



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY  
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**Naoko Ishii**  
CEO and Chairperson

April 4, 2017

Dear Council Member:

UNDP as the Implementing Agency for the project entitled: *Myanmar: Ridge to Reef: Integrated Protected Area Land and Seascape Management in Tanintharyi*, has submitted the attached proposed project document for CEO endorsement prior to final approval of the project document in accordance with UNDP procedures.

The Secretariat has reviewed the project document. It is consistent with the proposal approved by Council in June 2015 and the proposed project remains consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures. The attached explanation prepared by UNDP satisfactorily details how Council's comments and those of the STAP have been addressed. I am, therefore, endorsing the project document.

We have today posted the proposed project document on the GEF website at [www.TheGEF.org](http://www.TheGEF.org). If you do not have access to the Web, you may request the local field office of UNDP or the World Bank to download the document for you. Alternatively, you may request a copy of the document from the Secretariat. If you make such a request, please confirm for us your current mailing address.

Sincerely,

Naoko Ishii  
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson

Attachment: GEFSEC Project Review Document  
Copy to: Country Operational Focal Point, GEF Agencies, STAP, Trustee



# GEF-6 FULL-SIZED PROJECT FOR ENDORSEMENT

PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZED PROJECT

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF TRUST FUND

For more information about GEF, visit [TheGEF.org](http://TheGEF.org)

## PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Ridge to Reef: Integrated Protected Area Land and Seascape Management in Tanintharyi			
Country(ies):	Myanmar	GEF Project ID: <sup>1</sup>	6992
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	5427
Other Executing Partner(s):	Lead national ministry: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MoNREC) Other partners: Tanintharyi Regional Government, Smithsonian Institution (SI), Green Economy Green Growth (GEGG)-Myanmar Association, Fauna and Flora International (FFI)	Submission Date: Resubmission:	December 2, 2016 January 24, 2017
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity, Land Degradation Sustainable Forest Management	Project Duration (Months)	72 months
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Commodities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Food Security <input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Program: SGP <input type="checkbox"/>	
Name of Parent Program	N/A	Agency Fee (\$)	498,750

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

Focal Area Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
BD-1 Programme 2	Outcome 2.1 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. Outcome 2.2: Improved management effectiveness of new protected areas.	GEF TF	3,000,000	8,538,116
LD-3 Programme 4	Outcome 3.1: Support mechanisms for SLM in wider landscapes established Outcome 3.2: Integrated landscape management practices adopted by local communities based on gender sensitive needs. Outcome 3.3: Increased investments in integrated landscape management	GEF TF	500,000	2,000,000
SFM-1	Outcome 1: Cross-sector policy and planning approaches at appropriate governance scales, avoid loss of high conservation value forests.	GEF TF	1,750,000	6,000,000
<b>Total project costs</b>			<b>5,250,000</b>	<b>16,538,116</b>

<sup>1</sup> Project ID number remains the same as the assigned PIF number.

