence-based, with increased capacity for evidence gathering, monitoring and rapid responses to IWT crime. Revised and improved legislation will facilitate an increase in successful prosecutions and a reduction in poaching. Natural resources will be locally-managed, with benefits being seen directly and fairly among rural communities through strengthened WMA structures. Communities will realize the benefits of conserving wildlife and will take ownership over their own resources, becoming advocates for conservation across the country, and sustainable livelihoods initiatives will promote alternative forms of income generation. Extensive awareness and education campaigns will ensure that communities in Tanzania prefer to avoid poaching, whether due to knowledge of the risks involved or of the potential benefits of wildlife to people. Without local community support, poachers will face far greater difficulties and risks in attempting to poach and traffic wildlife. Through this project, Tanzania can demonstrate to consumer countries the impacts of their demand for ivory products, leading to reduced demand and lessened incentives for IWT and poaching.

Global Environmental Benefits: Enhanced law enforcement will help protect wildlife populations by removing established poachers/traders and disrupting illegal wildlife trade syndicates. Immediate global benefits include the conservation of globally important and iconic mammal species, including elephant and rhino. Tanzania holds a large proportion of the world's African elephant population and is a critical area in which to implement wildlife protection actions. Successful implementation of Tanzania's National Strategy to Combat Poaching and IWT will ensure that the country contributes to the achievement of objectives laid out in the international plans and strategies described above (such as the CITES Action Plan for the control of trade in elephant ivory, the *African Elephant Action Plan and the urgent measures established during the* African Elephant Summit in Botswana), thereby contributing to the conservation of the elephant (a migratory species) and other traded species, each of which provide benefits to the countries which they inhabit, for example through wildlife tourism and the maintenance of ecosystems. By safeguarding key natural elephant habitats by improving the governance of WMAs, the project will directly contribute to arresting and reversing global trends in land degradation, and will improve socio-ecological resilience in the face of climate change. Illegal wildlife trafficking is a transnational crime; as a result, strengthening transboundary law enforcement will lead to the arrest of IWT criminals and prevent their activity in other countries.

Innovativeness, Sustainability and Scaling Up: The development of cost-effective and sustainable solutions to reduce the detrimental impacts of poor biodiversity and ecosystem management and associated wildlife trade is central to all aspects of this project. The project will work to support and strengthen Tanzania's institutions and authorities to more effectively manage critical ecosystems and reduce poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking. The underlying premise for the project is that interest already exists within the Government of Tanzania, given completion of the recent National Strategy to Combat Poaching and Illegal Wildlife Trade and its clear commitment to proceed to implementation. What is needed is a combination of facilitation and demonstration to show that resources can be applied for the benefit of globally important biodiversity and Tanzania's sustainable economic development. Following the completion of the project, national institutions and authorities will be empowered and better equipped to exercise their mandates, without requiring further external resources. The project creates national capacity that integrates directly into current law enforcement efforts, as well as national policies and priorities. Communities will gain socio-economically from strengthened wildlife crime response capacity, which will ultimately increase criminal conviction rates and decrease poaching and trafficking of wildlife. By reducing rural wildlife crime, the project will contribute to creating a platform for sustainable economic growth, rather than the unsustainable and destructive removal of collective natural resources. By strengthening the operations of WMAs and enabling rural communities to gain income from conservation, the project will support Tanzania in achieving its MDGs and other global initiatives aiming to reduce poverty.

Particularly innovative aspects of this project include: i) the development of capacity to take national level intervention to address IWT and monitor trends in Tanzania, bringing together state and private sector actors alongside civil society and local communities, to manage biodiversity, reduce resource exploitation and protect ecological functions while minimizing pressures on natural resources; and ii) benefits from community-based natural resource management and monitoring contribute to combat wildlife crime and its wider impacts, including poverty alleviation.

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes X /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation:

Stakeholder	Role and Responsibilities
Individual Households	Day to day monitoring of WMAs, maintaining support to Village Environmental Committees, benefitting from tourism, taking personal responsibilities for natural resources.
Local Communities	Maintaining support to NR committees, benefitting from community outreach programmes, taking personal responsibilities for protected areas.
Village Councils	Overall management and accountability of community managed areas to wider rural communities, coordination with District Authorities and outsiders.
District Councils	Protected area policy implementation and support of communities sustainable conservation programmes
Government Departments	Manage the processes of protected area management on a national level, implementing relevant policies, linkages with other government departments
Central Government	Developing directives, policy, guidelines and monitoring progress as well as coordinating sectors involved
Private Sector	Support development of markets and economic growth. Provide financial incentives for best management of protected areas, work with government and villages to support good practice in NRs management.
CBOs	Develop civil society capacity on a local level to support social development, economic growth and sustainable water and natural resources management
National NGOs	Develop civil society capacity on a national level to support social development, economic growth and sustainable water and NRs management.
International NGOs	Develop civil society capacity on a regional level to support, social development, economic growth, sustainable water and protected area management, support international advocacy and environmental education.
Government Ministries	Support protected areas management and economic growth through sound policy guidance and implementation, linkages and overlap with other ministries.

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

Risk	Level	Mitigation
Poaching pressure fuelled by the existence of global illegal wildlife trade may fast decimate the elephant population	H	Given the high level of this risk, one of the pillars of the Project design is to increase Tanzania's capacity for surveillance and intelligence driven law enforcement across the poaching hotspots of the country, to fully implement the existing wildlife laws. It will also strengthen the country's capacity for communication with consumer countries in order to make efforts to reduce demand.
The Tanzanian Government may be reluctant to increase investments into wildlife conservation due to other needs such as infrastructure taking priority.	L	Tanzania's main priorities are for the development of its economy and strong collaboration with the government will ensure that the GoT understands that wildlife crime is a huge threat to the country's sustainable development, for which wildlife tourism could play a increasingly significant part. The GoT has already taken steps to increase law enforcement capacity against wildlife crime, and so should already be supportive of increased investments of resources into this area.
Local communities may be reluctant to be involved in wildlife conservation due to the negative impacts it can have	L-M	The development of community-based monitoring networks, utilising WMA structures where appropriate, will ensure close collaboration with communities. During this time it will be explained that a shift towards sustainable livelihoods that promote wildlife protection and sustainable management of threatened ecosystems will reduce dependence on unsustainable livelihoods, and will provide a more sustainable income. A continued collaborative approach taken to these initiatives will ensure that any emerging issues can be solved

Risk	Level	Mitigation
on their own livelihoods		
Climate change may undermine the conservation objectives of the Project	L	The Project will work to address the anticipated negative impacts of climate change by increasing resilience of natural landscapes, through promoting sustainable management of natural resources. The elephant is a keystone species of savannah ecosystems and so its conservation will help to ensure that such habitats and their wildlife remain healthy and robust against climate change.

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

This project forms part of the Programmatic Approach on Preventing the Extinction on Known Threatened Species. The project will contribute significantly to the 'United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP) 2011-2016', primarily in support of the following Outcome: *Relevant MDAs, LGAs and non-State actors improve enforcement of environment laws and regulations for the protection of ecosystems, biodiversity, and the sustainable management of natural resources*. Specifically, the project will help to achieve the following outputs: National and local levels have enhanced capacity to coordinate, enforce and monitor environment and natural resources (through the creation of a central Ministerial committee and Wildlife Crime Unit, with increased capacity for intelligence building and targeted, coordinated approaches to tackling wildlife crimes); Technical, financial and governance capacities for sustainable land and forest management enhanced (through the improvement of WMA governance).

The project will be closely coordinated with existing GEF-financed initiatives, including:

Strengthening the Protected Area Network in Southern Tanzania – Improving the Effectiveness of National Parks in Addressing Threats to Biodiversity [PIMS 3253]: Currently under implementation with support from UNDP GEF, the project aims to increase the effectiveness of the new and developing Southern Circuity of Tanzania's National Parks by protecting biodiversity and providing for the long-term ecological, social and financial sustainability of that system. It comprises two components: 1. Integrating Management of NPs and Broader Landscapes: This first component focuses on the creation of active and functioning inter-sectoral District land management coordination mechanism between TANAPA, district authorities and the Wildlife Division (WD) and will involves planning, implementation, and monitoring by key state and civil society partners on biodiversity management measures for the Greater Ruaha Landscape (37,000 km2) and Greater Kitulo-Kipengere Landscape (2,150 km2). This approach aims to secure PAs, wildlife corridors and dispersal areas; and 2. Strengthening NP Operations: This second component seeks to engineer the delivery of an integrated package of PA management functions. The project has initiated financial and business planning on both landscape and individual PAs and is providing funding for basic infrastructure and field equipment across the Southern Circuit Sites.

Enhancing the Forest Nature Reserves Network for Biodiversity Conservation in Tanzania [GEF Project ID 3034]. Currently under implementation with support from UNDP GEF, the project aims to expand, financially secure and strengthen the management of Tanzania's Forest Nature Reserve (FNR) network. In particular, it seeks to operationalise six new FNRs in Chome, Magamba, Mkingu, Uzungwa Scarp, *Rungwe* and Minziro, by: putting in place management frameworks for the new FNRs (depending on specific site needs) and basic infrastructure and equipment (i.e. administrative office and ranger posts); building agreements with local communities on designated access areas for sustainable use of non timber forest products; building capacity within the new Tanzania Forest Service to effectively deliver PA Management Functions across the FNR Network; *strengthening enforcement [targeting illegal harvesting, poaching, mining, and encroachment] by improving national and local intelligence systems, establishing protocols for patrolling and reporting malfeasance, and building capacity to prosecute offences*; and effectively deploying funds and human resources to address threats across the system.

B.1 Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessements under relevant conventions?

The Government of Tanzania is committed to strengthening its national capacity to combat poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking. The Project will contribute to the achievement of Tanzania's Development Vision 2025, which acknowledges that the sustainable use of its resources is crucial for the long term development of Tanzania's economy and citizenry. It details that 'fast growth will be pursued while effectively reversing current adverse trends in the loss and degradation of environmental resources (such as forests, fisheries, fresh water, climate, soils, biodiversity)…'. Tanzania's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, formulated in 2001, will be supported by the Project in the achievement of its objectives regarding policy, regulatory issues and international cooperation; facilitate economic growth through the enforcement of appropriate policies and regulator services for biodiversity management; and greater involvement of local communities in the sustainable management of natural resources. The Project will also contribute to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (MNRT)'s Medium Term Strategic Plan July 2013-June 2016, which includes several core focal areas for developing the natural resources and tourism sectors, including law enforcement; stakeholder involvement; regional and international cooperation; institutional capacity building; and informed management decision making.

More recently, Tanzania has placed a strong focus on national plans to combat poaching and illegal trafficking of threatened species specifically. The Project will directly support implementation of Tanzania's National Strategy to Combat Poaching and Illegal Wildlife Trade (launched in October 2014) and will contribute significantly towards Tanzania's Elephant Management Plan 2010-2015, in particular strategies 3) Elephant Ivory Trading; 4) Community Benefits and Involvement; 6) International Relations; 7) Elephant Protection and Law Enforcement; 9) Elephant Conservation, Education and Awareness. Similarly, the Project will support the implementation of the Tanzania Elephant Protection Strategy (TEPS) as well as the actions decided upon during the Tanzania Wildlife Summit to Stop Wildlife Crime and Advance Wildlife Conservation, held in May 2014, to which it is directly aligned in many aspects. Most importantly, the Project forms an integral part of Tanzania's Anti-Poaching and Illegal Wildlife Trade Strategy. For example, much of the law enforcement component of the Strategy is built around the creation of a coordinated wildlife crime unit, which is a major focus of this Project. Likewise, all other outputs of the Project form key parts of this national Strategy.

