PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)
PROJECT TYPE: MEDIUM-SIZED PROJECT
TYPE OF TRUST FUND:GEF Trust Fund

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Scaling up and replicating successful sustainable land management (SLM) and agroforestry practices in the Koulikoro region of Mali.		
Country(ies):	Mali	GEF Project ID:[1]	5746
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01263
Other Executing Partner(s):	Agence de l'Environnement et du Developpement Durable (AEDD) and Groupe de Coordination des Zones Arides (GCOZA) in collaboration with African Sustainability Centre - ASCENT	Re-Submission Date:	May 07, 2014
GEF Focal Area (s):	Multi-Focal Area (MFA)	Project Duration (Months)	48
Name of parent program (if applicable)	N/A	Project Agency Fee ($):	146,665

A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK[2]:

Focal Area Objectives	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount ($)	Indicative Co-financing ($)
LD-1: Sustainable flows of services in agroecosystems (Outcome 1.2 – Improved agricultural practices & Output 1.2 – Types of innovative SL/WM at field level) Outcome 1.3 – Sustainable flow of services in agroecosystems & Output 1.3. Suitable SL/WM interventions to increase vegetative cover in agroecosystems)	GEF TF	797,648	2,975,000
LD-3: Integrated landscapes management practices (Outcome 3.2 & Output 3.2 and 3.4)	GEF TF	425,890	2,005,000
BD-2: Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in production landscape (Outcome 2.1 & Output 2)	GEF TF	320,297	1,805,000
Total Project Cost		**1,543,835**	**6,785,000**

[1] Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.
[2] Refer to the reference attached on the Focal Area Results Framework and LDCF/SCCF Framework when completing Table A.

B. INDICATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: to upscale sustainable land management to combat land degradation and biodiversity loss while strengthening the capacity of local communities for replicating the SLM and good agroforestry practices in the semi-arid areas of Koulikoro region, Mali.						
Project Component	**Grant Type[3]**	**Expected Outcomes**	**Expected Outputs**	**Trust Fund**	**Indicative Grant Amount ($)**	**Indicative Cofinancing ($)**
1. Up scaling of SL/WM on agricultural and rangeland systems (GDT)	Inv	Reduced land degradation, improved soil health and increased productivity of agro-ecosystems	1.1.1. 2,500 farmers and 1,000 herders adopt good SLM and agroforestry practices using adequate species for afforestation/reforestation activities 1.1.2. 50,000 ha of degraded agricultural land under SLM to ensure increased services through productivity 1.1.3. 50,000 ha of pastoral rangelands under sustainable management to ensure adequate ecosystem services 1.1.4. SLM practices and conservation of indigenous food crop varieties adopted and mainstreamed in local land use planning	GEF TF	600,000	2,000,000
2. Diversifying livelihoods and improving community living standards (AGR)	TA	2.1. Improved land productivity and community living standards	2.1.1: A climate smart livestock production programme (which will include dissemination of new breed, good feeding, and manure management to support women and youth revenue generation) developed and implemented. 2.1. 2. At least 25 women and youth groups diversified their revenue through agroforestry, manure management to increase productivity	GEF TF	482,200	2,221,500

[3] TA includes capacity building, and research and development.

			2.1.3 Six (6) alternative income generating activities (3 agricultural and 3 livestock based) identified and implemented with 300 households			
3. Capacity building (ONG, local communities) to enhance resilience to climate change to increased understanding of GHE and the need for climate mitigation measures.	TA	3.1. Resilience apacities of all stakeholders enhanced and/or strengthened 3.2. Enhanced awareness capacity of local and national stakeholders, including communities and institutions, to sustainably manage natural resources and to resolve land use conflicts	3.1.1. 20 local producers groups supported to undertake SLM and agroforestry practices 3.2.1. Awareness programme on sustainable land management and agroforestry practices, implemented 3.2.2. A conflict resolution mechanism to address conflicting resource uses is set up and functional. 3.2.3. 50 Women and youth groups trained on conservation of indigenous food crop varieties	GEF TF	225,000	1,758,500
4. Knowledge Management & M&E	TA		1. Best practice guidelines for SLM and agroforestry practices scaling up and replication for small scale producers developed, pilot tested and widely disseminated 2. Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation system for impact of SLM and agroforestrypractices developed and integrated in local land use monitoring and evaluation mechanism 3. Successful SLM and Agroforestry Newsletter designed and periodically puplished and widely dessiminated as a regular AEDD and partners product	GEF TF	96,286	370,000
Subtotal					1,403,486	6,350,000
Project Management Cost (PMC)[4]				GEF TF	140,349	435,000
Total Project Cost					**1,543,835**	**6,785,000**

[4] To be calculated as percent of subtotal.