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

## B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: <i>Securing the long-term protection of Key Biodiversity Areas in Tanintharyi through integrated planning and management at land and seascape scales, with interconnectivity from ridge to reef in Tanintharyi</i>						
Project Components/ Programs	Financing Type <sup>3</sup>	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing
Component 1: Integrated land and seascape planning and management in Tanintharyi	TA	<p>Land and seascapes rich in biodiversity in Tanintharyi are connected and their planning and management are integrated. This is indicated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- at least 1,452,658 ha under ISLM</li> <li>- at least 323,138 ha of HCVF identified (Lenya and Lenya Extension/Ngawun Proposed PAs<sup>4</sup>)</li> <li>- Total GHG emissions benefit of 5,063,434 tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq in a total area of 381,859ha over 10 years from forest conservation and sustainable forest management</li> <li>- Tanintharyi PA system extended from current 195,402 ha by at least 333,538 ha to 528,940 ha, securing KBAs in marine and terrestrial landscapes.</li> <li>- Fully functional and funded ILSM coordination mechanism institutionalized within Tanintharyi regional government ensures integration of BD and ES into regional and local planning,- Increase in Capacity Development Score of Tanintharyi regional government for integrated landscape and seascape management (ILSM) from 7 to 36.</li> <li>- financial sustainability scores improved by 35 % from baseline</li> <li>- land use plans for Myeik and Kawthoung Districts and at least two Regional sectoral plans informed by / integrating</li> </ul>	<p>1.1: Inter-sectoral, coordinated land/seascape planning mechanisms established within regional governance structure to integrate management of ecosystem services and biodiversity, using the High Conservation Value (HCV) approach, assisted by a range of supporting tools and systems for biodiversity mainstreaming and sustainable land management: including, inter alia, overlay maps, biodiversity and sector oriented ecosystem valuation tools, strategic environmental assessment, stringent EIA procedures and enforcement for compliance.</p> <p>1.2: Sector-specific standards, safeguards and incentives to protect Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), HCV Forests and High Carbon Stock Forests (HCSFs) developed and operational. Multi-Sector Standards Working Group established by RTACG; members familiarised with principles and practices of land/seascape planning and management, based on HCV approach; and made responsible for facilitating the development of environmental and social standards for their respective sectors.</p> <p>1.3: Integrated land and marine resource-use plans developed and implemented for Myeik and Kawthoung districts through participatory process facilitated by a Regional Technical Advisory and Coordination Group, landscape Working Groups, and engaging village tracts, townships and districts, involving community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) and sustainable land and sea management measures, including enforcement.</p> <p>1.4: Tanintharyi PA system expanded by at least 333,538 ha through proclamation of new sites that increase its representativeness of HCV biodiversity and cultural diversity – Lenya proposed PA (183,012 ha), Ngawun (Lenya Extension) proposed PA (184,997 ha), Thayawtatangi Island LMMAs (5,626</p>	GEFTF	1,300,000	6,538,116
				LD BD SFM	500,000 300,000 500,000	

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

<sup>4</sup> See Project Document Table 3

		biodiversity information including KBAs, HCVF and HCSF	ha), Langann Island LMMA (4,917 ha); management capacity strengthened; and regional financing plan developed. Strategy developed for expansion of Tanintharyi's PA subsystem considering full range of IUCN PA categories and other governance/management options including transboundary conservation initiatives; capacities of PA agencies (FD and DoF) developed through establishment of staffing structures and introduction of competence standards, supported by training; strategy for sustainable financing including a suite of financing mechanisms to underpin expanded PA subsystem including operationalization of a community-based ecotourism strategy for Tanintharyi.			
Component 2: Strengthened management and threat reduction in target proposed PAs and surrounding land and seascapes	TA	Strengthened PA management and threat reduction in target proposed PAs, and in smallholder zones and corridors (baselines to be established in Y1) as indicated by: - Improved management effectiveness of PAs covering over 500,000 ha: Lenya 24>60, Ngawun 21>60, Tha Gyet & Thein Khun RFs 11>40, LMMAs 36/38/40>65; - Improved integrity and functioning of coral reef ecosystems within the targeted seascape, indicated by: area of coral reef ecosystems, and condition - Improved status of tiger, elephant, tapir, Gurney's Pitta, Plain-pouched Hornbill in targeted landscapes (baselines to be established in Y1) - At least 4 Sustainable Development Plans implemented for village clusters (c.80 villages) and USD 555,000 dispersed via small grants programme (at least 60% to female applicants).	2.1: Management and financing plans for target proposed PAs developed and operationalized with full stakeholder participation including: participatory processes emplaced for development of management plans and Stakeholder Working Groups established for Lenya, Ngawun, Auckland Bay Mangroves and Thayawthangyi-Daung and Langann Islands; boundaries of proposed PA boundaries surveyed with community reps; PA boundaries clearly demarcated; management and financing plans developed with SWGs; PA Stakeholder Forum incorporated within PA governance structure, along with provisions for local communities, CSOs and private sector to engage in the planning, implementation and financing of PAs; management plans implemented in partnership with relevant stakeholders including opportunities for co-management. 2.2: PA site operations strengthened to address existing threats to biodiversity, including: management structure established for PAs, staff competence needs identified and training provided; management infrastructure (e.g. signage, patrol camps, equipment) consolidated; monitoring protocols established for PAs according to key species, ecosystems and threats; enforcement capacity developed through by training in SMART patrolling and enforcement techniques and strategies for community engagement (e.g. joint patrolling, community patrolling in KNU areas). 2.3: Capacity of communities developed within KBAs, HCV habitats, smallholder zones and corridors for integrated and sustainable management of land/seascapes, including community-based natural resource management, including: sustainability assessments conducted for village clusters within	GEFTF  <i>BD</i> <i>SFM</i>	2,300,000  <i>1,050,000</i> <i>1,250,000</i>	5,500,000