11. Securing livelihoods, Conservation, Sustainable Use and Restoration of high range Himalayan Ecosystems (SECURE-Himalayas) (India)

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[93]

Project Title:	Securing livelihoods, Conservation, Sustainable Use and Restoration of high range Himalayan Ecosystems (SECURE-Himalayas)
Country(ies):	India
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC)
GEF Focal Area(s):	MFA

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[94]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD-2 Program 3	GEFTF	2,099,640	7,408,310
BD-4 Program 9	GEFTF	4,562,680	16,690,630
LD-2 Program 3	GEFTF	482,716	1,963,720
LD-3 Program 4	GEFTF	551,092	1,517,150
SFM-1 Program 1	GEFTF	1,364,470	5,194,590
SFM-1 Program 2	GEFTF	879,454	2,374,010
SFM-3 Program 7	GEFTF	1,604,140	5,194,590
Total Project Cost	GEFTF	**11,544,192**	**40,343,000**

K. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: Sustainable land and forest management in the alpine pastures and forests in high range Indian Himalayan ecosystems secures sustainable livelihoods and community resilience and ensures conservation of globally significant biodiversity and threatened species such as snow leopards

Project Components	**Financing Type[95]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
I. Securing sustainable community livelihoods in high range Himalayan ecosystems	TA / Inv	Outcome 1.1: Improved and diversified livelihoods of local communities in selected areas of the high range Indian Himalayan ecosystems (Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim) reduce pressures on fragile alpine Himalayan ecosystems: 1.1 Improved livestock management and protection measures adopted (including reduction of livestock predation and insurance) and enhanced productivity and quality of horticultural and agricultural crops; 1.1.2 Sustainable alternative livelihood option plans developed and implemented (including sectors such as community managed eco-tourism and including home-stays; enterprise development based on high value niche Non Timber Forest Products (e.g. Cordyceps sinensis and other high value	5,059,652	17,719,224

[93] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[94] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[95] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

		Medicinal and Aromatic Plants) products (including identification, value chains assessment, and market and credit linkages developed/ strengthened; community skill base enhanced. Outcome 1.2: Enhanced capacities of community and government institutions for sustainable community based approaches to biodiversity conservation: 1.2.1 Biodiversity friendly agriculture and livestock practices promoted (incl. reduced use of pestcides, increased cropping of traditional and rare endemic crops and livestock breeds, promoting silvopastoral practices migration corridors and buffer zones in etc) 1.2.2 Community-based approaches to address livelihood – conservation conflicts (e.g. livestock insurance and compensation schemes; community awareness, incentives to promote wildlife friendly crop-herd management practices; use of deterrents including live-fence) 1.2.3 Capacities of local collective institutions developed for assessment and monitoring of biodiversity increased and informs strategies to ensure that sectoral plans are harmonized with Biodiversity strategies (e.g State Biodiversity Action Plan)		
II. Conservation of key biodiversity areas and effective management of PAs to secure long term ecosystem resilience and habitat connectivity	TA/Inv	Outcome 2.1: Integrated land, forest and pasture management plans developed for select landscape outside PAs to minimize threats and disturbance in the high range Himalayan ecosystems: 2.1.1 Comprehensive function mapping lead to revised land use and sectoral plans (e.g. forestry and rangeland management plans) to: a) integrate and reconcile development and conservation needs of high range Himalayan ecosystems; b) promote sustainable land use and natural resource management practices in the wider landscape; 2.1.2 Conservation of at least 15,000 ha[96] of High Value Forests that are protected as Biodiversity Heritage Sites[97] (BHS) leading to avoided deforestation: BHS Management plans developed and implemented based on biodiversity assessments and community decisions for securing conservation of bio-cultural ecosystems and connectivity; different locally appropriate management regimes designed and tested including community governance models. 2.1.3 Assisted regeneration of rangelands/pastures (of at least 40,000 ha): pasture management regimes are designed and implemented jointly with communities and rehabitatation of at least 1,000 h of degraded forest through participatory forest management and other collaborative forestry programmes (includes enrichment planting, restoration, management of forest fires etc.); Outcome 2.2: Strengthened institutional capacities for long-term effective conservation of globally significant biodiversity (including threatened and endangered species such as the Snow Leopard (SL) and endemic medicinal plants ensured in select PAs:	4,031,309	14,647,526

[96] The HCVF set aside target is tentative, based on counterpart commitments at this stage, and is subject to change pending the PPG.

[97] BHS is a new category of biodiversity conservation areas under the Biodiversity Act (2002) that is defined as: "well defined areas that are unique, ecologically fragile ecosystems – terrestrial, coastal and inland waters and marine having rich biodiversity including those that offer refuge or corridors for threatened species; and having significant cultural, ethical or aesthetic values"

		2.2.1 Capacities of foresters, PA staff, and communities enhanced to engage in spatial planning and development coordination, increase habitat connectivity with specific focus on restoration of degraded rangeland and wetland habitats critical for threatened species both within and outside protected areas; 2.2.3 Long-term management planning for the Himalayan PA network including: (a) improvement in the quality and sustainability of protection and management activities; (b) enforcement of PA regulations to reduce threats (e.g. from unsustainable developmental activities; un-sustainable use of natural resources; illicit harvesting or felling of trees etc.); (c) mechanisms for coordination with other sectors and planners on dealing with development and management of land and natural resources in the areas adjacent to PAs.		
III. Enhanced enforcement and monitoring to reduce wildlife crime and related threats	TA/Inv	Outcome 3.1: Effective wild life monitoring, prosecution and other deterrent systems demonstrated and international cooperation increased (linking with global SL project and GSLEP as well as with India's NSLEP and Project Snow Leopard and regional initiatives) 3.1.1 Improved anti-poaching, surveillance measures (including involvement of local communities in anti-poaching efforts; efficient and effective information sharing and management systems) to reduce incidences of wildlife poaching and illegal trade; 3.1.2 Enhanced enforcement capacities of environmental inspectors, police, and border guards and customs officers through trainings on integrated wildlife law enforcement (e.g. identification and prosecution of wildlife crime; inter-agency cooperation; risk management; investigative procedures etc.); 3.1.3 Implementation of integrated models of wildlife crime reduction (including awareness of wildlife laws, reducing demand through behaviour change campaigns, strengthened enforcement of wild life laws including supporting fast prosecution of wildlife crimes) Outcome 3.2: Effective partnerships and development of mechanisms for trans-boundary coordination and cooperation of conservation efforts and improved information management: 3.2.1 Mechanisms for partnerships (inter-state in India) and with neighbouring countries (Nepal and China) including linking with international and regional initiatives and networks (such as GSLEP, SAWEN) 3.2.2 Improved information mgt, strengthened monitoring capacities (e.g. know-how and monitoring equipment), expanding monitoring of SL and prey populations (e.g. camera traps, line transects, occupancy surveys) and establishment of GIS based information management system (initial develop, design and deploy)	1,903,521	5,959,100
		Subtotal	10,994,482	38,325,850
		Project Management Cost (PMC)[98] (select)	549,710	2,017,150
		Total Project Cost	**11,544,192**	**40,343,000**

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

L. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME

[98] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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.

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
Recipient Government	Ministry of Environment and Forests	Grants	4,480,870
Recipient Government	Ministry of Environment and Forests	In-kind	576,430
Recipient Government	Department of Science and Technology	Grants	7,294,590
Recipient Government	Department of Science and Technology	In-kind	1,106,860
Recipient Government	State Governments of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand (and their relevant line departments)	Grants	13,382,320
Recipient Government	State Governments of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand (and their relevant line departments)	In-kind	1,660,290
Recipient Government	Indo-Tibetan Border Police	Grant	3,044,150
GEF Agency	UNDP India	Grants	1,602,900
CSO	Snow Leopard Trust, Snow Leopard Conservancy, others	Grants	1,660,290
Private Sector	CSR, Microcredit Funds, etc.(to be determined)	Grants	2,767,150
Others	Local governments (districts and sub-districts) and communities	Grants	2,767,150
Total Co-financing			**40,343,000**

M. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS [a)]

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)[b)]	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	GEFTF	India		SFM	3,848,064	346,326	4,194,390
UNDP	GEFTF	India	Biodiversity		6,662,320	599,609	7,261,929
UNDP	GEFTF	India	Land Degradation		1,033,808	93,043	1,126,851
Total GEF Resources					**11,544,192**	**1,038,977**	**12,583,169**

j) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.
k) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.
l) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Project Overview

***A.1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION.* BRIEFLY DESCRIBE: 1) THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND/OR ADAPTATION PROBLEMS, ROOT CAUSES AND BARRIERS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED; 2) THE BASELINE SCENARIO OR ANY ASSOCIATED BASELINE PROJECTS, 3) THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO, WITH A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT, 4) INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING AND EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BASELINE, THE GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, AND CO-FINANCING; 5) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEFTF) AND/OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF); AND 6) INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING UP.**

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

The high range Himalayan Ecosystem in India is important both for the biodiversity and ecosystems of global significance it harbours and as an important life-support system for a large number of remote and rural communities that depend on it. These ecosystem serve as important habitats for snow leopard and other threatened species while also providing a range of essential ecosystem services – hundreds of millions of people depend on them for water for hydropower and agriculture, forage for livestock and food for themselves, mineral resources, medicinal supplies and products, cultural traditions and spiritual values, and inspiration that draws increasing number of people from around the globe to experience these places. In fact a rapid estimate of the economic value of some prominent services generated from these ecosystems in India is nearly $4 billion a year, the bulk of which comes from hydropower and generated electricity (US$3 billon), followed by livestock and agriculture (US$0.5 billion), and tourism (US$0.4 billion)[99]. The Himalayan ranges region is inhabited by a large population of 65.57 million belonging to different communities (multiple ethnic compositions are a striking feature of the region; more than 171 of total 573 Scheduled Tribes of India inhabit the region). The region thus represents a mosaic of pluralistic diversity – a composite of myriad human cultures and linguistic diversity including a number of tribal communities – and their relative seclusion and remoteness has made them the last bastions of globally significant indigenous knowledge and cultural heterogeneity.

The focus of the current project – the high range Himalayan Ecosystem spans the Indian states of the Ladakh autonomous region of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. The proposed area will encompass both the greater Himalayas and the trans-Himalayan areas in India. The Greater Himalayas consist of sub-alpine scrub, alpine meadows, vast areas under permafrost, glaciers and rock faces, while the Trans Himalayan cold deserts primarily consists of sparsely vegetated steppes, small patches of moist sedge meadows near water bodies and vast areas that are barren and under permafrost and glaciers. These areas are the headwaters of many major rivers of Northern India. The high range Himalayan Ecosystem are recognized as one of the 35 Global Biodiversity Hotspots by Conservation International and is among the 200 WWF global ecoregions in the world. As a Global Biodiversity Hotspot, the region exhibits very high level of floral endemism. The region accounts for nearly 50% of the total flowering plants of India, of which 30% are endemic to the region; there are also over 816 tree species, 675 edibles and nearly 1,743 species of medicinal value. Fauna in the region presents one of the richest assemblages – 65% are all mammalian species in India recorded in the Himalaya; 50% of the total bird species and 35% reptiles, 36% amphibians and 17% fishes are found in the region. Out of this, 29 species of reptiles, 35 species of amphibia and 36 species of freshwater fishes are endemic to the Himalayan region. The region is also a storehouse of medicinal plants. Atleast 350 species of are found here, accounting for around 50% of all the medicinal plants. Key medicinal plants species found in the region include Nardostachys grandiflora, Picorrhiza kurroa, Swertia chirata, Taxus baccata etc. In addition the region situates at the centre of the

[99] Snow Leopard Working Secretariat. 2013. Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

snow leopard[100] range, with a combined unbroken contiguous potential habitat – covering around 128,757 Sq. Kms.

It is worth noting that the snow leopard is an indicator species of healthy high-mountain ecosystems. It is the apex predator of its ecosystems, sitting at the top of the food web. The health and status of snow leopards indicates the health of the ecosystem which support the cat itself, its prey, and a vast amount of biodiversity, as well as contribute to human wellbeing, locally, regionally, and globally. The snow leopard is also an important cultural and spiritual symbol for local communities living in these ranges. The snow leopard preys primarily on bharal or blue sheep and ibex, and the snow leopard's distribution largely matches those of these large ungulates. This diet is supplemented by smaller prey, such as marmots, pikas, hares, small rodents, game birds and, significantly, domestic livestock. Livestock, mostly sheep and goats but also horses and yaks, may form as much as half or more of the diet – as discussed later, this is a cause of one of the major threats this great animal faces, namely retaliatory killing by herders and villagers especially when large number of domestic livestock is involved. The snow leopard ecosystems are important not only as the home to this beautiful cat but also as the environmental and natural resources upon which hundreds of millions of people also depend for water for hydropower and agriculture, forage for livestock and food for themselves, mineral resources, medicinal supplies and products, cultural traditions and spiritual values, and inspiration that draws increasing number of people from around the globe to experience these places. Despite their global and national importance however, the high range Himalayan Ecosystem in India that habour threatened species such as snow leopards faces a number of significant threats as discussed hereafter.

Population growth, high incidence of poverty and high dependence on pastoralism and related human-wildlife conflicts: The region has a steadily increasing population density with corresponding increase in the magnitude of people's dependence on natural resources. There are at present an estimated 36.32 million people that reside in the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) spread roughly as 25% in western Himalayas, 54% in central Himalayas and 21% in eastern Himalayas[101]. Since the harsh climate and topography of the area are relatively less conducive to agriculture and other developmental options such as industry, most of the region's population is largely dependent on pastoralism. Livestock numbers have increased significantly over the years while the total area of alpine meadows remain constant or reduced. This situation has inadvertently resulted in degradation due to overgrazing in several areas. Further, the loss of natural alpine and sub-alpine meadow ecosystems to pastures meant that wild herbivore species were getting out-competed. This led to corresponding decline in their populations. In other areas, scarce moist meadows that are important foraging grounds of wild herbivores, are either being converted to cultivation, or fenced to prevent wild ungulate grazing. A further threat comes from the fact that communities allow cattle in an uncontrolled way to graze in the shrub and herbaceous habitats. This further undermines the already slow natural regeneration rates of these forests and causes disturbance to wildlife. The lower prey numbers and increased presence of livestock in the forest is leading to an increased incidence of reliance of wild predators such as the snow leopard and the wolf on livestock for food. Livestock predation is serious and result in a significant loss of income for rural communities. In addition to wild prey species such as ibex or blue sheep, snow leopards occasionally prey on domestic livestock grazing in their habitat, especially when prey species numbers are on the decline or when livestock numbers increase insofar that it becomes much easier to prey on livestock. Herders are dependent on these animals for both money and food, and the loss of even a single sheep or goat can cause economic hardship for an entire family. Thus herders often resort to retaliatory killing and has adverse impacts on snow leopard and other wildlife especially in and around key wildlife migration corridors, an important consequence of human-wildlife conflicts. Killing of snow leopards in response to, or prevention of livestock losses are reported to be among the most serious dangers to this

[100] Other species harboured include the Himalayan Tahr (*Hemitragus jemlahicus*), Himalayan Musk Deer (*Moschus chrysogaster*), Blue Sheep (*Pseudois nayaur*), Asiatic Black Bear (*Selenarctos thibetanus*), Tibetan Wolf (*Canis lupus chanco*), Tibetan Wild Ass (*Equus kiang*) and many others. It is also an Important Bird Area with the high altitude lakes and bogs providing breeding grounds for a variety of avifauna including the threatened Black-necked Crane (*Grus nigricollis*), Bar-headed Geese (*Anser indicus*), Brahminy Ducks (*Tadorna ferruginia*), and Brown-headed Gulls (*Larus brunnicephalus*).