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
National Government	Ministry of Agriculture	Grant	1,500,000
National Government	Ministry of Environment (AEDD)	Grant	1,000,000
National Government	Ministry of Environment (AEDD)	In-kind	500,000
Foundation/Private Sector	BEC (Special Investment Budget)	Grant	1,000,000
Multilateral Donors	World Bank/IFAD (BM PAPAM investments in agric.)	Grant	500,000
Multilateral Donors	World Bank/IFAD (BM PAPAM investments in agric.)	In-kind	1,000,000
Bilateral Aid Agency	EU (UE)/ AFD/USAID/ GIZ/NORAD/ SIDA/CIDA	Grant	500,000
GEF Agency	UNEP	In-kind	200,000
CSO/(ONG)	tbd		85,000
Others	tbd		500,000
Total Cofinancing			**6,785,000**

D. INDICATIVE TRUST FUND RESOURCES ($) REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY[1]

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	Grant Amount ($) (a)	Agency Fee ($) (b)[2]	Total ($) c=a+b
UNEP	GEF TF	Land Degradation	Mali	1,050,890	99,835	1,150,725
UNEP	GEF TF	Biodiversity	Mali	320,297	30,428	350,725
UNEP	GEF TF	Climate Change (Marginal Adjustment)	Mali	172,648	16,402	189,050
Total Grant Resources				**1,543,835**	**146,665**	**1,690,500**

E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)[5]

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

	Amount Requested ($)	Agency Fee for PPG ($)[6]
• (up to)$100k for projects up to & including $3 million	100,000	9,500

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

Trust Fund	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	(in $)		
				PPG (a)	**Agency Fee** (b)	**Total** c = a + b
GEF TF	UNEP	Land Degradation	Mali	45,000	4,275	49,275
GEFTF	UNEP	Climate Change	Mali	10,000	950	10,950
GEF TF	UNEP	Biodiversity	Mali	45,000	4,275	49,275
Total PPG Amount				**100,000**	**9,500**	**109,500**

[5] On an exceptional basis, PPG amount may differ upon detailed discussion and justification with the GEFSEC.
[6] PPG fee percentage follows the percentage of the GEF Project Grant amount requested.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION[7]

- ***PROJECT OVERVIEW***

A.1. Project Description. Briefly describe the project, including ; 1) the global environmental problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario and 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) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline (GEFTF, NPIF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); 6) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

A.1.1. Global environmental problems, root causes and barriers to be addressed

The project area is confronted with multiples environmental problems which are caused by human activities (shifting agriculture, bushfires, unsustainable agricultural practices and forest destruction, etc.) and natural's phenomenon (desertification, decrease of surface and underground water, climate change etc.). These environment problems lead to food shortage, reduced productivity, migration and loss of manpower, increase in climate refugees, proliferation of townships and consequence sanitation and health issues. The unsustainable practices in project areas are visible in the following various socioeconomic activities:

- Agriculture: agricultural practices in watershed and in some cases in the rivers banks causing destruction of biodiversity and ichthyofauna. It is estimated that 350,000 ha of land are cleared annually for agriculture. These practices are the consequence of the persistence of drought, reduction of the length of the rainy season and consequent decrease of rainfall
- Livestock production: the extensive production mode which leads to overgrazing, severe damages to trees, increased farmers-herders conflicts and reduces drastically the folder and water resources. In many areas, livestock farming is responsible for overgrazing, land degradation and the loss of forests, releasing large quantities of greenhouse gases.
- Forestry: the pressure on natural resources from poor rural communities through overexploitation of firewood and non-timber forest products is responsible of degradation of natural habitats. It is estimated that 10% of forest are destructed annually.
- Fisheries: illegal fishing and unsustainable use (unauthorized fish nets, water pollution, siltation etc.) contribute to the destruction of fish production zone and the habitat.
- Social : the disturbances of the sociocultural system sis causing massive migration and reduced the capacity of the local communities to design and implement mitigation measures

The environmental problems are interlinked and constitute serious treats to socioeconomic activities. In absence of access to credit, decentralized financial mechanisms and technical assistance and market opportunities, these problems are accentuated and will constitute barriers to trade-off options.