			land and seascapes; Village Cluster Sustainable Development Committees (VCSDCs) established to coordinate development of participatory 5-year Sustainable Development Plans in R2R Seascape, R2R Mangrove, R2R Corridor and Smallholder Zones and liaise with respective townships and districts regarding support from relevant sectors to support plan implementation.			
Component 3: Emplacement of the National Biodiversity Survey and geospatial platform for Integrated Land and Seascape Management	TA	<p>Prototype National Biodiversity Survey framework and geospatial platform operational within Tanintharyi Regional Government, indicated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training programme of some ten modules on biodiversity conservation and monitoring is run annually as part of Myeik University programmes by end of project;</li> <li>-Capacity building strategy for biodiversity knowledge generation and application institutionalised in the government's human resource management strategy;</li> <li>-Increased institutional capacity to collect and analyse biodiversity information/data, and apply them to the conservation and management of PAs and KBAs, and land use planning- CD scorecard for Regional Forestry Dept 35&gt;76%, Dept of Fisheries 33&gt;72%</li> </ul>	<p>3.1: National Biodiversity Survey framework and geospatial platform designed, piloted and institutionalized within Tanintharyi Regional Government, comprising (i) replicable, systematic biological assessment protocols and standards for selected critical species, habitats and human communities to be deployed across marine and terrestrial landscapes; (ii) baseline data documenting species richness and distribution; (iii) national biodiversity data repository and web portal "Encyclopedia of Myanmar Life" linked to geospatial tools that will improve knowledge sharing among diverse stakeholders; (iv) geospatial tools for stakeholders and decision makers to inform and improve protected area management, land use planning, and conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems; and (v) a framework for establishing and evaluating long-term conservation project outcomes.</p> <p>3.2: Strengthened capacities of regional universities, research institutions and government agencies (FD and DOF) to survey and monitor biodiversity; and to store, manage and disseminate such data, information and knowledge, through: 10 training modules on field survey methods for plant and animal taxa, including specimen collection, data entry and statistical analysis; biological surveys in a range of terrestrial ecosystems for purposes of (i) informing land use and management planning; and (ii) monitoring long-term change; LoA signed by partners for biodiversity data, long-term monitoring &amp; info management for Tanintharyi biodiversity platform.</p> <p>3.3: Development and institutionalization of a modular biodiversity conservation and monitoring training programme in Tanintharyi Region, including: competencies determined for conservation area mgt (including land and seascapes); institutionalized modular training programme on biodiversity conservation and monitoring to equip practitioners and graduate students with the necessary</p>	GEFTF <i>BD</i>	1,147,000 <i>1,147,000</i>	3,000,000

			competences to plan, manage and monitor high conservation value (HCV) sites and landscapes; capacity building strategy for biodiversity knowledge generation and application adopted by MoNREC and DoF.			
<b>Component 4: Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation</b>	TA	Enhanced knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation support biodiversity conservation in Tanintharyi, as indicated by: Mid-term review report and final evaluation report.  All project results and lessons learned shared through website with one news article per month – at least one/year on gender issues; at least 15 completed technical reports available online; and three Tanintharyi Land and Seascapes Knowledge Forums held (150 female participants in total).	4.1: Project results and lessons learned are made available to all project stakeholders through website, stakeholder forum meetings. 4.2: Project monitoring and evaluation system in place and used to inform project management decision-making. This includes: inception workshop, annual planning workshops, monitoring of activities, outputs and outcomes, monitoring of the risk matrix and identifying potential risks and mitigation measures to reduce those unexpected risks; Mid-term Review and Final Evaluation.	GEFTF BD	253,000 253,000	500,000
Subtotal					5,000,000	15,538,116
Project Management Cost (PMC) <sup>5</sup>				GEFTF	250,000	1,000,000
<b>Total project costs</b>					<b>5,250,000</b>	<b>16,538,116</b>

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

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
Recipient Government	Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry	In-kind	3,000,000
Recipient Government	Tanintharyi Regional Government	In-kind	3,000,000
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	6,613,000
CSO	Smithsonian Institution	Grant	1,500,000
CSO	Fauna and Flora International	Grant	2,425,116
<b>Total Co-financing</b>			<b>16,538,116</b>

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country Name/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee <sup>a)</sup> (b) <sup>2</sup>	Total (c)=a+b