[101] Gargi Banerji and Mashqura Fareedi, Protection of Cultural Diversity in the Himalayas: A Background Paper for a Workshop on Addressing Regional Disparities: Inclusive & Culturally Attuned Development for the Himalayas, PRAGYA

species. A study carried out in the Indian Trans-Himalayan region cited that retaliatory killings of snow leopards by herders are considered to be the largest threat facing the species in India[102]. Occasional killing of sheep and goats by snow leopards are usually tolerated, especially if some of the carcasses can be retrived, but if large numbers of livestock are attacked, the snow leopards are often killed. In 2002, such incidents were reported from northern India where 75 animals were lost to snow leopards entering the same corral on three separate occasions. This resulted in the aggrieved villagers killing at least 16 snow leopards, with majority of the snow leopards killed on site either after they had taken livestock or entered a village[103]. The tendency of snow leopards to remain at the site where the prey has been killed makes it very vulnerable to such retailiatory killing while much more worrying is the fact that in some States such as Ladakh there were reports that villagers were also engaging in pre-emptive removal of snow leopard threat to wildlife by removing cubs from their dens.

On the other hand, local villagers and communities are left with no choice to depend on livestock rearing and pastoralism despite of the increased incidence of livestock depradation by snow leopard and other wildlife. The difficult terrain, severe weather conditions, small and under-developed markets, poor connectivity and inadequate general infrastructure compounded by limited capacities and skills and governance deficits[104] mean there is a high cost of delivery of public services, thereby acting as constraints for improving the lives and livelihoods of local communities. This acts as a barrier for development of alternative livelihood options for local communities.

Habitat degradation and fragmentation: Other human activities in the region that are detrimental include fuel wood collection and illicit felling of trees for timber and other products and occasional forest fires – intentional or from fires escaped from other uses (e.g. for leaf litter collection; shifting cultivation), often leading to degradation of habitats and in severe cases habitat loss and fragementation. Likewise, the collection of wild medicinal and aromatic plants for local as well as commercial use creates pressures on the forest ecosystems especially when sustainable harvesting practices are not followed. Limited planning and lack of controls (enforcement of safe practices) pertaining to tourism and recreation activities such as trekking, camping and skiing (on the increasing trends) and intrusive developmental activities such as construction of roads cause serious fragmentation of habitat.

Poaching, poor enforcement and illegal trade: The impact of illegal trade cannot be measured precisely, due in large part to but illegal trade and illicit demand for threatened species such as snow leopard products exists at national and international levels. Snow leopards are killed and traded for their fur and other body parts, including teeth, claws, and bones. Snow leopard fur is used for clothing, hats, and furnishings. Even the meat is occasionally eaten. Given the value of a snow leopard pelt, pelts from kills by local herders in retaliation for livestock depredation may also end up in one of the market chains. The country has a recent history of trade in snow leopard products. In the 1980s, snow leopard skins were available, valued at about US$250 to 500 in the north-west Himalayan tourist towns of Srinagar and Manali were reported[105]. Although, there has not been any comprehensive studies or surveys to ascertain the level of trade in snow leopard products in the country, according to a TRAFFIC India compiled information on incidences of poaching and trade involving snow leopards, indicated that between Decmber 1994 to July 2002, 28 seizures were made from several places including in Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Darjeeling, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. In addition, per State authorities' sponsored efforts to carry out inventory[106] (e.g. Jammu and Kashmir) of fur items indicated a thriving trade in snow leopard products such as snow leopard skin, mounted skin, head, and hat and coats, individual items valued (at that time) between US$ 200 to US$1030.

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[102] Mishra, C (1997). Livestock depradation by large carnivores in the Indian Trans-Himalaya: conflict perceptions and conservation prospects. *Environmental Conservation*. 24: 338-343

[103] Spearing, A. (2002). The Snow Leopard in Zanskar, Jammu and Kashmir, NW India. In: Proceedings of the Snow Leopard Survival Strategy Summit, May 2002, Seattle, USA.International Snow Leopard Trust, Seattle, USA.

104 Report of the Committee to Study Development in Hill States Arising from Management of Forest Lands with Special Focus on Creation of Infrastructure, Livelihood and Human Development (B K Chaturvedi Committee Report), Planning Commission of India, November 2013.

[105] Osborne, B.C., Mallon, D.P. and Fraser, S.J.R. (1983). Ladakh, threatened stronghold of Himalayan mammals. Oryx 17: 182-189.

[106] Inventory was carried out with the aim to find out and compensate furriers before all furs of protected species were confisticated and the fur trade closed

Secondary killing of snow leopards, such as being caught in snares set for other wildlife, may also occur. Even where the primary motive is not to kill snow leopards per se, non-specific hunting pratices such as setting traps, poisoning through poisoned prey are serious threats. Several examples from other range countries (e.g. Rusian Federation and Kyrgyzstan) illustrate how traps set for musk deer skill snow leopards while un-regulated use of poison to control predators, for example wolves also threaten snow leopards. To make matters worse, weak wildlife law enforcement including low levels of prosecution due to limitations in capacities and low levels of awareness or political will means there are currently limited deterrent to such practices. Moreover, the size, remoteness, and harshness of snow leopard habitat, plus the fact that most of it lies outside of PAs, makes law enforcement challenging. Porous borders that reduce traffickers' risks of detection also create challenges. In addition, the mountain regions ecosystem span national boundaries and significant portions of range of threatened species such as snow leopards are in areas classified as transboundary landscapes and therefore not in the remit of one single State or country. This calls for increased transboundary cooperation to reduce threats, implement conservation actions and especially as it relates to issues such as poaching and illegal trade across boundaries. Transboundary cooperation that facilitates knowledge sharing and exchange of skills and experience and collaborative effrots to address poaching and illegal trade of wildlife are required.

Climate change impacts: In addition, climate change is also expected to affect these landscapes significantly. While the future impacts of climate change on these ecosystem is not certain, and will vary in different areas; however, it seems certain that there will be impacts. For instance, melting glaciers are likely to affect water availability and increase the risk of droughts. Decreases in water availability and increases in temperature may affect pasture production, reducing food availability for both wild prey and domestic livestock. For example, a recent study found that as much as 30 percent of snow leopard habitat in the Himalayas could disappear due to upslope vegetation changes. Climate change can result in consequences such as loss, degradation, and fragmentation of habitat; reduction in natural prey; potential for increased competition with other predators such as common leopards. It is therefore essential to design and implement conservation strategies at landscape scales to ensure the long-term persistence of viable populations of threatened species such as snow leopards and their prey and in turn their ecosystems on which hundred of thousands of local communities depend on.

Given the above threats, challenges and gaps in conservation responses currently implemented, it is pertinent that a long-term strategy is put in place[107] to secure the globally significant biodiversity, land and forest resources in the high range Himalayan Ecosystem region while enhancing lives and livelihoods of local communities that are dependent on these ecosystems. Three inter-related barriers as described hereunder however currently impede the emergence of such a strategy.

Barrier 1. *Limited options of alternative livelihoods and currently inadequate employement of community-based approaches to biodiversity conservation and natural resource management*: As indicated above, given the lack of options and alternatives for local communities in the harsh landscape, most of the areas adjacent and often inside the protected areas are intensively used for livestock grazing and other forms of resource extraction. The increase in population and changes in land use practices by local communities is expected to further increase pressures on biodiversity conservation. Whereas in the earlier times, pastoralists' traditional practices for sustainable use of natural resources had limited impact, the changed practices with increase in population and corresponding increase in livestock herd numbers, abandoning pasture rotation is not only leading to extensive degradation of subalpine pasture meadows. Wild ungulates, such as Argali, ibex or Blue Sheep which are important preys of snow leopards are adversely affected by over-grazing and degradation of pasture land land through increased competition with domestic livestock. In addition, hunting of snow leopard prey species for for subsistence or for financial gain by local communities and poachers, also affects their number. Whatever the reasons for a reduction in Snow Leopard prey, as a shortage of natural prey can lead to increased predation on domestic livestock. Besides, increased movement of livestock in the snow leopard habitat means that the chances for clash with migration of snow leopards and other key wildlife species will

107 For detailed elaboration of the proposed long-term solution, please see section 3 – proposed alternative scenario

happen eventually. Given high levels of poverty and inherent lack of options for income generating opportunities and high dependence on livestock for their livelihood, loss of domestic livestock to Snow Leopard attacks can amount to a considerable economic loss for herding communities. For instance a survey in the Tsarap valley, in Zaskar, calculated that the average loss to Snow Leopards, per household, in 2000-01 was 1.42 domestic animals, or INR2537 (USD54). Considering that the average household income in that area is calculated at approximately INR17 784 (USD378), the cost of Snow Leopard predation is clearly burdensome and threatens the livelihood of the herding families. As a result considerable anger and ill-will is generated among local herding communities leading to retaliatory killing of snow leopards – one of the major threat faced by the species. Killings of Snow Leopards in response to, or in prevention of, livestock losses were reported can be cause of prime danger to the species. The tendency of Snow Leopards to remain at the killing site to consume their prey increases their vulnerability to retaliatory killings by herders. Moreover, as described earlier, in some areas (e.g. Ladakh) livestock herders are known to act pre-emptively by removing Snow Leopard cubs from their dens, to try and limit future damage to their livestock. Given the significance of human-wildlife conflicts and the loss of income and other serious impacts on local communities, it is important that communities are fully engaged in jointly evoling strategies to address the issue. There is a need to test and scale community approaches to amelioarate immediate conservation-livelihood conflicts, strategies that increase community ownership of conservation measures, improve livelihood outcomes for local communities and ensures sustainability of conservation efforts should be identified and implemented. These could include compensation schemes, crop and livestock insurance, wildlife deterrent systems such as supporting predator-proof corrals while local communities may also be supported to adopt wildlife friendly crop and livestock management practices. Together with schemes to compensate and off-set losses from snow leopard attack, the use of deterrent methods such as adopting modified herding practices and supporting snow leopard proof corrals are also important.

Likewise, illicit felling of trees for fuel wood and timber by local communities and especially selective removal of valuable species is leading to degradation of habitats. Similarly, there is currently limited community involvement in natural resource management including management and regeneration of rangeland/pasture areas and in internal adoption of biodiversity friendly agricultural and livestock practices. It is pertinent that local communities are brought in as partners of and see benefits from biodiversity conservation, if they are to become stewards of biodiversity. In addition efforts are also required to evolve biodiversity friendly agricultural systems that will reduce pressures on biodiversity while increasing benefits to local communities. Finally, in order to enhance awareness and capacities of local collective institutions in implementing biodiversity conservation, targeted efforts are required that support these institutions in assessment and monitoring the condition of biodiversity and integrating findings into local development plans and strategies.

Barrier 2: *The existing PA network do not ensure adequate representation or protection for all important wildlife areas including High Consevation Value Forests that are outside the PA while current practices of management of land and forests in the wider landscape is not sustainable***.** The current PA network is extensive but it is not optimal – some PAs in the region are open access and either have human habitation within and in close proximity or are used extensively by resident and migratory livestock for grazing. Moreover, some PAs, by themselves, are too small to support populations of threatened species like snow leopard. In addition, PA creation is neither feasible nor desirable to protect all the important habitat including wildlife corridors, buffer zones and migration routes. In these areas, conservation should be sought through land use planning and other means whereby land use and practices are regulated for coexistence of wildlife with people and for reducing impacts on biodiversity. In addition to reduce the impacts of development interventions, requires the PA authorities to work with other government agencies that are sponsoring these development activities. Further, it is imperative that PA management in the region is rationalized and greater technical and monetary resources are made available to wildlife managers. In tandem, business approaches and opportunities to mobilize funds (tourism, sustainable hunting, production of local crafts, catering, etc.) that would allow additional revenue generation should be promoted. Very importantly, to recognize the role of local communities in PA management, mechanisms for sharing of responsibility and benefits with local communities

require testing and further development. Likewise, the current models of transboundary cooperation in Protected Area management should improve and evolve to include broader cross-border cooperation, sharing of knowledge and lessons and cooperation to address key issues that are transboundary in nature, such as the issue of illegal wildlife trade (such as those described under barrier 3 below).

Moreover, there are currently no mechanisms by which the needs of the conservation sector and priorities of other prodution sectors and corresponding competing demands on lands can be managed and reconciled. Currently, local level land and natural resource management plans such as district land use-plans and sector plans including forestry plans are not coordinated and do not take into account the ecological requirements of flagship species such as Snow Leopard. Corridors providing for wildlife passage to key habitats outside the protected area are lacking, while the forest areas in many of these areas are degraded. Likewise, there are several forest landscapes that can be categorised as High Conservation Value forests[108] but the management of these important areas currently do not feature in both the conservation sector and territorial forestry planning approaches. There is a need to identify, assess, and manage these HCVFs while also ensuring conservation actions are monitored to ascertain their efficacies. In terms of management and protection, locally appropriate models such as conservation through declaration as Biodiversity Heritage Sites should be tested.