A.1.2. Baseline Scenario and associated baseline projects

The project area covers Districts of Nara (Mourdiah) and Kolokani (Diedini) located in the Koulikoro region. The two sites have different morphologies. The District of Nara is an excellent livestock production area with average rainfall. The soils texture is sandy clay soils which require appropriate land restoration measures. The Diedini area is an agricultural production zone with sandy clay soils. Local communities in these areas are familiar with SLM practices but with the growing population and the adverse climatic conditions, the SLM practices require a lot of investments to mitigate the erosion and

[7] Part II should not be longer than 5 pages.

increase agricultural and pastoral productivity.

The country has experienced in past various SLM. Many of these technologies including micro-dosing, mulching, land restoration infrastructures, fodder banks have been adopted by local communities in the project area. However, there is lack of adequate resources to ensure scaling up of these technologies on which there is a consensus among researchers that their adoption will help to increase productivity for more than 60%.

Many initiatives have been implemented by local communities, NGO and government institutions. These include:

- The food security project implemented by the Food Security Commission;

- GEF/WB-Increasing Agricultural Productivity in Mali: The project aims at increasing the small holders' production and agribusiness in targeted production systems.

- 166 Municipalities to accelerate MDGs Initiative: the two project areas are included in these communes which common issues are lack of infrastructure include health, education to achieve MDGs and important immigration from rural areas to bid cities leaving women and other vulnerable groups in difficult situations.

- WB/IFAD- Natural resources management and climate change project: The project objective is to expand the adoption of sustainable land and water management practices in target area[17] in Mali. This objective will be achieved through the implementation of capacity building, biodiversity conservation and support to poverty reduction activities applying an ecosystem-based adaptation approach

The analyses of the baseline projects can allow establishing that the priority to food production and security has in short term address the need of local population. The systemic approach and development of tools for sustainable application of technologies are not very well addressed. The current project will support scaling up of good practices but also establishment of long term capacity both at systemic and individual levels to support implementation of good SLM measures. The knowledge management objectives of this project will ensure that relevant lessons learn and replicable technologies in line with project objective, from current GEF/LDCF portfolio projects are adequately considered. This portfolio of project include the: i) FAO/GEF/LDCF: Strengthening Resilience to Climate Change through Integrated Agricultural and Pastoral Management in the Sahelian zone in the Framework of the Sustainable Land Management Approach: ii) FAO/GEF/LDCF: Integrating Climate Resilience into Agricultural Production for Food Security in Rural Areas, iii) UNDP/GEF/LDCF: Strengthening the Resilience of Women Producer Group's and Vulnerable Communities in Mali and vi) UNDP/GEF/LDCF; Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Resilience to Climate Change in the Agriculture Sector in Mali.

A.1.3. Proposed alternative scenario (with expected outcomes and components of project)

The proposed alternative will support scaling up of SLM practices. The global objective is to scale up good SLM practices through good management of agricultural landscape and securing local communities livelihood. The project will contribute to the global effort of mitigating the effects of land degradation and biodiversity loss through restoration of degraded lands with proven technologies including agroforestry, micro-dose practices and protection of forest ecosystems. The reduction of livestock sectors' impacts on ecosystem degradation in the project areas will include improving production and feed systems to reduce overgrazing and integrating livestock with crops in order to reduce waste and improve soil fertility. Better grazing management will also be promoted to improve

animal nutrition and reduce animal pressure. The project will also contribute to the conservation of the biodiversity of the Baoulé Bay biosphere reserve, the effective management of Baoulé Bay National Park and adjacent Protected Areas to ensure sustainable development building on local and scientific communities' efforts.

The project will achieve these objectives through the following components:

Component 1: Promotion of good SLM practices in agricultural and pastoral rangelands sectors. These include Assisted Natural Regeneration, land restoration infrastructures include those related to afforestation and reforestation activities, sustainable agriculture (micro-dose).