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

UNDP	GEF TF	Myanmar	Biodiversity	N/A	3,000,000	285,000	3,285,000
UNDP	GEF TF	Myanmar	Land Degradation	N/A	500,000	47,500	547,500
UNDP	GEF TF	Myanmar	Multi Focal Areas	SFM	1,750,000	166,250	1,916,250
<b>Total Grant Resources</b>					5,250,000	498,750	5,748,750

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

## E. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS<sup>6</sup>

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	1,452,658 ha
2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	209,023 ha
4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path	750 million tons of CO <sub>2e</sub> mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	5,063,434 tCO <sub>2-eq</sub> over 10 years

## F. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A “NON-GRANT” INSTRUMENT? NO

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

## PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

### A. DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN WITH THE ORIGINAL PIF<sup>7</sup>

#### 1. Project Description

1.1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed;

**The development challenge** that this project seeks to address concerns the negative impacts of unsustainable sector-led development practices on biodiversity-rich forested landscapes in Tanintharyi Region of Myanmar, as well as on associated biodiverse and highly productive coastal and marine ecosystems, while taking into account needs for climate change adaptation and inclusive, equitable social and economic development for communities that are dependent on natural resources.

The project intervention comes at a time when Myanmar is in a state of dynamic political, social and economic change, following a half-century of isolation and civil war. Economic liberalization and the re-connections with the global community are already resulting in substantial foreign investment, rapid economic growth and social changes. However, these changes are also resulting in rapidly increasing pressures on the country's natural resources and biodiversity, and the rich natural resources of Myanmar's southern-most Tanintharyi Region are especially vulnerable to such pressures.

<sup>6</sup> Update the applicable indicators provided at PIF stage. Progress in programming against these targets for the projects per the *Corporate Results Framework* in the [GEF-6 Programming Directions](#), will be aggregated and reported during mid-term and at the conclusion of the replenishment period.

<sup>7</sup> For questions A.1 –A.7 in Part II, if there are no changes since PIF, no need to respond, please enter “NA” after the respective question.

The national government acknowledges the risks and opportunities of future development for biodiversity conservation in its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and has prioritized this GEF intervention in Tanintharyi.

Tanintharyi Region is a relatively undeveloped area with high biodiversity and endemism that provides invaluable ecosystem services. Approximately 20% of Myanmar's Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) are located in Tanintharyi, grouped under the Tanintharyi Range and Tanintharyi Marine priority conservation corridors. This region includes the largest areas of lowland wet evergreen forest remaining in the Indo-Myanmar (Indo-Burma) Hotspot, some of the largest contiguous blocks of mangrove forest in mainland SE Asia, and the myriad of islands and diverse marine ecosystems of the Myeik Archipelago in the Andaman Sea Marine Ecoregion. These ecosystems support outstanding biodiversity including flagship species such as tiger, Asian elephant, Asian tapir, Sunda pangolin, Gurney's pitta, plain-pouched hornbill, as well migratory waterbird concentrations and diverse coral reef and seagrass communities. The region has great potential for long-term conservation of large landscape species through transboundary protected areas (PAs) within biodiversity conservation landscapes along the border with western and peninsular Thailand. However, the immediate threat of deforestation from oil palm plantations in particular, together with illegal logging and forest encroachment, industrial development and highly unsustainable fishing practices require urgent action if this fleeting opportunity to conserve biodiversity and assure ecological integrity and security is to be realized.

**The GEF project alternative** aims to remove the barriers to accomplishing the **long term solution**, namely *to achieve sustainable, inclusive and equitable development through sustainable management of Tanintharyi's natural capital and safeguarding its globally significant biodiversity and ecosystems*. The key barriers are: 1) under-representation of KBAs in the PAs system and insufficient systemic capacity for integrated land and seascape management (ILSM); 2) weak institutional and staff capacity for management of PAs, buffer zones and corridors; and 3) Insufficient capacity for generating and applying biodiversity information and knowledge. These barriers will be removed through a suite of activities that will build on significant baseline efforts by the national and regional government and CSOs. The results will contribute towards the accomplishment of the following project outcomes and ultimately the **Project Objective**, which is *to secure the long-term protection of Key Biodiversity Areas through integrated planning and management of the protected area land/seascape in Tanintharyi*.

For further information see Project Document Section 1 (Development Challenge).