Barrier 3. *Limited wildlife monitoring, wildlife crime related deterrent systems and prosecution*: Given the difficult terrain (and the fact that much of the area remains snowbound and relatively inaccessible during winters), the limited coverage of PAs and inadequate capacities of inspectors, there is limited application of effective and integrated wildlife crime detection, monitoring and prosecution systems. As such, incidence of poaching, corral trapping, sale of pelts and other wildlife parts, and other wildlife related offences continue to be reported. Owing to poor coordination between state authorities (such as those in charge of PA management) and local self-governments, incidence of wildlife crime go un-addressed; there is limited involvement of local communities in monitoring wildlife populations, patrolling, and other wildlife protection related activity.

The Snow Leopard is protected in India under the national Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 as well as under the Jammu and Kashmir Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1978. The species is listed on Schedule I of both laws, with the effect that hunting is generally forbidden. The maximum penalty for offences concerning animals listed in Schedule I of the Act is seven years' imprisonment and a fine of INR25 000 (USD516) – significant legal deterrent exists. However poaching and illegal trade in wildlife continues unabated. Despite strong legal protection and prohibitions, weak wildlife law enforcement is a problem across the snow leopard's range including low levels of prosecution even when offenders are apprehended. The reasons for this include limited capacities due to underfunding of the wildlife sector, and in some cases due to lack pf political will and awareness. Trade in Snow Leopard products also continue because of loopholes in the legislation and a due to the long time it takes to prosecute cases in courts. Moreover, the size, remoteness, and harshness of snow leopard habitat, plus the fact that most of it lies outside of PAs, makes law enforcement challenging and reduced the traffickers' risk of detection.

An additional issue is that, threats from poaching and illegal wildlife trade are transboundary in nature while there is currenly limited cooperation across the borders both within the country (inter-state) and between different countries in the region. Porous borders that reduce traffickers' risks of detection also create challenges. There is thus a need for effective transboundary cooperation address the emerging threats of wildlife related crimes and trade. Within snow leopard range countries, increased cooperation and communication is needed among the agencies involved or potentially involved in combatting wildlife crime (PA enforcement staff, police, customs, border patrols, army). International efforts are needed to reduce illicit demand for endangered wildlife in markets around the world and increase capacity for global law enforcement action against organized syndicates. Furthermore, there is limited research on diseases, state of forest and alpine ecosystems, and other environmental factors affecting

[108] HCVFs – in the current case, are areas that contain globally or nationally significant forest landscapes that contain rate, threatened or endangered ecosystems

the population of the key wildlife species, especially relating to apex predators including the snow leopard and their key prey species. Thus, addressing and curbing the illegal snow leopard trade needs a series of actions taken at international, national, and local scales.

The baseline scenario and associated baseline projects

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and the Addendum to the NBSAP 2008 prepared in 2014 are indicative of the strong commitment of the Government of India to biodiversity conservation. The NBSAP Addendum (2014) also promulgated 12 NBTs in line with the 20 Aichi Global Targets. To achieve these goals, the Government expends large sums of money every year through both central and state level investments. For instance in 2013-2014, the Government of India invested around US$ 1482.68 million on biodiversity conservation related efforts and actions. Specifically, an important and large baseline is the proposed National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS). This broad programme covering all the Himalayan region of the country has a total budget allocation of around US$ 50 million during the current 5-year plan (2012-2017) with proposal to allocate an additional US $16.6 million during the next 5-year plan (2017-2022). The overall vision of NMHS is to launch and support innovative studies and related knowledge interventions towards the sustenance and enhancement of the ecological, natural cultural, and socio-economic capital assets and values of the Indian Himalayan Region. NMHS will work towards a set of linked and complementary goals, including, indicatively, (i) fostering conservation and sustainable management of natural resources; (ii) enhancement of supplementary and/or alternative livelihoods of IHR peoples and overall economic well-being of the region; (iii) control and prevention of pollution in the region; (iv) fostering increased/augmented human and institutional capacities and the knowledge and policy environments in the region; and (v) strengthening, greening, and fostering development of climate resilient core infrastructure and basic services assets.

Further, India's commitment to conservation is also reflected in a network of more than 700 protected areas across different ecosystems and bioregions of the country. In the Trans and Greater Himalayan Regions, these include the Great Himalayan National Park, Pin Valley National Park, Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary, Rupi- Bhaba Wildlife Sanctuary, Lippa-Asrang Wildlife Sanctuary, Sangla (Raksham-Chhitkul) Wildlife Sanctuary, and the Sechu-Tuan Nala Wildlife Sanctuary, and the recently declared Cold Desert Landscape in Himachal Pradesh, and the Govind National Park, Gangotri National Park, Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary, the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve (including the Valley of Flowers National Park and the Nanda Devi National Park), and the Askot Wildlife Sanctuary in Uttarakhand), as well as the Hemis National Park in the Ladakh region of Jammu and kashmir. India also has an extensive network of biosphere reserves in the Himalayan region, including the Nanda Devi National Park & Biosphere Reserve, the Dihang-DibangBiosphere Reserve, the Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve and the Khangchendzonga National Park and Biospehre Reserve. Under its support to PAs, the Government of India invests around US $ 2.45 million (approx. 12.5 million over 5 years) every year in the operations and effective management of these PAs. Likewise, the Ministry is also providing targeted support through financial resources to the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau[109] estimated to around US$ 3.7 million over five years towards strengthening the control and monitoring of wildlife crimes.

Simlarly, the Government of India has over the years invested in several developmental programmes and schemes in the region. These have included, for example, various schemes and programmes by the Departments of Animal Husbandry and Livestock Production, Departments of Forests and Wildlife Protection, Hill Area Development Programme of the Plannning Commission, Departments of Rural Development, schemes such as the Border Areas Development Programme (BADP – designed to meet the special developmental needs of the people living in remote and inaccessible areas situated near the

[109] The Wild Life Crime Control Bureau has been created under Section 38Y of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The mandate includes collection, collation of intelligence and its dissemination, establishment of a centralized Wild Life crime databank, coordination of the actions of various enforcement authorities towards the implementation of the provisions of the Act, implementation of the international Conventions, capacity building for scientific and professional investigation, assistance to authorities in other countries for a coordinated universal action towards control of Wild Life crime and to advise the government on various policy and legal requirements.

international border) and several national missions – National Missions on Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Livelihoods, National Livestock Programme, Special Programmes for Rural Development etc., in addition to the initiatives by district and local administrations. Given that biodiversity conservation requires addressing livelihoods needs of the local communities that depend on natural resources, it is important that the project work with these baseline development programmes. A modest estimate of these investments totals approximately $10 million every year (approx. 50 million 5 years) and can be shown as contributing to the objectives of the current project particularly with regard to securing sustainable livelihoods, improving land productivity and improving rural incomes.

Another highly relevant baseline project is India's Recovery Programme for 16 Critically Endangered Species, which includes Hungul, Markhor, and Snow Leopard launched in 2009 by the MoEFCC[110]. The project is implemented in five Himalayan States namely Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh. The project adopts a landscape approach to conservation wherein smaller core zones with relatively higher conservation values will be identified and protected within the larger landscape conservation measures are implemented in such a way that it allows necessary development benefits to the local communities. The project includes focus on development of technical know-how and management models for landscape level conservation management, enhancing partnerships with and participation of local communities and devising and implementing appropriate coordination mechanisms that involve all key stakeholders such as Village and Landscape-level Conservation Committees, State SL Conservation Societies at the local and state level and the National Steering Committee at the centre. This national initiative has a total estimated budget of US$ 1 million per year (around $5 million over 5 years).

Finally, the current project builds on the *Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Conservation Program* (GSLEP). The GSLEP unites Governments, UN Agencies, NGOs and Researches of the SL range in the effort to conserve this species, as postulated by the International Agreement on SL signed in Bishkek in 2013 (India was one of the signatories). At the national level, as part of the GSLECP, India has the *National Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection* (NSLECP) Priorities; India's commitments under the NSLEP include the following: (1) Engaging Local Communities & Reducing Human-Wildlife Conflict; (2) Strengthening Capacity of National & Local Institutions; (3) Transboundary Management & Enforcement; (4) Addressing Knowledge Gaps through Research & Monitoring; (5) Strengthening Policies & Institutions; and (6) Awareness & Communication. The NSLEP in India is also consistent with and complementary to the country's Project Snow Leopard, designed for all biologically important habitats within the SL's range, irrespective of their ownership (e.g. Protected Areas, common land, etc.).

<u>The proposed alternative scenario, with description of expected outcomes and components</u>

The objective of the project is to engineer a paradigm shift from the current approach of relying solely on small, isolated Protected Areas and other conservation actions to deliver biodiversity conservation including conservation of threatened species to one that takes an integrated approach – that considers PAs as corner stone of biodiversity conservation but whose integrity and effectiveness can only be attained by working in important areas outside PAs, and also working with sectors and partners outside the conservation sector to effectively reduce threats to globally significant biodiversity. This approach recognizes that the major and emerging threats to biodiversity in the region, including to the survival of threatened species such as the snow leopard, stem from beyond protected areas and also in several cases beyond the conservation sector (and in some cases beyond the region) – these consists of land use change demands for development especially infrastructure development; harmful practices by production sectors and heavy reliance on natural resources by local communities; and emerging threats of illegal wildlife trade and wildlife crime etc. It further recognizes the importance of a landscape approach to the conservation and management of important areas in the Indian Himalayan region, by ensuring that key biodiversity areas, buffer zones, corridors are sustainably managed in tandem with the sustainable use and management of areas that are contingent to these conservation areas or outside of it in the wider

[110] Other species include Bustard (including Floricans), Dolphin, Hangul, Nilgiri Tahr, Marine Turtles, Dugongs, Edible Nest Swiftlet, Asian Wild Buffalo, Nicobar Megapode, Manipur Brow-antlered Deer, Vultures, Malabar Civet, Indian Rhinoceros, Asiatic Lion, Swamp Deer and Jerdon's Courser

landscape. Further, the project recognizes that these landscapes and ecosystems underpin the lives and livelihoods of a large number of local communities and that implementation of coherent strategy to secure livelihoods and promote alternative livelihood options is an integral part of the solution. The project will be implemented over a 6-year period within the snow leopard ranges region[111] and based on the following principles:

- Supporting implemention of an up-front participatory/consultative bottom-up project planning and approach/process that focuses on community priorities and decisions that are linked to conservation outcomes;
- Supporting decentralization by strengthening the role of communities, local government institutions (Panchayat Raj Institutions, community based organizations, such as Biodiversity Management Committees, etc.) in planning and implementation, and increasing their potential for becoming agents of sustainable natural resource management;
- Ensuring that community decisions on resource and income generating options are guided by appropriate knowledge and information about alternatives to existing unsustainable resource uses;
- Adopting an integrated multi-sectoral approach as a strategy for improving the management of natural resources within the landscape; and building on successful lessons and experiences from the previous and on-going programs.

The three components proposed by this project address the corresponding three barriers.

Component I: *Securing sustainable community livelihoods in high range Himalayan ecosystems.* Under this component, the project will seek to improve and diversify livelihoods of local communities in selected areas of the Indian Himalayan region (Ladakh region of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh), so that local livelihoods can be secured / improved while improving biodiversity conservation outcomes. This will include improvements in current practices of livestock management and protection through measures such as technological/design inputs for predator-proof corrals/livestock enclosures, and modification of herd management such as community agreements for voluntary herd size reductions, identification and demarcation of rangelands for grazing to reduce pressure on and competition with wild ungulate and herbivore populations for pastures. In addition, incentives to conserve some indigenous breeds of livestock will be considered. Likewise, given the limited availability of arable land, measures to enhance agricultural/horticultural crop productivity and quality will also be supported.

These efforts will be complemented by initiatives aimed at diversification of existing/traditional livelihoods in the region such as (indicatively) the development of plans for and initiation of community managed enterprise such as eco-tourism (including homestays; capacity building/training in various aspects of eco-tourism) and identification and development high value NTFPs such as *Cordyceps sinensis* and other medicinal and aromatic plants. It is expected that approximately 15% of communities (tentative estimate) in target area will be supported. The feasibility of increasing the incomes of local communities from biodiversity-compatible activities by approximately 10-15% is estimated to be realistic and is based on past experience in the region. In addition, the project will also seek to enhance local communities and local institutions capacities for formulating and implementing community based approaches to biodiversity conservation: in this regard, the project will help local communities adjust and adapt agri-livestock practices to be more biodiversity friendly while also evolving mechanisms whereby local communities assess, monitor and integrate biodiversity related information into local development plans and strategies. Finally, given the significance of conservation-livelihood conflicts, the project will support identification of and implementation of measures that reduce such conflicts such as promotion of wildlife friendly crop and herd management, use of deterrent systems to minimize incidences of human-wildlife conflict and in some cases mitigating the losses to local communities through compensation and insurance schemes.

[111] Selection of sites will be carried out through a comprehensive multistakeholder process to identify suitable areas, but is likely to include, indicatively, the Leh District of Ladakh in Jammu & Kashmir; the Chamba, Lahaul and Spiti, Kullu, and Kinnaur Districts of Himachal Pradesh; and the Uttarkashi, Chamoli, and Pithoragarh Districts of Uttarakhand.