The expected outputs will include:

Output 1.1.1: 2500 farmers and 1,000 herders adopt good SLM and agroforestry practices using adequate species for afforestation/reforestation activities

Output 1.1.2. 50,000 ha of degraded agricultural land under SLM to ensure increased services through productivity,

Output 1.1.3. 50,000 ha of pastoral rangelands under sustainable management to ensure adequate ecosystem services

Output 1.1.4. Goof SLM, agroforestry practices and conservation of indigenous food crop varieties adopted and mainstreamed in local land use planning.

Component 2: Promotion of local alternative livelihood. Through this component, the project will support diversification of revenue generation activities targeting the women and youths as the most vulnerable groups. The activities will be ensuring small holders' forestry enterprises and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The following outputs will be achieved:

Output 2.1: A climate smart livestock production programme which will include dissemination of new breed, good feeding, and manure management to support women and youth revenue generation, developed and implemented.

Output 2.2: At least 25 women and youth groups diversified their revenue through agroforestry, manure management to increase productivity, dissemination.

Output 2..3 Six (6) alternative income generating activities (3 agricultural and 3 livestock based) identified and implemented with 300 households

Component 3: Support to local level capacity building to increase understanding of good SLM practices. The capacity building activities will enhance the capacity of the communities in adopting and Scaling Up SLM technologies and practices that will enhance their living conditions. Related outputs are:

Output 3.1.1.1: 20 local producers groups capacitated to undertaken good SLM and agroforestry practices

Output 3.2.1. Awareness programme on sustainable land management and agroforestry practices developed and implemented

Output 3.2.2. A conflict resolution mechanism to address conflicting resource uses is set up and is functional

Output 3.2.3. Sixty (60) staff from participating NGOs trained on participatory good SLM and agroforestry practices and ecosystem restoration

Output 3.2.4: 50 Women and youth groups trained on conservation of indigenous food crop varieties

Output 3.2.5: 25 Staff of Local Administration trained on various SLM , agroforestry practices and ecosystems restoration

Component 4: Knowledge management and M&E – that focus on i) producing best practice guidelines for SLM and agroforestry practices, scaling up and replication for small scale producers, ii) participatory Monitoring and Evaluation system for impact of SLM and agroforestry practices that will be dessiminated widely to support upscalling in other similar situations and iii) publication of good SLM and Agroforestry practices Newsletter for sharing more idely best practices and lessons learnt experiences across Mali and the region.

A.1.4. Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline and co-financing

Without GEF: Mali through various processes including the Country Strategic Investment Framework, have developed proven SLM good practices which have scientific foundation in terms of achieving land restoration and improving soil fertilities. However, there is lack of adequate funding to ensure large scale dissemination to ensure food security and fighting rural perversity. In relation to climate change mitigation, even though the country is vulnerable to climate change and has developed its NAPA which highlighted the key priorities including alternative livelihood for local communities as mitigation measures, no sufficient financing is available for the country.

With the GEF alternative: The country will extend the capacity building for large scale dissemination of the proven SLM practices, to local communities (component 3) to ensure land restoration, carbon sequestration and improved productivity of agricultural and pastoral landscapes. The local community capacitated within component 3, will be giving opportunities to implement concrete SLM practices to increase productivity by ensuring conservation of landscape services and at the same time generate revenue as alternative income (component 2). The implementation of the alternative livelihood will be linked to Integrated Natural Resources Management through up scaling the good SLM practices to a wider landscape (component 1) including measures to increase soil fertility thereby increasing productivity and reducing rural poverty in linkage with component 2. The GEF support will also help the country to address the issues of deforestation as result of agricultural expansion as a consequence of loss of soil fertility.

A.1.5.Global environmental benefits (GEFTF, NPIF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); and/or adaptation benefits

The project implementation will help to generate Global Environment Benefices through conservation of the ecosystem services (of the pastoral and agricultural lands) of the two districts. More specifically, 100,000 ha of agricultural and 50,000ha of pastoral landscapes will be under SLM practices. Furthermore, through water conservations techniques, the project will ensure Integrated Water Resources Management to support conservation and increase productivity thereby contributing to social benefits. The adoption of good SLM will be linked to developing mitigation potential of local communities and ecosystem to the climate change thereby generating environmental benefits. The project will help to avoid deforestation and forest degradation and enhancement of carbon stock by avoiding agricultural expansion as result of reduced soil fertility. Agricultural productivity increase, enhancement of pastoral landscapes and services generating from Agroforestry practices will generate GEB and social benefits in line with GEF 5 SFM Focal Area. The social benefits will be also achieved through support to vulnerable groups (women and youths).