*1.2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects,*

The principal change from PIF stage is a change in government leadership, with the National League for Democracy government taking effect on 1 April 2016. Significant re-organization of national ministries followed the change in government, including the former Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry (MOECAAF) being renamed the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MoNREC), the main government partner for project implementation. This has been accompanied by a trend of decentralization of responsibilities to regional governments, which now have authority for management of their natural resources. Thus the Tanintharyi Regional Government is now empowered to lead on integrated natural resource management, and in its early days has shown great interest in pursuing an environmentally sustainable pathway to development (for example, by reviewing all licences for oil palm plantations issued by the previous government). An additional significant change has been the signing of a ceasefire agreement by a variety of ethnic armed groups across the country, including the Karen National Union (KNU) in Tanintharyi. Consequently, during the PPG period, the project made initial steps in engaging with the KNU in order to negotiate access to lands under their control (much of the Tanintharyi Range Corridor) for baseline assessments, to discuss project goals for these areas in relation to their concerns (the project had to discard plans to include Tanintharyi Proposed National Park in the project landscapes in view of KNU concerns, and follow a community-based approach towards conservation of other areas under KNU control) and to discuss their role in project implementation (KNU will be represented on the Project Board, and affiliated CSOs may have a part in implementing certain activities pending UNDP clearance).

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



The overall GEF alternative remains broadly consistent with that expressed in the PIF. Otherwise, it was very challenging during the PPG to conceptualize the combination of landscapes and seascapes within a ridge to reef context, while addressing the development of terrestrial, coastal and marine protected areas at a time of dynamic governmental transition, re-integration of areas under ethnic armed group control and return of IDPs and refugees. The PIF provided little or no geographic guidance on the design of this combination of land and seascapes, and while the PIF targets have been addressed as far as possible, they were not grounded in the overall reality of the current situation so inevitably there are some differences following detailed design. The rationale and design of GEF land and seascapes and related statistics follow below. These are further explained in section III of the project document (Strategy).

In summary, the GEF Project Alternative aims to remove the barriers to accomplishing the long-term solution, namely to achieve sustainable, inclusive and equitable development through sustainable management of Tanintharyi's natural capital and safeguarding its globally significant biodiversity and ecosystems. The key barriers are: (i) under-representation of KBAs in the PAs system and systemic incapacity for integrated land and seascape management (ILSM); (ii) weak institutional and staff capacity for management of PAs, buffer zones and corridors; and (iii) insufficient capacity for generating and applying biodiversity information and knowledge.

These barriers will be removed through a suite of activities that will build on significant baseline efforts by the national and regional government and CSOs. The results will contribute towards the accomplishment of the following project outcomes and, ultimately, the Project Objective, which is: to secure the long-term protection of Key Biodiversity Areas through integrated planning and management of the protected area land/seascape in Tanintharyi.

**Outcome 1:** Land and seascapes rich in biodiversity in Tanintharyi are connected and their planning and management are integrated. The first component will support the expansion of Tanintharyi's PAs system, covering priority KBAs in marine, coastal and terrestrial landscapes through the establishment of already proposed PAs and community-based management of KBAs. This component will also support the development of institutional capacity to enable integrated land and seascape management (ILSM), to ensure that development and land use practices in Tanintharyi will support conservation objectives favouring High Conservation Value (HCV) forests and KBAs. Importantly, it will support establishment of a mechanism within the regional governance system for multi-sectoral ILSM to inform decision-making. It will also enhance capacity within the Tanintharyi government to mainstream ecosystem-based approaches in development planning.

**Outcome 2:** Strengthened management and threat reduction in target proposed PAs, smallholder zones and corridors. This component will focus on safeguarding PAs on the ground, by increasing site management capacity and by reducing threats to biodiversity, HCV forests and marine ecosystems in the surrounding target land and seascapes. For the newly established PAs, the project will support establishment of new management structures through on-the-ground presence, and the development and implementation of park management and business plans. The capacity of communities within the KBAs, buffer zones and corridors will be developed to improve natural resource management and incentivize sustainable livelihoods, with specific attention towards promoting gender equality, and climate resilience through adaptive planning approaches informed by vulnerability assessment.