Component II: *Conservation of key biodiversity areas and effective management of PAs and securing ecosystem resilience, habitat connectivity in wider landscapes in high range Himalayan ecosystems*: Under this component, the project will seek to minimize threats and disturbance to critical wildlife habitats (especially that of endangered species such as the SL) in the wider landscape outside PAs through planning land uses better – preparing an integrated land, forest and pasture management plans that will include (i) identification of functional zones in selected areas considering natural ecosystem types; (ii) identification and spatial assignment of appropriate land use types that consider conservation needs and development priorities of target areas; (iii) identification of existing and potential conflicts among different land-user and of measures to mitigate or eliminate such conflicts; and (iv) development of a GIS-based land use concept and its dissemination to relevant government bodies. Existing sectoral plans (e.g. forestry and rangeland management plans) will be reviewed and updated/revised to integrate and reconcile conservation and economic needs of the high range Himalayan ecosystems and the promotion of sustainable land use and natural resource management practices in the landscape.
To secure critical biodiversity areas such as HCVFs, the project will identify and protect at least 15,000 ha HCVFs. Protection will be ensured using locally appropriate conservation regimes which may include the category of Biodiversity Heritage Sites[112]. In addition, boundaries of existing protected areas, buffer zones and biodiversity corridors will be delineated and existing management regimes of the PAs in the region will be reviewed and revised appropriately. It will also facilitate the preparation of management plans for these conservation areas. These plans will be informed by comprehensive and participatory biodiversity assessments and also socio-economic considerations to ensure that they provide acceptable and appropriate levels of protection of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs). The plans will guide the management of these areas focusing on securing fragile ecosystems and enhancing connectivity. Thus the project will avoid conversion of at least 15,000 ha of such forests. The project will also support improvement/assisted regeneration of rangelands/pastures (of at least 40,000 ha) through community forestry and collaborative forestry programmes and promote improved pasture management practices including pasture rotation and management plans/regimes that consider feeding grounds and wildlife migration routes (and timing) and while also managing grazing timing, cattle densities etc.

Moreover the project will also seek to build systems for long-term effective conservation of globally significant biodiversity in PAs in selected areas of the high range Himalayan Ecosystem (Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh region of Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh) through building/enhancing capacities of all stakeholders to effectively engage in spatial planning and development coordination, increase habitat connectivity with specific focus for restoration of degraded rangeland and wetland habitats. In addition, the project will also seek to develop collaborative efforts and knowledge exchange among PA managers on improvement in the quality and sustainability of protection and management activities. The initiative will also include development and fostering of mechanisms for coordination with other sectors, sector agencies, and planners on dealing with macro threats posed by development and management of land and natural resources in the areas adjacent to PAs in a way they are rationalized and in line with reducing impacts on the PAs. The project will also build in climate change impacts (i.e., boundary shifts of species, communities) in the frame works for PA management in higher Himalaya.

Component III: *Enhanced enforcement and monitoring to reduce threats from wildlife crime and other related threats:* Under this component, the project will help develop and demonstrate effective wild life monitoring, prosecution and other deterrent systems. It will also increase international cooperation through establishing cohesive linkages with global and regional programmes such as linkages with the GSLEP and other relevant initiatives. The project will put in place improved anti-poaching and surveillance measures (including involvement of local communities in anti-poaching and surveillance/wildlife monitoring efforts) backed by efficient and effective information sharing and management systems to reduce incidences of wildlife poaching and illegal trade. In doing so, the project

[112] As defined under the Guidelines for Identification, Notification and Management of Biodiversity Heritage Sites, National Biodiversity Authority, India.

will focus on strengthening the enforcement capacities of environmental inspectors, police, and border guards (including the ITBP, Indian army, customs officers, etc.) through trainings on integrated wildlife law enforcement (e.g. identification and prosecution of wildlife crime; inter-agency cooperation; risk management; investigative procedures etc.) and also strengthen the implementation of CITES, in close cooperation with the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) of the MoEFCC. The project will draw on international best practice and experience for models of wildlife crime reduction (including building awareness of wildlife laws, reducing demand through behaviour change campaigns, and strengthened enforcement of wild life laws including supporting fast prosecution of wildlife crimes) while also working actively to co-opt local communities for wildlife crime monitoring and reduction.

The project will also support partnership development and emplacement of mechanisms for trans-boundary coordination and cooperation on conservation efforts and improved information management related to wildlife crime and illegal wildlife trade. The mechanisms for partnerships will include both within the country (inter-state) and with neighbouring countries (e.g. with Nepal, Bhutan and China) and make use of exsiting regional conservation initiatives and networks (such as GSLEP, SAWEN) to build on. The project will also build monitoring capacities (e.g. know-how and monitoring equipment), expanding monitoring of SL and prey populations (e.g. camera traps, line transects, distance sampling, occupancy surveys) and establishment of GIS based information management system (initial development, design and deployment).

Incremental cost reasoning and global environmental benefits

The table below provides a summary of the current scenario, the changed scenario that would result from the GEF investment and the increment and global environmental benefits that will be generated.

Summary of baseline scenario	Summary of GEF scenario	Increment
	Biodiversity	
- The PA system leaves out significant areas of the range of key wildlife species in the region - Absence of or very basic management/business plans at PAs and limited funding for species conservation; - Limited research, mapping only ad-hoc monitoring of keystone wildlife - Construction of roads, communication lines and other economic infrastructure disrupts migration routes of keystone wildlife species without compensatory activities - Very limited or no engagement of communities in protected area management - High incidence of human-wildlife conflicts and wildlife crime - Populations of threatened/endangered mammals present in wider landscape outside of PAs likely to fall. - Biotic pressures on prey species exceed sustainable limits and undermine its food base of keystone predator species.	- Better-managed and financially sustainable ecological network including PAs in the region offer improved threatened species representation of key predators and its prey species. - Business and management planning concept widely used, - Reduced human-wildlife conflicts and wildlife crime - Compliance of economic resource-users with biodiversity standards is monitored and enforced in and around the newly established and existing PAs, as well as in buffer zones and migration corridors. - Under-represented biodiversity is studied and monitored on a systematic basis. - Communities are actively engaged in ecologically compatible activities in and around PAs. - Management systems developed/strengthened to ensure sustainable food base for keystone wildlife species. - PA managers, foresters and communities trained in land use compatible with SL ecology, as well as in wildlife crime prevention.	- Financial sustainability and management effectiveness of selected PAs in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand is increased by 25% over the baseline (measured by METT). - Threat and disturbance reduction (coverage to be determined during project planning): ~15% reduction in illicit Juniper/other species forest cuts; ~20% reduction in predator kills by herders; ~17% reduction in poaching (these and further indicators will be finalized based on PPG research, both for baseline and target values) - Up-to-date data on SLs and keystone wildlife species and expanded international cooperation in SL and other keystone wildlife species conservation, research and monitoring, - Contribution to implementation of CBD PoWPA (expansion of PAs, integration of PAs in wider landscapes, and community engagement schemes). - Innovative institutional arrangements for active

		community involvement in conservation - Improved/enhanced contribution to relevant MEAs including CITES
	Sustainable Land Management	
- Overgrazed pastures exceeding carrying capacity resulting in erosion, vegetation loss and water deficiencies. - Pasture rotation absent; - No use of outlying pastures due to absence of advanced of livestock trails, bridges and watering points - Infringement of grazing onto protected areas - Limited support for communities in the region focusing on livestock and agriculture and no opportunities for ecosystem-friendly alternative livelihoods - High vulnerability of homesteads, livestock, and other community assets to climate change, especially run-off and flooding from extreme weather events	- Integrated land use planning in select PAs and in the wider landscape in the region, juxtaposing economic use maps with ecosystem condition and biodiversity distribution maps, - Incentives for reducing pressures on pastures stimulated through micro-credit - Rehabilitation and sustainable management of pasture planning with engagement of local communities; rotational grazing, investments in repair and maintenance of pasture infrastructure (bridges, wells) allows greater flock mobility; regeneration of the natural pasture covers using natural pasture seeds. - Improved vegetation covers and reduced erosion in areas of investment - Sustainable alternative livelihoods, benefitting recipients (coverage numbers to be determined during project planning) in the 7-10 years immediately after the project. - Local communities (coverage numbers to be determined during project planning) and their assets in selected project areas become more resilient to climate variability and extreme weather events	Competitive pressures between land uses in mountain steppe/pasture landscapes reduced in productive lands covering ~ 40,000 ha: - Decrease in grazing pressure and improved condition of mountain steppe ecosystems, - Improved vegetation cover, fodder productivity and pasture regeneration, - Innovative mechanisms for SLM and biodiversity in increased in targeted districts - Innovative mechanisms for local climate risk assessments and adaptation interventions based on these developed and replicated across - Increased soil carbon as a result of above of 1,853,353 tCO2-eq/10y (based on FAO Exact model)
	Climate Change	
- High dependence on biomass based energy for lighting, cooking and heating	- Introduction/promotion of energy efficient and renewable energy technologies such as solar lighting, etc. and energy efficient cook stoves	- Reduction in biomass usage in selected intervention areas, in and around centres/pockets of human habitation
	Sustainable Forest Management	
- Excessive logging/extraction of key species such as Juniper and other hardy herbaceous species such as Artemisia by local communities, - Uncontrolled collection of non-timber/medicinal/aromatic products in the region resulting in their degradation, - Infringement of agricultural and other anthropogenic activities on Juniper and other hardy herbaceous species such as Artemisia, - Livestock grazing destroying undergrowth and clashing with migration routes of keystone wildlife species, - HCVAs not/inadequately classified;	- Identification and good management practices in HCVA with involvement of communities; - Adjustment of volume, timing and mode of harvesting of timber and non-timber resources in areas of high concentration of Juniper and other hardy herbaceous species such as Artemisia, in line with ecosystem carrying capacity principles and SL and other keystone wildlife species migration; - Reforestation of degraded areas of Juniper and other hardy herbaceous species and grazing management in such areas;	- HCVAs identified and designated (at least 15,000 ha) including biological corridors adequately managed and protected ensuring stability of ecosystem functions including provision of wildlife habitat and migration routes ensuring avoided carbon emissions of 3,559,845 tCO2-eq/10 y (*based on Tier-1 FAO Exact model*). - Degraded forests (1,000 ha) restored ensuring carbon sequestration of 168,675 tCO2-eq/10 y (*based on Tier-1 FAO Exact model*).

- Weak capacities of foresters and poor collaboration with local communities.	- Training of foresters and communities in forest management planning and enforcement of the HCVA standards

Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Innovativeness: The landscape approach of the project is an innovation for the region: PA efforts alone are not adequate to ensure conservation due to the fact that threats to conservation emanate beyond PA boundaries. The project recognizes that in order to improve conservation outcome in the Himalayan landscape, it is important to evolve strategies to reduce the negative effects of competing land uses on natural resources, such as addressing natural resources and land degradation, improve and secure local livelihoods, and reduce incidences of wildlife crime. The project's investment in integrated land use planning for pasture and forest use outside PAs that will secure and conserve key wildlife areas such as buffer zones, corridors is designed to meet this need and is innovative in the country. Similarly employment of a range of conservation-livelihood conflict mitigation measures in particular, crop and livestock insurance schemes together with efforts to espouse new models and ways of working with loca communities including appropriate governance models and mechanisms is an innovation. Identification and designation of HCVAs and designing special regimes with communities on forest restoration and agroforestry is another important innovation for the Ladakh region of Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

Sustainability, replication and dissemination: It is expected that in the 7-10 years after implementation, the central and state governments will replicate/upscale the project's initiatives to cover all the PAs as well as the entire snow leopard range in the Indian Himalayas. The project would explicitly focus on (i) scaling up of successful landscape conservation models; (ii) raising awareness; (iii) promoting explicit linkages between conservation and development; (iv) and replicating participatory conservation mechanisms to other PAs and biodiversity. The operational and financial sustainability of the expanded ecological network in the selected project areas of the region will be ensured by commitment of Government to allocate core financing for PAs completed to a large extent by revenue generated through tourism and other mechanisms including allocations from other development sectors as conservation and sustainable resource use will be integrated into land-use plans in the wider landscape. The engagement of India in the international GSLECP as well as by participating in high level negotiations on the future policy and land use improvements aiming at conservation of this species, will ensure the longevity of the results in the areas of monitoring, research, mapping and policy making.