A.1.6. Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

The sustainability will be further achieved through capacity of the NGO, national experts and local communities which will be strengthen in terms of adoption of good SLM practices. The organizations will be receiving capacity building as Trainers and will in their turn build the capacity of local producers, Community Based Organizations, local administration technicians and local NGOs. The innovativeness of the project is therefore the fact the AEDD will not be conducting local level activities but instead create opportunities for NGO and CBO to have their capacity built to support local level implementation thereby ensuring project technical durability.

The knowledge management and experience sharing will be another important element of the project sustainability. The experience and information sharing on innovative soil fertility improvement practice including micro-dosing, Assisted Natural Regeneration, intensive rice production methods, folder banks and artificial insemination will be a great opportunities of collaboration between experts and between experts/researchers and producers.

As the project embraces various socioeconomic sectors, capacity building activities and valorization of local knowledge, it will give opportunity for job creation, strengthening coordination and collaboration between sectors and create condition for sustainability

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

Stakeholder	Mandate	Possible role in the project
Agence de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable (AEDD)	COORDINATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ENSURE INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENT CONSIDERATION IN ALL NATIONAL POLICIES	Ensure project and stakeholders coordination. Will provide national policy guidance and will ensure synergy with other processes and monitoring and evaluation of project progress in collaboration with UNEP
Groupe de Coordination des Zones Arides (GCOZA)	The Group of Coordination of Arid Zones, is an NGO network working in the area knowledge sharing, food security, traditional knowledge, land degradation and desertification;	The Group is be the project executing partners of the activities targeting local communities
Community Based Organization (CBO)	Community-Based Organization (CBM) is a representative of a community or a significant segment of a community approach of organization that aims for local stakeholder participation in the planning, research, development, management and policy making for a community as a whole. The decentralization of managing tactics enables local people to deal with the unique social, political.	The local communities will execute project activities within the framework of CBO which will represent them as the locally organized bodies

Women organized groups	Generally are autonomous associations of women who voluntarily cooperate for their mutual, social, economic, and cultural benefit through a mutually owned and democratically run enterprise. The women groups in the project area were engaged in agricultural activities, such as land clearance, planting and transplanting (63%) weeding (40%), fertilizer application (75%), food processing (88%), food storage (95%) and animal production and management (94%) respectively. Women farmer's cooperative societies are aimed at organizing women farmers for an improved agricultural production through tackling of individual women farmers' problems, limitations et others socio-economics problems. Women and vulnerable groups (girls, homeless children, elderly) have little access to education and means of productive inputs (public employment, credit, agricultural inputs, farming tools and land) though men and women are declared to be equal through the country's common laws. According to the latest Employment and Household Survey results, the incomes of 70 % of employed women is below the minimum wage against 30 % for men; in rural areas, 74 % of women earn less than the poverty threshold.	Will participate in the valorization of Non-Timber Forest Products by conducting some alternative livelihood activities. Will participate in seedlings production and will boost local economy through commercialization of agricultural and pastoral products which will be produced through the alternative livelihoods activities. Will profit from the capacity buildings activities Will participle in the local decision making bodies.
Youth group	They are non-political youth organizations which are part of the CSO and include all youth movements. Their objective is to bring Youths together to voice issues of their concerns. .	Execute sylvi-cultural activities on the field and participate to the soil restoration and fertility improvement infrastructures establishment. They will contribute in the emergence of local fire brigades and will be members of natural resources management committees. They will also benefit from the capacity building activities of the project.
Technical Departments and their Decentralized	Support local communities and administrations in project	Will be members of the Steering Committee and the

representations	implementation. They contribute to capacity building efforts of local stakeholders and have their capacity being strengthened from time to time.	execution of technical activities through support to local communities to implement SLM and agroforestry measures. They will benefit as necessary from the capacity building activities. They will play a role in conflict management and land tenure security.
Municipalities	Play an important role in the socio-economic development of their areas through development and implementation of Local Development Plan.	Include the project in local development plans Validate and adopt the agreements with local communities Support local communities in the execution of the project activities