**Outcome 3:** Prototype National Biodiversity Survey framework and geospatial platform operational within Tanintharyi Regional Government. The third component focuses on developing institutional capacity for the generation and application of biodiversity knowledge at national and subnational levels. The NBS framework will be established as the umbrella for the biodiversity information management system. In building national and local capacity, a wide range of programmes and tools developed by the Smithsonian Institution will be utilised, and a range of training programs established and provided, guided by a capacity building strategy which will be institutionalized within government. Biodiversity information and data will be consolidated through establishment of the NBS framework, focusing initially

on the Tanintharyi Range Corridor, coastal wetlands (mangrove and mudflats) and Myeik Archipelago. Working from detailed capacity needs assessments, the capacity of national and local government agencies, research institutions and national CSOs will be strengthened in the areas of biodiversity assessment and monitoring, environmental planning and management for development and poverty alleviation, and utilization of open access methods and tools to design, implement and evaluate projects. Guidelines / SOP will be developed on how to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services information into the management of protected areas, key biodiversity areas and land use planning.

**Outcome 4:** Enhanced knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation support biodiversity conservation in Tanintharyi. Through this component, the project will ensure that results, information and knowledge accumulated within the project will be documented and disseminated to stakeholder and wider audiences to support learning and the scaling-up of project outcomes; comprehensive monitoring and evaluation procedures will ensure that project decision making is informed and adaptive.

Component 4 on Knowledge Management and Monitoring and Evaluation has been added in view of the GEF and UNDP emphasis on this subject area, with subsequent reallocation of the GEF budget to finance this additional element.

### **Landscape Scoping and Rationale**

The rationale for the selection of the project landscapes in Tanintharyi Region is based on several criteria:

- to build on existing initiatives by a range of organisations to conserve terrestrial and marine biodiversity and promote the sustainable use of natural resources at land and sea scape scales for the benefit of local communities and the regional economy;
- to ensure the protection and/or sustainable use of KBAs in Tanintharyi Region and representation of its ecoregions within the national PA system; and
- to sustain ecological connectivity within and between the Tanintharyi Range Corridor and Tanintharyi Marine Corridor (i.e. from ridge to reef).

The KBAs and priority conservation corridors in Tanintharyi Region are shown in Project Document **Figures 1 and 2**. From this, it is apparent that the vast majority of the region is of major national and global significance for biodiversity conservation, with only the developed lands excluded. Within the region, the project has opted for a strategic approach that will secure:

- a) the ecological integrity and connectivity of the **Tanintharyi Range Corridor**, by including Lenya PNP, Ngawun (Lenya Extension) PNP, and Thein Khun and Tha Gyet RFs. This landscape also connects with large PAs in Thailand, providing an excellent opportunity to demonstrate trans-boundary collaboration and the future possibility of establishing a large flagship conservation landscape as a World Heritage Site and/or Biosphere Reserve (both Myeik Archipelago and Tanintharyi Forest Corridor were added to the WHS tentative list in 2014<sup>8</sup>).
- b) a significant block of mangrove forest around Auckland Bay with associated intertidal flats and waters, including a number of community managed areas. This will secure both important biodiversity and spawning grounds that underpin marine fishery productivity;
- c) a connecting corridor of forest and mixed land uses that links the Tanintharyi Range Corridor with mangrove forest in both the Lenya and Tanintharyi river basins of Kawthoung and Myeik Districts, respectively. This will contribute towards watershed services and enable wildlife populations to adapt to changing environmental conditions, such as climate, sea level and invasive alien species.
- d) a seascape stretching from the Thayawthatangyi Island group in the north to Langann Island group in the south. This area is significant for the quality of its coral reefs, local fishery resources and forested island habitats – and has been selected on the basis of the Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs) functioning in both island groups, with potential for consolidation and replication of this approach and the designation of MPAs for key marine habitats. Significantly, it is thought that the coral reefs within this seascape are likely to act as a source of larvae for other reefs to the south that are vulnerable to bleaching during El Nino episodes. This seascape also straddles the inshore-offshore fishing boundary line, providing scope to demonstrate improved fishery enforcement methods.

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<sup>8</sup> NBSAP 2015

The combination of landscapes, seascapes, various levels of protection and GEF project study areas are shown in the **Figure 1 below**.