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes ☐ /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation:

Stakeholder	Role
Government agencies	
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and its constituent departments/wings/agencies	MoEFCC is the focal point institution of the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity in India. It is the key implementing partner of the project, responsible for its coordination across Governments, and with local communities and private sector stakeholders. The project will coordinate with the Mountain, Biodiversity and the Wildlife Division within the Ministry for achieving the outcomes. The Ministry will also support the climate change resilience and adaptation elements of the project in coordination with the relevant state government departments, including, indicatively, the State Watershed Management Directorates. Coordination with the National Biodiversity Authority and State Biodiversity Boards for relevant components will be ensured.
Department of Science and Technology (DST)	DST is the focal point for India's National Mission on Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE), and has an integrated focus on ecosystems in the Indian Himalayan Region
State Forest Departments	Primary partners for implementation in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh as custodians and managers of PAs and other High Value Conservation Areas (Reserved Forests)
Ministry of Agriculture	The Ministry is a key partner in the development and implementation of the agriculture related management plans in target areas. Along with its research centres under the Indian

Stakeholder	Role
	Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) as well as its local offices are key for coordinating the activities with local authorities and also development of strategies, methods and technical assistance for improvements in agriculture in the target areas
Ministry of Rural Development Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)	Links will be established with the State Livelihood Missions for convergence and leveraging support in various rural livelihoods activities MNRE will support/foster the energy related components of the project
District administrations	The local administrations are critical providers of community engagement in the project. They will have an important role to play in basically all project activities: planning and establishment of the ecological network, land use changes, planning and establishment of the buffer zone and corridors, innovative pasture management, alternative livelihoods support program, etc.
ITBP, Indian Army etc.	The Indian paramilitary and armed forces based in the target regions will be important stakeholders and partners given their presence in the region through the year including winters, when much of the region becomes snow bound and inaccessible.
Non-government organizations and local communities	
Snow Leopard Trust and the Nature Conservation Foundation	The SLT and the NCF are actively engaged in India's Project Snow Leopard and are also implementing a livelihoods and conservation project in the Upper Spiti region of Himachal Pradesh. SLT and NCF will be key knowledge and capacity building partners in the project, and will help cross-pollinate experiences from their Upper Spiti into the project
Snow Leopard Conservancy	SLC have been successfully running a livelihoods (ecotourism focused, including homestays) and conservation program in the Hemis National Park in the Ladakh autonomous region of Jammu and Kashmir. The project will partner SCF to cross-pollinate their experiences from Ladakh into the project
Other local NGOs/CBOs	Other NGOs and CBOs in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand will be identified and co-opted as required during planning and project implementation.
Local communities in the targeted areas of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Ladakh	Primary beneficiaries under Component I of the project; active users of ecosystem services and beneficiaries of project results in Component II
Research expertise	
Wildlife Institute of India (WII)	As India's premier institute and research centre for wildlife studies and conservation, WII be a key partner for all wildlife and conservation aspects of the project
G B Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Environment (GBPIHED)	GBPIHED, as a key national research centre on Himalayan environment and development issues will be a key partner in all aspects of the project. It is the Centre of Excellence for the MoEFCC and is hosted in the Mountain Division of the MoEFCC.
International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)	ICIMOD will be a key partner across multiple areas of project planning and implementation including planning; will also be a key policy and knowledge partner and facilitator for transboundary cooperation and landscape level conservation and management interventions.
Private sector	
Various agencies	Active collaboration with the private sector in the project will be sought. Collaboration is likely to include provision of services such as microcredit, crop and livestock insurance (including, potentially, index-based micro-insurance), infrastructure design and support, as well as management inputs, etc. as required by the project from time to time. Various universities and other academic/research institutions in the target states are likely to be potential key partners, and will be identified and co-opted as appropriate.

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

Risk	Level	Mitigation
Continued exacerbation of the threats connected to the undermining of the food base of SLs and other keystone wildlife species in the target areas	M	Without the project, this threat is material as a result of systemic issues outlined above in the barriers section. As a response, the project will design an improved policy aiming at reducing the pressure on keystone wildlife species, and will also work to separate livestock transhumance from SLs and other keystone wildlife species migration. The feasibility of successfully implementing these activities is believed to be high, and therefore, the risk of the food base disruption will be minimized.
Communities might not buy in to the new approaches in planning and managing the use of pastures as they might perceive the risk of losing income, at least temporarily (due to perceived reduction in stocking density)	M	While efforts will be made under the project, where required to support voluntary herd-size reductions, sustainable pasture management plans will presuppose such scenarios where amount of livestock does not necessarily need to decrease, therefore loss of income would not actually happen. The project will design measure to enable comfortable access to more distant pastures and start proper pasture rotation (necessary activities and budget had been factored in under Component II). This will decrease the density (and hence the pressure on grassland and forest ecosystems) without reduction in livestock numbers. Communities will be broadly consulted during the design and testing of this approach.
Disease or climate change have an adverse impact on population of SLs and other keystone wildlife species	L	According to current scenarios, changes in the species compositions in most ecosystems of India are not expected to be catastrophic. In the mountains, the rise in temperature is expected to be mitigated by elevated humidity and relief conditions. Mammals with a large home range and endemic vegetation are most vulnerable to predicted aridization of climate and shift in ecological zones, but will be able to adapt if they have space for movement. This is one of the key reasons that the project has chosen to emphasize landscape-level actions together with protected area expansion. The project will enable the emergence of a supportive matrix of land uses, including the ecological corridors to connect protected areas. In addition, this approach will limit climate change risk by providing pathways along macro-climatic and upland-lowland gradients to enable species movement in a context of potentially shifting ecological zones.

A.4. Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other initiatives:
The proposed project will coordinate with on-going GEF-financed Biodiversity projects in the country as described below:
The UNDP-GEF implemented *India high range Landscape Project - Developing an effective multiple-use management framework for conserving biodiversity in the mountain landscape of the high ranges, the Western Ghats, India* that will build effective collaborative governance framework for multiple use management of forest landscapes will generate lessons on land use planning and permitting framework that considers both ecological /environmental priorities and development objectives. The current project can benefit from this in particular in the design of measures to reduce conflicting land use demands at the landscape level in the fragile SL landscapes; in addition, the current project will complement the work under the former project in areas of development of guidelines / tools for integrating biodiversity into production sector practices; and also share lessons with each other for cross-fertilization of ideas and approaches to promote sustainable use and management of wild resources by local communities.

Similarly, the recently approved WB-GEF project "*Integrated Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Services Improvement Project*" will also build capacities in relevant government agencies at the central and state level to mainstream biodiversity conservation into development plans and policies while also demonstrating means and strategies to improve conservation status of forest ecosystems including development models for enhancing and measuring carbon stocks and carbon sequestration in production and other types of forests in tandem with development of models for sustainable use of biodiversity for increased incomes and improved livelihoods. The current project will directly complement efforts under the WB-GEF project and will make use of the models for carbon stock improvement and measurement in promoting sustainable forest management practices in the wider landscapes in the SL ranges.

In addition the GEF-UNDP project "*Mainstreaming conservation, sustainable use and cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants in the forestry sector in three Indian States*" will form the basis of some of the work that will be taken forward in engaging local communities in inventorisation and monitoring of medicinal plants found in their jurisdiction and adding value to select medicinal and aromatic plants using their traditional knowledge and validation and commercial use of this traditional knowledge. Similarly another UNDP project "*Biodiversity Conservation through Community Based Natural* Resource *Management*' will serve as the lessons bank to enhance community capacities in resource management and securing livelihood opportunities from initiatives related to ecotourism, community conserved areas and enrichment plantations of degraded forest lands through indigenous and endemic high value medicinal plant.

The project complements the global UNDP-GEF project *Transboundary Cooperation for Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Conservation*. This Global project designs tools, methods and guidelines for identification of SL landscapes; enhances enforcement capacities of local protection agencies through training; puts in place unified mapping and monitoring protocols; supports cross-country coordination and dialogue and private sector engagement. Finally the project will link with and share lessons across the portfolio of GEF financed biodiversity projects within the country and will take proactive steps to document and disseminate lessons through national and regional fora.

Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1 **IS THE PROJECT CONSISTENT WITH THE NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSEMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS? FOR BIODIVERSITIY RELATED PROJECTS, PLEASE REFERENCE THE AICHI TARGETS THAT THE PROJECT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ACHIEVING. (YES ☐ /NO☐). IF YES, WHICH ONES AND HOW: NAPAS, NAPS, ASGM NAPS, MIAS, NBSAPS, NCS, TNAS, NCSAS, NIPS, PRSPS, NPFE, BURS, ETC.:**

Given the focus on Himalayan environment and ecosystems, the project is consistent with the imperatives of the National Mission on Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE), as well as with the recently announced (October 2014) National Mission on Himalayan Studies. The project is closely related to the *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of India* since it develops improved policies for use of natural resources, forest conservation, expands protected areas and raises the engagement of communities in their management, all of which are the NBSAP priorities. It also demonstrates an integrated approach to the management of PAs for under-represented ecosystems, covering a number of topics, ranging from technical aspects (capacity building of existing and new protected areas, harmonization of PA, management planning, development and implementation of a comprehensive monitoring system for biodiversity and ecosystems) to socio-economic dimensions (support for alternative income-generating activities for local communities such as ecotourism, and apiculture, to integration of PAs with biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use in adjacent areas. The project will also be complementary to the various national initiatives in the region such as the Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve in Himachal Pradesh, the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve in Uttarakhand, the Kanchenjunga Biosphere Reserve in Sikkim, the recently declared UNESCO heritage site, the Great Himalayan National Park in Himachal Pradesh, the Project Snow Leopard, as well as with India's NSLEP.

Further, as part of the country's commitment to the achievement of the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the project directly supports the achievement of at least 4 Aichi targets (target 12, 5, 11 and 15). In addition, India has established 12 national biodiversity targets (NBTS). These NBTS, its associated indicators and monitoring framework along with the NBAP form the blueprint for biodiversity conservation in India. The current project contributes directly to the following targets 3,5, and 6 while the project will also have auxiliary contributions to the targets 1, 4, 7, 9 and 11. The project is consistent with the recommendations of the GSLEP process and has been a direct response to the implementation of the GSLEP priorities in the country.

12. Combatting illegal and unsustainable trade in endangered species in Indonesia (Indonesia)

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION[113]

Project Title:	Combatting illegal and unsustainable trade in endangered species in Indonesia
Country(ies):	Indonesia
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment and Forestry (Directorate General for Forest Protection and Nature Conservation - PHK); Indonesian National Police (Criminal Investigation Division - CID) ; Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[114]:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD-2 Programme 3	GEF TF	6,988,853	42,000,000
Total Project Cost		6,988,853	42,000,000

B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: To reduce the volume of unsustainable wildlife trade and the rate of loss of globally significant biodiversity in Indonesia and East and South-East Asia

Project Components	**Financing Type[115]**	**Project Outcomes**	**(in $)**	
			GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
1. Effective national framework for managing wildlife trade	TA	• Enhanced legal and policy environment with necessary subsidiary regulations enacted and operationalized, removing loopholes and inconsistencies. • Appropriate institutional frameworks in place to coordinate implementation of wildlife trade policy and action to combat illegal wildlife trade, both nationally and with other countries • Domestic and international information systems established accurately tracking and sharing legal trade volumes and revenues, enforcement effectiveness, reliable intelligence on illegal trade and its impacts across sectors, and in situ status of traded species, allowing rapid feedback in regulatory system. • Increase in state revenue from regulation of legal wildlife trade.	1,000,000	2,000,000

[113] This Concept Note is intended to convey whatever preliminary information exists at this stage on a child project and that is indicative of how it will contribute to the overall Program.

[114] When completing Table A, refer to the Program Results Framework, which is already mapped to the relevant *Focal Area Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

[115] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

		Baseline and targets will be established during the PPG.		
2. Institutional capacity for implementa-tion and enforcement at the national and international levels	TA	• Increased institutional capacity of the law enforcement agencies indicated by increase in the UNDP capacity development scorecard developed for wildlife trade control • Increased rate of inspections, seizures, arrests and successful prosecution of wildlife crime cases • Increased and more effective enforcement of cooperation between Indonesia and other key states along the wildlife trafficking value chain (e.g. Viet Nam, China, Malaysia), leading to multiple arrests and convictions, disrupting and dismantling significant wildlife crime syndicates *Baseline and targets will be established during the PPG.*	2,000,000	10,000,000
3. Scaling-up improved enforcement strategy at key trade ports and ecosystems	TA INV	• Increased enforcement effectiveness at 5 key trade ports, indicated by: (i) Reduction in trade of tiger, rhino, elephants, pangolin, manta rays, hornbills, cockatoos, birds of paradise and other species; measured by status in wild trade volume, seizures, arrests, prosecutions; (ii) Reduction in volume of legal wildlife trade, matched by *increasing* state revenues, for a suite of 10 commonly traded species, accounting for the bulk of the volume; measured by status in the wild, trade volume, prices and revenue. • Effective management of two landscapes of critical importance for tigers, rhinos, orang utans, etc. measured by: (i) increase in Protected Area Management Effectiveness of 20% at the two target PA landscapes; (ii) stable or increasing populations of tiger and rhino measured through population assessments in the target PAs; (iii) reduction in poaching cases and increase in arrests and convictions at the two sites. *Baseline and targets will be established during the PPG.*	3,658,000	29,200,000
		Subtotal	6,658,000	41,200,000
		Project Management Cost (PMC)[116]	330,853	800,000
		Total Project Cost	6,988,853	42,000,000

[116] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% 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.

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

C. CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE, BY TYPE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
Recipient Government	Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesian National Police etc.	Grants	40,400,000
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grants	100,000
CSO	Wildlife Conservation Society	Grants	1,500,000
Total Co-financing			42,000,000

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS [a)]

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)[b)]	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	GEF TF	Indonesia	Biodiversity	N/A	6,988,853	628,997	7,617,850
Total GEF Resources					6,988,853	628,997	7,617,850

a) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.

b) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.

c) If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total amount; enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ( )

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

PROJECT OVERVIEW

A.1. Project Description

The Problem: The illegal trade in fauna and flora (other than fisheries and timber) has been estimated by different sources to be worth US$ 7-23 billion dollars annually[117] and US$ 2.5 billion in East Asia and the Pacific alone[118]. This trade has already caused the decline and local extinction of many species across SE Asia, including those inside protected areas. Much of the trade is highly organized, benefits a relatively small criminal fraternity, whilst depriving developing economies of billions of dollars in lost revenues and development opportunities. Within Southeast Asia, a significant amount of this trade starts from Indonesia, one of the world's top 10 'megadiverse' countries and the largest supplier of wildlife products in Asia, both 'legal' and illegal. Illegal wildlife trade is the preeminent threat to Sumatran Rhinoceros (Critically Endangered; population 100-120 individuals), Sumatran Tigers (Critically Endangered; 650 individuals), Asian Elephants (Endangered) and Sunda Pangolin (Critically Endangered). Indonesia is also becoming an important transit point for the illegal wildlife trade from Africa to East Asia, such as African Ivory[119]. The consequence of the unsustainable trade is a massive threat to globally important wildlife. The value of the *illegal* trade

117 Nellemann, C., Henriksen, R., Raxter, P., Ash, N., Mrema, E. (Eds). 2014. The Environmental Crime Crisis – Threats to Sustainable Development from Illegal Exploitation and Trade in Wildlife and Forest Resources. A UNEP Rapid Response Assessment. United Nations Environment Programme and GRID-Arendal, Nairobi and Arendal, www.grida.no.