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	*Rating*	Risk Mitigation Strategy
Climate change and climate variability undermine project achievements. The major climate-related threat is seasonal drought.	L – M	The project aims to introduce an *adaptive management* approach, giving local communities the tools, capacity and information to *adapt* to climate change, and to be able to overcome challenging conditions.
Land tenure issues undermine project interventions. Land tenure is a major issue in the project area as in rest of Mali. Insecure and unclear tenure can undermine incentives for improved land management.	M	The project will work with all stakeholders – local, national, governmental, non-governmental - to identify land development strategies that are attractive over the long term. The project strategy is designed to circumvent, to the extent possible, challenges caused by inadequate land tenure regimes. It will focus on the many none-tenure barriers, removing these, leading to significant improvements.
Production sectors such as livestock and agriculture, and local communities may be reluctant to embrace new land zoning and setting aside areas for no-development, as well as rehabilitation of forests	M	An effective communication strategy and stakeholder involvement plan will also be developed and implemented to gain stakeholder support.

Communities may resist the designation of areas conservation and with fear of losing state access and benefits	M	The project will work closely with the communities in selecting and establishing the forest reserves, ensuring that community concerns are adequately taken into consideration, and compensated through the government system. This will include careful selection of tree species for reforestation (including Fruits tree species where possible), provision of watering facilities for both livestock and people in compensation for loosing access to the catchments.
Resource use conflicts may undermine partnership approaches and implementation of the project	M	Early engagement of communities in the preperation of land use plans; and awareness campaign targeting respective community groups will be conducted.
Established regular coordination structures cease to operate properly once project oversight has ended	M	Lessons learned from other regional management systems will be evaluated and incorporated into project design and (ii) project design will emphasize linkages between the project and other regional coordination bodies that are expected to play an important role for the longer term project sustainability.
Untimely disbursement of project funds	M	Early planning will be emphasized during project implementation particularly procurment of goods and services, fund requests and reporting.

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

The project will ensure collaboration and synergies with key related initiatives in the country and region. Some of these initiatives of importance with which a coordination mechanism will be established include the following GEF/LDCF portfolio project:

FAO/GEF/LDCF: Strengthening Resilience to Climate Change through Integrated Agricultural and Pastoral Management in the Sahelian zone in the Framework of the Sustainable Land Management Approach. The project objective is “to enhance the capacity of Mali’s agro pastoral sectors to cope with climate change (CC), by mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) strategies, practices, and technologies adoption into on-going agro-pastoral and agricultural development initiatives in the framework of the national Sustainable Land Management (SLM) approach and program (CSI-GDT)”

FAO/GEF/LDCF: Integrating Climate Resilience into Agricultural Production for Food Security in Rural Areas. The objective is “to enhance the capacity of Mali’s agricultural sector to cope successfully with climate change, by incorporating Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) concerns and strategies into on-going agricultural development initiatives and mainstreaming CCA issues into agricultural policies and programming”

UNDP/GEF/LDCF: Strengthening the Resilience of Women Producer Group’s and Vulnerable Communities in Mali. The project objective is “to Enhance women producer group’s adaptive capacities to

secure livelihoods production from climate impacts and increase socio-economic resilience in Malian vulnerable communes (Kayes, Koulikoro and Sikasso)".

UNDP/GEF/LDCF; Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Resilience to Climate Change in the Agriculture Sector in Mali. The project objective is "to enhance adaptive capacities of vulnerable rural populations to the additional risks posed by climate change on agricultural production and food security in Mali"
These projects have developed/are developing adaptation technologies which will be adapted and use in the framework of this project. AEDDD and Ministry of Agriculture will work together to establish a lesson learning mechanism and due consideration in the project knowledge management.

Also of importance is the WB/GEF Great Green Wall project: The project is currently in formulation stage. ANEDD has already ensured that there will be no duplication with this project and a collaboration mechanism will be discussed and agreed during the preparation stage.