A further strategic consideration is the need for coordination and synergy with related initiatives. The selected project landscapes generally complement these initiatives, as follows:

- 1) FAO/GEF MyCoast Project - Ecosystem-Based Conservation of Myanmar's Southern Coastal Zone – this will focus on sustainable fishery management and integrated coastal area management. The current project will lead on management of the identified coastal and marine areas within the target land and seascapes, and extension of the MPA system based on further surveys and assessments.
- 2) WCS Southern Forest Complex – this ongoing initiative focuses on community-based management of Myintmoletkhet KBA in Dawei District. While the current project will learn from this initiative and share experiences, it will avoid geographical overlap, as in the case of WCS support for Tanintharyi NR.
- 3) WWF Dawei Development Corridor – as for WCS interventions in Dawei District
- 4) International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) support to MONREC for the project “Capacity Building for Strengthening Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation of the Tanintharyi Range in Myanmar” (2013-2016). This provides targeted capacity building support for improving transboundary biodiversity conservation between Myanmar and Thailand with particular focus on the work in the Tanintharyi Range.

The total area covered by the project landscapes is 1.452 million ha, which is some 33.5% of the total geographical area of Tanintharyi Region (4,334,330 ha). The project landscapes are mainly located in Myeik District, with some portions in Kawthoung District to the South: Lenya PNP, parts of the connecting corridor along the Myeik/Kawthoung boundary, and part of the marine corridor including Langaan Island group. In addition, the project will support the development of integrated land use plans for Myeik and Kawthoung Districts.

**Table: The distribution of the project landscapes in terms of habitats and existing and proposed protected areas (source: FFI).**

Landscape Name	Project Status	Area ha	KBA Refs	Key species*	Key Habitats
Lenya	R2R Landscape	183,279	33	Mangrove Terrapin (CR) Spiny Turtle (EN) Asian Box Turtle (VU) Asiatic Softshell Turtle (VU) Black Marsh Turtle (VU) Burmese Eyed Turtle (VU) Gurney's Pitta (EN) Great Slaty Woodpecker (VU) Straw-headed Bulbul (VU) Sunda Pangolin CR Stump-tailed Macaque VU White-handed Gibbon EN Sun Bear VU Binturong VU Banded Civet VU Tiger EN Leopard Cat VU Asian Elephant EN Asian Tapir EN Gaur VU	Lowland dipterocarp forest, smallholdings, plantations, mining land
Ngawun	R2R Landscape	447,834	52, 108	Gurney's Pitta (EN) Storm's Stork (EN) Blue-banded Kingfisher (VU) Large Green-pigeon (VU) Plain-pouched Hornbill (VU) Wallace's Hawk-eagle (VU)	Lowland dipterocarp forest, smallholdings, plantations
Auckland Bay Mangrove	R2R Landscape	356,570	105, 11	Hawksbill Turtle (CR) Leatherback (CR) Mangrove Terrapin (CR)	Mangroves, intertidal flats, coastal waters, smallholdings

				Green Turtle (EN) Spiny Turtle (EN) Asian Box Turtle (VU) Asiatic Softshell Turtle (VU) Black Marsh Turtle (VU) Burmese Eyed Turtle (VU) Plain-pouched Hornbill (VU) Sonneratia griffithii (CR) Heritiera fomes (EN)	
R2R Seascape	R2R Seascape	306,501	105, 121	Hawksbill Turtle (CR) Leatherback (CR) Plain-pouched Hornbill (VU)	Forested islands, coral reefs, seagrass beds, sandy beaches, mangroves, smallholdings
R2R Corridor	R2R Corridor	119,220	21	Mangrove Terrapin (CR) Spiny Turtle (EN) Asian Box Turtle (VU) Asiatic Softshell Turtle (VU) Black Marsh Turtle (VU) Burmese Eyed Turtle (VU) Gurney's Pitta (EN)	Lowland dipterocarp forest, smallholdings, plantations
Lenya River	Smallholders Zone	39,254		No information	Lowland dipterocarp forest, mangroves, rivers, smallholdings
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,452,658</b>			