118 UNODC. 2013. Transnational Organized Crime in East Asia and the Pacific. A threat assessment. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

119 CITES. 2013. Status of African elephant populations and levels of illegal killing and the illegal trade in ivory: A report to the African Elephant Summit. December 2013, CITES Secretariat, IUCN / SSC African Elephant Specialist Group, TRAFFIC International.

in Indonesia alone is estimated at up to US$ 1 billion per year. Factoring in the unsustainable *legal* trade, the value rockets, translating into an enormous economic, environmental, and social loss.

Combatting illegal wildlife trade in Indonesia is hindered by a lack of interest and poor collaboration between law enforcement agencies, lack of understanding regarding laws and enforcement procedures, and regulatory loopholes and inconsistencies that prevent successful prosecutions. For example, inside Indonesia the trade and sale of African ivory and non-native tiger or rhino parts is legal. Regulatory reform is critical to address these issues. The underlying socio-economic factors contributing to these threats include population growth and poverty in rural and protected area boundary zones, which reduce the ability of local communities to practice sustainable agriculture and natural resource use. Productive job opportunities – which might provide local residents with an alternative source of livelihood – are limited, driving some to engage in illegal poaching activities.

Baseline: Indonesia was a signatory to the Declaration agreed upon at the London Conference on the Illegal Wildlife Trade in February 2014. Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) is the focal agency for wildlife crime via the Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation (PHKA). PHKA also manages the national protected area system, and has a budget of US$ 148 million, including the conservation agency (BKSDA) in each province. PHKA has around 7,908 forest rangers across Indonesia of which about 2,999 are protected area rangers. These are supported by 1,025 forestry civil investigators, including some under the authority of local government, and 11 brigades of SPORC (special ranger investigation units), consisting of 796 personnel. Rangers do not have powers of arrest, so patrolling is not very effective and there is a need for improving coordination with the police and the army. Much of the enforcement effort is directed towards forestry offences.

The Criminal Investigation Division (CID, Bareskrim POLRI) of the Indonesian National Police (INP) is a key player in combatting nationwide illegal wildlife trade. Unit 1 is specifically tasked with targeting environmental crimes, and has 7 staff and an annual budget of $50,000. It has played a leading role in the majority of high-profile prosecutions brought successfully in Indonesia over the past 5 years, however is hampered by limited staffing, budgets, capacity and the limited importance attached to wildlife crimes by prosecutors, the judiciary and customs. Other relevant Indonesian Law enforcement agencies include the Attorney General's Office (AGO), the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Customs, Quarantine, the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) and the Financial Trans-projects Analysis and Reporting Centre (PPATK).

The government's effort has been complemented by investments from bilateral and multilateral agencies, and international NGOs over the past years. Since 2003, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) has pioneered an innovative approach to working with law enforcement agencies across local, regional and national scales to combat illegal wildlife trade in Indonesia, called the *"Wildlife Crime Unit"* (WCU). Over 290 test cases have been prosecuted by government law enforcement agencies based upon information provided by the WCU, with a successful prosecution rate of >90% and including the 10 largest wildlife crime cases ever prosecuted in Indonesia. This is unparalleled in the Southeast Asian context, and the WCU is the most successful example of an approach to combat illegal wildlife crime in the region. WCS currently invests c.$250,000/year in work on illegal wildlife trade in Indonesia.

Under a 2014 MoU between the Government of Indonesia and the United States Government (USG), US Government agencies are providing capacity-building assistance to law enforcement agencies on environmental crimes (including wildlife trafficking) and are facilitating regional dialogues of action to reduce illegal wildlife trade. These are implemented by US Department of Justice (US-DoJ) International Criminal Investigative Training Program (ICITAP), US-DoJ Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT), and the US Agency for International Development (USAID). Regional initiatives include USAID-ARREST (Asia's Regional Response to Endangered Species Trafficking, 2010-2016); The Association of Southeast Asian Nations' Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN); efforts by the International Consortium for Combatting Wildlife Crimes (ICCWC) partners, including the CITES secretariat, Interpol, World Customs Organisation, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank. In December 2012 Indonesia and Vietnam also signed a MoU on Wildlife Law Enforcement, which is driving bilateral cooperation within the region.

The baseline activities, although significant, fall short of the proposed **long-term solution**: to conserve key wildlife species in Indonesia, by ensuring that the legal wildlife trade is ecologically and economically sustainable, while reducing the scale and impact of illegal wildlife trafficking, both from Indonesia and in transit through the country. Even biodiversity within the PA system is not shielded from poaching to supply the domestic and international illegal

wildlife trade. Wildlife is a natural resource that if exploited well can fuel development, provide considerable state revenues and provide financial incentives to manage wildlife and ecosystems.

Barriers: Although the government has made tremendous efforts to control poaching and illegal wildlife trade as described above, its efforts have been impeded by a number of barriers. These include (1) Weak policy and regulatory framework and insufficient information and tools to understand, regulate and combat illegal wildlife trade; (2) Suboptimal institutional capacity for compliance monitoring and enforcement; and (3) Ineffective enforcement at the site and landscape level.

The Proposed Alternative Scenario

The Project: The objective of the proposed project is to ***reduce the volume of unsustainable wildlife trade and the rate of loss of globally significant biodiversity in Indonesia and East and South-east Asia.***

The objective will be achieved through three interconnected components with the set outcomes, as summarised in the project framework table in Section B. This project will implement activities at three geographic levels; the national (central government) level in Indonesia; at a number of key sites *within* Indonesia that are significant for domestic and export trade, and; a selected number of activities designed to facilitate inter-country coordination across the East and Southeast Asia region. The project will evaluate its impact against the rate of loss of biodiversity within Indonesia, achieved through a reduction in unsustainable trade. The project will use key indicator species (representative of the three main typologies of trade; given above) to monitor trade volume and economics and wild population status. These indicators are given in the Project Framework, above, and will be refined and the baseline and targets will be confirmed during the project inception.

Component 1: Effective national framework for managing wildlife trade. This component aims to enhance the legal and policy environment by creating subsidiary regulations and removing loopholes and inconsistencies that prevent enforcement of measures to combat illegal wildlife trade. Appropriate institutional frameworks will be put in place to ensure inter-agency coordination domestically and internationally. National and international information systems will be established accurately tracking and sharing legal trade volumes and revenues, enforcement effectiveness, reliable intelligence on illegal trade and its impacts across sectors, and on the in situ status of traded species. Furthermore, a cost recovery system will be established from regulation of wildlife trade. The project will support establishment of the National Wildlife Crime Taskforce, involving the Indonesian National Police, MoEF and Attorney General.

Component 2: Institutional capacity for implementation and enforcement at the national and international levels. Under this component, the project will support key law enforcement institutions to ensure that institutional capacity, including development of tools to support for continued effective actions for combatting illegal wildlife trade. Increased capacity will be gauged using a capacity development scorecard tailor made for wildlife trade control, increased rate of inspections, seizures, arrests and successful prosecution of wildlife crime cases. Increased and more effective enforcement cooperation between Indonesia and other key states along the wildlife trafficking value chain (e.g. Vietnam, China, Malaysia) is expected, leading to multiple arrests and convictions, disrupting and dismantling significant wildlife crime syndicates.

Component 3: Scaling-up improved enforcement strategies at key trade ports and ecosystems. This component will focus on scaling-up of on-the-ground implementation of improved enforcement capacity and strategies supported under component 1 and 2, including the Wildlife Crime Unit approach.

Summary of Incremental Approach and Global Environmental Benefits

The incremental approach can be summarised as follows: The government of Indonesia has clearly identified preventing domestic and transnational illegal wildlife trade issues as a priority action items in conserving biological diversity. However, despite strong commitment from the government, actions are seldom taken to concretely remove the barriers to effective enforcement against trafficking and poaching of highly threatened species. In particular, legal inconsistences, regulatory loopholes and unclear institutional arrangements (e.g. responsibilities of different line agencies) limit the potential for effective action. The capacity and understanding amongst law enforcement agencies is low, regional partnerships are not being implemented, and mechanisms to regulate legal wildlife trade are not being appropriately applied. The proposed intervention is particularly timely given the sharp increase in illegal wildlife trade

volume globally and the emergence of Indonesia as a key source country in regional wildlife trade networks as well as significant transit country for transnational wildlife trafficking.

In the baseline situation, regulatory loopholes, lack of coordination between enforcement agencies, a lack of capacity and resources, and an inability to upscale successful models (e.g. the Wildlife Crime Units) will mean that wildlife trade, both illegal and legal, will substantially increase or, at best, will continue unabated, resulting first in local declines followed by outright extinctions of key Indonesian wildlife species, including tigers and rhinos. Illegal wildlife trade will continue to operate as organized crime, while legal wildlife trade will remain poorly regulated, raising few revenues for the state, and acting as a cover behind which illegal trade can flourish.

In the alternative scenario enabled by the GEF, systemic and institutional barriers to effective action to combat illegal wildlife trade and regulate the legal wildlife trade will be removed at national, provincial and landscape levels through improved regulatory and institutional frameworks, and enhanced and coordinated government action. The main loopholes and channels by which illegal trade can masquerade as legal will be closed. Irresponsible legal trade will become more tightly regulated, while responsible legal trade will be given more freedom. Capacity amongst national and regional enforcement agencies will be increased, there will be greater awareness of the importance of reducing the use of wildlife products, and enhanced high-level political will to act. A nation-wide system for monitoring wildlife trade and wildlife crime cases will be established for the first time and operationalised. The Indonesian state and people will benefit economically while the globally significant wildlife of Indonesia, such as rhinos and tigers, will be lifted from the threat of extinction caused by unsustainable exploitation.

Global Environmental Benefits: Indonesia is one of the most biodiverse regions in the world, and supports many mammal and bird species including endemic and endangered species threatened by commercial wildlife trade such as Sumatran tiger, Sumatran and Javan rhinoceros, orang-utan and elephants. The country is located in the biodiversity distribution path of the Asian continent (Java, Sumatra and Kalimantan islands) and Australia (Papua), and is in the transitional zone of the Wallace line (Sulawesi, Maluku and Nusa Tenggara islands), and therefore harbours the biological richness of Asia, Australia and the transitional zone of the two continents. GEF funding will secure populations of globally significant species through dramatically improving the systemic and institutional capacity of the nation to control commercial wildlife trade and associated overexploitation of species. In addition, the GEF finance will significantly reduce the role of Indonesia as a transit and destination country in transnational wildlife trafficking networks, such as for African Ivory.

Innovativeness, Sustainability and Potential for Scale-up: The development of cost-effective and sustainable solutions to reduce the detrimental impacts of wildlife trade is central to all aspects of this project. The project will work to support and strengthen Indonesian and regional institutions and authorities to reduce poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking. The underlying premise of the project is that interest already exists within the Government of Indonesia, especially its enforcement agencies, in controlling poaching and wildlife trafficking; what is needed is a combination of facilitation and demonstration to show that those resources can be applied for the benefit of globally important biodiversity and Indonesia's economic development. Following the completion of the project these institutions and authorities will be empowered and better equipped to exercise their mandates, without requiring further external resources. The project will build on existing initiatives and policies to develop better collaboration and information exchange, rather than creating new costly systems. The project will promote the legitimate industry over unscrupulous traders by developing the market and regulatory environment into one which provides a clear competitive advantage to legal, sustainable and responsible trade. The project's goal is to put in place a comprehensive system to control trade which will eliminates the risk of further loss and extinction of wildlife, *and* which requires no further donor input. Particularly innovative aspects of this project include scaling-up the Wildlife Crime Unit (WCU) approach and the development of cost recovery mechanisms. The WCU is already one of the most successful approaches to combat illegal wildlife trafficking in Southeast Asia, albeit on a modest scale currently, and key to the success is the partnership of Indonesian law enforcement agencies (MoEF, INP, MMAF, AGO, PPATK, etc.) working together to combat wildlife crimes. Scaling-up this innovative approach has huge potential to serve as a model for other countries in the region. The project will also test cost-recovery mechanisms from illegal trade seizures using money laundering legislation and from legal trade through fiscal regulations to ensure trade is taxed at a level commensurate with the cost of regulating it. These types of approaches have been often discussed with respect to wildlife trade, but have never been trialled in the region.

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes X /no☐) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation:

The following stakeholders have been identified. Many of the stakeholders have been consulted to develop this concept. All the stakehodlers here will be extensively consulted and the stakeholder table will be further refined during the PPG.