- ***B. DESCRIPTIOM OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE CONSISTENCY OF PROJECT WITH:***

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

The project is consistent and will contribute to the following national policies, plans and regulatory frameworks:

- Strategic Framework for Growth and Poverty Reduction (CSCRP 2012-2017). It is the national reference policy document with three majors axes and the present project will contribute to axe (i) Promotion of sustainable growth and jobs creation;

- Second National Communication on Climate Change (June 2011) particularly the mitigation options for forestry, agriculture and energy sectors and Technology Needs Assessment et Technology Action Plan for Climate Mitigation (September 2012). As indicated in the SNC, forestry and Agricultural sectors are among the first 7 GHE sources in Mali. These sectors have also been consider as priority sectors for Technology transfer needs The project will contribute to these national mitigation efforts through support particularly in forestry and agricultural sectors by conducting the afforestation/reforestation technologies activities through agroforestry practices (output 1.1.1) and community forestry (output 1.1.4). The organic agriculture technology (output 1.1.2) will also contribute to the mitigation priority in Forestry and Agriculture sectors.

- National Strategy and Action Plan on Climate change. The project will contribute to the Strategic Axe VI of the action plan by supporting vulnerable communities to adopt adaptation strategies in agricultural, livestock production, water resources, fisheries and forestry sub-sectors;

- National Action Plan for Adaptation: the project addresses priorities related to reinforcement of the resilience of local systems, diversification of income, provision of agro-hydro and meteorological information to local producers, restoration of soil fertility, amelioration of water conservation measures and formulation of adaptation capacity building programme for local communities;

- ***National Strategy on Environment Protection adopted elaborated in 1998;***

- ***National Strategic Investment Framework for SLM in the context of TerrAfrica Initiative. The CSIF vision in Mali is " By 2025, the Mali strong political commitment has enable to reverse the land degradation tendency in the country, to ameliorate national livelihood of the population and poverty reduction in order to make the country as a model for SLM"***

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

The project will address the GEF Land Degradation Focal Area objectives LD-1 and LD-3. It is designed to engineer a paradim shift from unsustainable to sustainable land management in the Koulukoro region of Mali. The project advances the strategic objectives of the UNCCD 10-year strategic plan namely: 1) To improve the living conditions of affected populations; 2) To improve the condition of affected ecosystems; 3) To generate global benefits through effective implementation of the UNCCD. The project will address the Biodiversity Focal area in the BD-2: Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in production landscape (Outcome 3.2 & Output 2).

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

UNEP's comparative advantage derives from its mandate to coordinate UN activities with regard to the environment, including its convening power, its ability to engage with different stakeholders to develop innovative solutions and its capacity to transform these into policy- and implementation-relevant tools. UNEP's comparative advantages in the GEF are also aligned with its mandate, functions and Medium Term Strategy and its biennial Programme of Work (2015- 2016). The proposed project is consistent with the Ecosystem management thematic priorities, Climate change and the Environmental Governance thematic priorities outlined in UNEP's Medium-term Strategy. These focal areas and key foci will be met in the following way:

UNEP's science and technical focus will bring comparative advantages as summarized in the following table:

Areas of UNEP comparative advantage in the GEF (all Focal Areas)		**UNEP Thematic Priority Areas**					
		Climate change	Disasters & conflicts	Ecosystems management	Environmental governance	Harmful substances & hazardous wastes	Resource efficiency
1. Sound science for national, regional and global decision-makers	Early warning and emerging issues	x		x			
	Science to Policy linkages	x		xx			
	Environmental monitoring and assessment			xx			

	Norms, standards, and guidelines			xxx			
	Enabling Activities for MEAs and synergies						
2. Cooperation, coordination and partnerships (regional or international)	Trans-boundary cooperation						
	Regional, or South-South cooperation						
	Global transformative actions						
3. Technical assistance and capacity building at country level (contribution to Bali Strategic Plan)	Technology assessment, demonstration, and innovation						
	Capacity building			xxx			
	Lifting barriers to market transformation						
4. Knowledge management, awareness raising and advocacy				xx			

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

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

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE *(MM/dd/yyyy)*
Sékou KONE	GEF OFP	**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION**	**18 APRIL 2014**

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF criteria for project identification and preparation.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	**Signature**	**DATE** *(MM/dd/yyyy)*	**Project Contact Person**	**Telephone**	**Email Address**
Brenna VanDyke; Director, GEF Coordination Office, UNEP		May 7, 2014	Mohamed Sessay Portfolio Manager, UNEP GEF	+254 20 762 4294	mohamed.sessay@unep.org