STAKEHOLDER	MANDATE AND RELEVANT ROLES IN THE PROJECT
Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF)	The national executing agency for the project. It is responsible for biodiversity conservation, protected area and wildlife management, as well as forest management. It is a principal agency responsible for licensing and regulating most legal trade, approving quotas and policing illegal trade. It is the focal ministry for various environmental conventions including the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on International Trade in Engaged Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES), and houses the National GEF Secretariat office. The Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation (PHKA) will be the lead implementer for the project. It is responsible for species conservation and enforcement of forestry and conservation laws, including implementation of CITES, regulation of legal wildlife trade, and action to reduce poaching and combatting illegal wildlife trade. Within PHKA, the Directorate of Forest Protection and Investigation (PPH) is charged with law enforcement and forest crime prevention, the Directorate of Biodiversity Conservation (KKH) is charged with safeguarding biodiversity, and the Directorate of Protected Areas (KKBHL) is responsible for protected area management.
BAPPENAS	National government agency responsible for national economic and development planning, as well as development of strategies and policies in determining financial allocations for the various sectors of the national economy. Therefore it is an important stakeholder of the project in particular in the financing component.
Indonesian National Police	A lead implementing partner for the project. The Criminal Investigation Division (CID, Bareskrim POLRI) is responsible for investigating and combating organized crime, including environmental offences and transnational crime. It will be a key co-implementer of the Intersectoral National Crime Task Force and Wildlife Crime Unit and many other interventions of the project, as well as a beneficiary of institutional capacity development.
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries	National government agency responsible for management of marine resources and fisheries, including regulation of trade in and protection of marine species.
Attorney General's Office (AGO)	Oversees prosecutors throughout Indonesia from its headquarters in Jakarta. . It will be a key co-implementer of the component related to the capacity of the Judicial system, as well as a project beneficiary.
Financial Trans-projects Analysis and Reporting Centre (PPATK)	National agency to regulate financial transactions and combat money-laundering. It will be a key co-implementer of the Intersectoral National Crime Task Force and Wildlife Crime Unit
Customs & Excise	National agency responsible for overseeing customs departments at international border crossings. It will be a key co-implementer of the Intersectoral National Crime Task Force and Wildlife Crime Unit, as well as a beneficiary of institutional capacity development.
Eijkman Institute	Non-profit, government-funded, research institute with a mission to develop the domestic science base in the field of medical molecular biology and biotechnology. The Institute is at the forefront of efforts to develop forensic science techniques in Indonesia for law enforcement, including wildlife forensics.
National Parks Agencies	Subsidiary units of the MoEF. They are responsible for managing individual national parks. These agencies will be the primary implementers of the project within each national park.
Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI)	LIPI is the governmental authority for science and research in Indonesia. It consists of 47 research centers in fields ranging from social to natural sciences. MoEF collaborates with LIPI for species conservation work, and it is responsible for setting offtake quotas. LIPI will be collaborator for the systematic biodiversity monitoring strengthening component of the project.
Provincial agencies for Natural Resource Conservation	Provincial unit of the Ministry of Forestry and responsible for managing wildlife trade and protected areas except for national parks, including nature reserves, wildlife sanctuaries, nature recreation parks and hunting parks. They will be a primary stakeholder at the provincial and local level activities of the project.
Provincial Police	Provincial unit of the Indonesian National Police responsible for investigating crimes and undertaking law enforcement actions. It will be a key co-implementer of the Wildlife Crime Unit element, as well as a beneficiary of institutional capacity development.
Local communities	Key users and beneficiaries of forest biodiversity. They are the affected parties of human wildlife conflict, and have the potential to play a major role in local habitat conservation, poaching control, and natural resource management. Critical participants of the project at the local level.

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and other Indonesia-based CSOs	WCS is the leading international organisation in Indonesia supporting government agencies to develop approaches to combat illegal wildlife trade. WCS will be a co-financier and key implementing partner to this project.
International Organisations such as UNODC, Interpol and CITES Secretariat	International organisations working to combat illegal trade such as the UNODC, Interpol, World Customs Organisation, CITES Secretariat, ASEAN WEN are key partners of this project, in particular for the components to strengthen regional and international cooperation.

A.3 Risk. The following risks have been identified. These will be further investigated and updated during the PPG phase.

RISK	LEVEL	MITIGATION MEASURES
Mal-governance and Corruption: A major factor in wildlife trade, and accordingly one that has not been underestimated. Even when laws and mandates are clear, the mandated response is not always forthcoming. This is related to low motivation, as discussed above, poor resource allocation, as discussed below, but also to the insidious effects of corruption, that thrives in the poorly regulated environment.	H	Addressing corruption requires considerable high-level political support. Reducing its impact requires action against corruptors, but can also be addressed through tighter regulatory structures and improved monitoring that highlight when appropriate action is *not* being taken. Many of the described project components are designed to specifically address corruption and other forms of mal-practice and mal-governance. For example, strengthening the regulatory framework and government capacity will enhance oversight and limit opportunities for malpractice. Presence of an internationally funded high profile project will further support the government's efforts for stumping out corruption.
Lack of industry support: The wildlife trade industry is secretive, fragmented as well as multi-national. There is often a link to criminal syndicates. This presents challenges for project implementation, industry engagement and enforcement	M-H	The project implementers have considerable experience with such trade participants, and will seek to engage industry at all levels, as well as devise a strategy with international organisations to counter criminal syndicates. The project activities will be developed based on a thorough situation analysis based on the latest global information, data and knowledge on the structure of the international and national trade compiled by international organisations and individuals.
Suboptimal collaboration: Coordination between various agencies proves to be suboptimal due to sectionalism and bureaucracy.	M	This project has been developed in full collaboration with the Indonesian government and its agencies. There have already been considerable discussions and joint efforts between key government law enforcement agencies. The momentum created by the project will further strengthen and institutionalise the coordination and joint action mechanisms. Joint work will be demonstrated at both national and local levels and necessary systemic and institutional capacities will be installed to ensure sustainability.
Major natural disasters: Natural disasters such as earthquake, floods, volcanic eruption etc. inhibit the increase in national and provincial government's attention and investment in combatting illegal trade.	L	This risk is every prevalent in Indonesia. The project will elevate the illegal wildlife trade issues to the national political and economic agenda, as well as developing the National Strategy to Combat Illegal Wildlife Trade. Increased awareness that illegal wildlife trade is a national and global crisis and security issues should minimise shifting of resources away from the work to natural disaster emergency work. In addition, the project is designed to institutionalise every output and install the necessary systemic and institutional capacity for tackling illegal wildlife trade, operationalising essential inter-agency coordination at both national and local level, and this will ensure continuation of core work even in the event of natural disasters.
Climate change may undermines the conservation objectives of the Project	L	The nature of the project means climate change effects are unlikely to impact.

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

The proposed project forms a part of the Programmatic Approach to Prevent the Extinction of Known Threatened Species. Given that Indonesia is a key transit point for the illegal wildlife trade from Africa to Asia, the project will contribute directly to combatting illicit wildlife trade between the continents by strengthening the national framework and capacity for improved enforcement and effective coordination with trade source and destination countries. The project will directly contribute to protecting populations of threatened species in Africa as well as in Indonesia and more widely in the Asia. Coordination between the projects under the programme will be assured by the global steering

committee for the programme and bilateral / multilateral communication channels that will be established between projects, as well as through existing regional platforms for tackling wildlife trafficking.

The proposed project will directly complement the UNDP-GEF project *Enhancing the Protected Area System in Sulawesi (E-PASS) for Biodiversity Conservation* (2014-2019) and UNDP-GEF project PIMS No. 4892 *Transforming effectiveness of biodiversity conservation in priority Sumatran landscapes* (2015-2021). These two projects address the main threats to biodiversity across the islands of Sumatra (home to Indonesia's remaining Sumatran tiger, Sumatran Rhino and Sumatran Orang-utan populations) and Sulawesi (notable for its high rate of endemism), through interventions including strengthening protected area management and site-level actions to reduce poaching. By targeting the regulatory, institutional and capacity barriers to effective action to combat illegal wildlife trade at the national level, the proposed project will complement these landscape-level GEF initiatives.

The proposed project will similarly complement other landscape-focused initiatives, including the US Government - Government of Indonesia debt-for-nature swap under the *Tropical Forest Conservation Act*, USAID's investments in landscapes through its forestry programme, and the German Government's investments in landscapes through the International Climate Initiative and bilateral development cooperation.

The proposed project will coordinate closely with other smaller-scale initiatives to strengthen enforcement capacity and institutional frameworks to address environmental crimes in Indonesia, including ICITAP's training programs, OPDAT's work with the AGO, UNODC and Interpol. Representatives from these programmes will be invited to participate in the PPG phase consultations to ensure that project activities complement and strengthen, rather than duplicate, activities by other bilateral or multilateral donors.

UNDP has a large presence in Indonesia and, in its country operations, the project fits within the UNDAF (2011 – 2015), in particular, Outcome 5 Strengthened climate change mitigation and adaptation and environmental sustainability measures in targeted vulnerable provinces, sectors and communities. UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD), covering 2011-2015, in particular Country Programme Outcome 2.1. Enhanced capacity of GOI to manage natural resources and energy. More precisely, the project will contribute to the CPAP outcome 2.1 Responsible national institutions and relevant stakeholders are more effective in managing environmental resources and addressing environmental pollution by implementing the intended output of Government, private sector and CBO partners to stimulate coherent and effective policy frameworks, action plans, implementing arrangement and funding arrangement to sustainably manage terrestrial ecosystems. Wildlife trade is essentially a governance issue, and herein lies the main strength of UNDP. Aspects of this project relating to the development of sustainable supply chains also lie firmly in UNDP's field of expertise. Within Indonesia and the region UNDP is also very well placed to implement this project as the leading UN agency assisting the Government of Indonesia in implementing NBSAP towards achievements of the Aichi Targets under the CBD. The UNDP Country Office (CO) will assign an experienced biodiversity conservation programme manager within the Energy and Environment Unit, guided by the head of the Unit and supported by the alternate staff, administrative assistant, and the UNDP finance office. The UNDP Regional Technical Adviser based in Bangkok, as well as the global adviser on wildlife trade and enforcement based in Addis Ababa, will provide technical support to the CO for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

B.1 Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessements under relevant conventions? For biodiversitiy related projects, please reference the Aichi Targets that the project will contribute to achieving. (yes ☐ /no☐). If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, etc.:

The Government of Indonesia (GoI) has demonstrated its commitment toward conserving biodiversity by signing all major international treaties on environment protection. Domestically it has enacted many laws, regulations and decrees designed to protect natural resources. The Indonesian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2003 – 2020 (BAPPENAS 2003), in identifying actions to tackle the threat of illegal logging and wildlife trade, highlighted the need to address not just the direct enforcement of relevant laws but also the underlying causes, including a lack of political will, weak sectoral linkages and the low capacity of local constituencies. This project has been designed to meet all major objectives of the IBSAP (2003) concerning wildlife trade, improved law enforcement and implementation of CITES.

In particular, the project is fully in line with the IBSAP Policy: "To build and develop effective institutional arrangement and policies at the national and local levels, accompanied by effective law enforcement for biodiversity management, which is synergic, responsible, and accountable and in conformity with international agreements on biodiversity management." Goal 4.3 is: "Elimination of illegal logging and harvesting of flora and fauna, including their illegal trade"; Goal 4.12 is: ``Improvement in the capacity of government and communities, at the national and regional level, to sustainably use biodiversity, but ensuring conservation priorities"; and Goal 4.13 is: "Better coordination in the implementation of CBD between government and nongovernment agencies, and improved coordination in the implementation of various other international conventions such as CITES." Program 4.10 is "improving law enforcement to protect conservation areas" and Program 4.11 "improvement of law enforcement to prevent and control the overharvesting and degradation of biodiversity outside of conservation areas".

The proposed project will also assist Indonesia to meet its commitments under the 2014 London Declaration on Illegal Wildlife Trade, including Articles I, II and V ("Eradicating the market for illegal wildlife products"), Articles VIII, IX, X and XI ("Ensuring Effective Legal Frameworks and Deterrents"), Articles XIII, XIV and XV ("Strengthening Law Enforcement"), Article XX ("Sustainable Livelihoods and Economic Development") and Article XXIV ("Way Forward"). The project also targets three of the 14 target species identified by the Ministry of Forestry (tigers, rhinos and orang-utans).

This project directly addresses the CBD Objective to conserve biological diversity while enabling the sustainable use of its components. It contributes towards Strategic Goals 'A', 'B' and 'C' under the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for the CBD, approved in Nagoya in 2010. The project will contribute towards achieving the following Aichi Biodiversity Targets: Elimination of incentives harmful to biodiversity (Goal A, Target 3); Sustainable production and consumption of natural resources (Goal A, Target 4); Sustainable management of fisheries and forest areas (Goal B, Targets 6 and 7); Effective management of protected areas covering 17% of terrestrial and 10% of marine and coastal areas (Goal C, Target 11); Prevention of extinctions and improvements in the conservation status of threatened species (Goal C, Target 12); and improvements in scientific knowledge and technologies relating to the status, trends and use of biodiversity (Goal E, Target 19).

Furthermore, this project directly supports the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), arguably one of the most important global instruments for addressing illegal wildlife trade. The CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2020 emphasizes the importance of national commitment to implementation of the Convention and its principles. This project will support compliance through strengthening legislation and policy, improving sharing of information between Parties, enhancing effective enforcement of illegal trade and support capacity building of officers tasked with enforcing national implementing legislation. The project will also facilitate a number of decisions from the CITES Conference of the Parties 16th Meeting in 2013. As a major source country for regional trade in species of freshwater turtles and tortoises this project will support efforts to examine and enhance enforcement of trafficking in these species in line with Decisions 16.118 and 16.121. The project will enable greater interagency information sharing among the police, customs and the CITES Management Authority (MA) that will allow the MA to compile data and report to the Secretariat on seizures, disposition of specimens, arrests, and convictions of cases that will result in more accurate reviews by the Standing Committee on trade in Asian pangolin species (16.41), Asian big cat species (Decision 16.68, Res. Conf. 12.5 Rev. CoP16), freshwater turtles and tortoises (16.113, 16.114, 16.115), and rhino specimens (16.84, 16.86) in the Asian region.