\*Not comprehensive

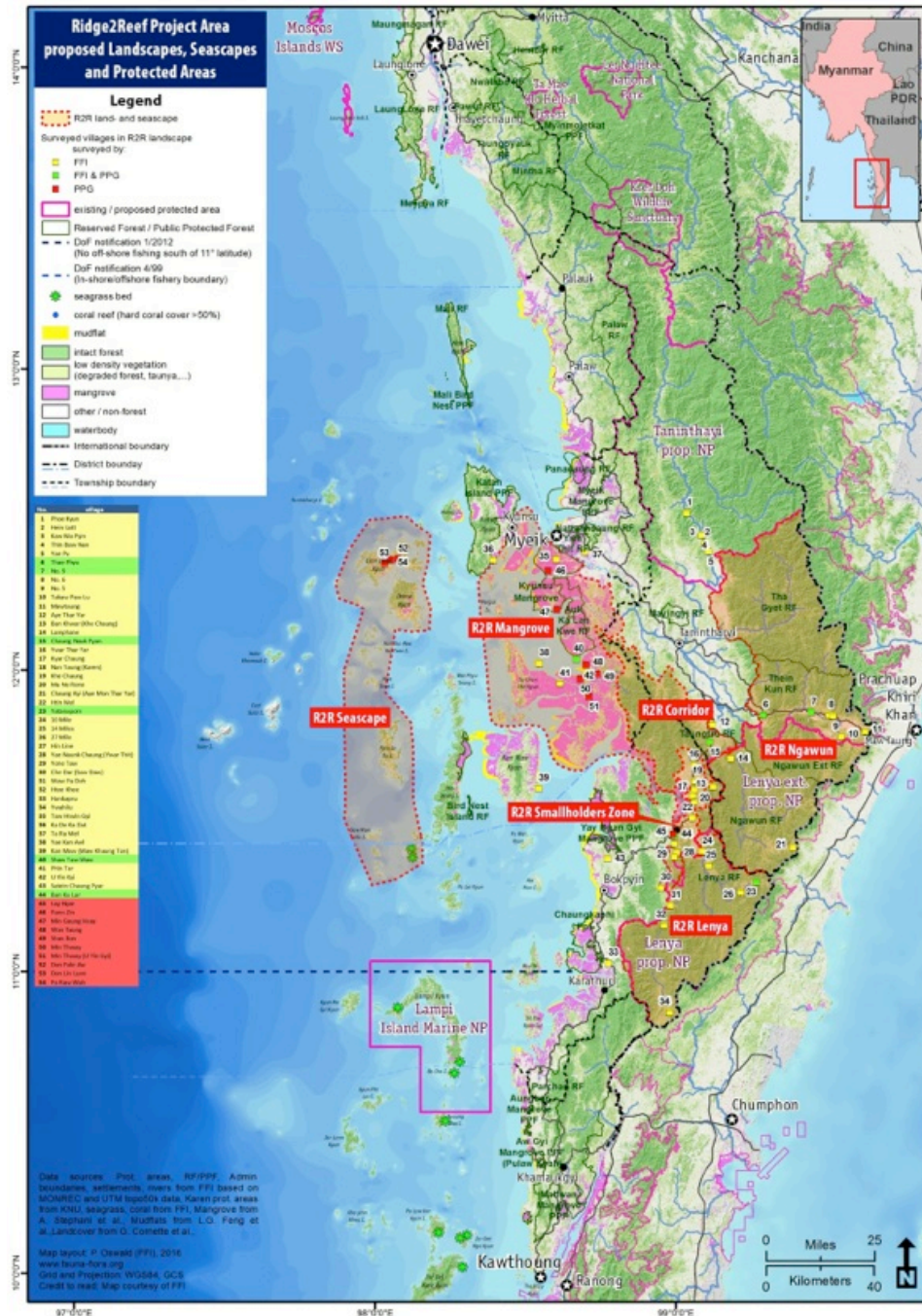
Sources: <https://myanmarbiodiversity.org/portfolio-items/myanmar-key-biodiversity-areas/>

#### 1.4) incremental/additional cost reasoning

There are no changes from the PIF in the incremental reasoning. Baseline projects as well as other contributions to the project's baseline and co-financing are given in Project document Section III (Results and Partnerships) for each project component, and Section IX (Financial Planning and Management).

The indicative cofinancing for the project in the PIF has been confirmed, reaching the same total of USD16 million but with some differences in individual contributions (see Table C above). As can be seen from Table C, significant Parallel Co-financing investments will be made by the key relevant institutions to all three areas covered by the project (integrated land and seascape management, PA management, and biodiversity information management). These investments will mainly be allocated to: costs of staff assigned to project activities such as working groups at various levels; staffing of conservation areas; participation in biodiversity surveys, monitoring and assessment; sustainable forest management including CBNRM; institutional information management; project monitoring and evaluation; and project management.

GEF resources will be used to address efforts in developing an enabling framework for an integrated land and seascape planning and management approach, involving the development of plans and strategies that aim to strengthen inter-sectoral coordination; engagement of stakeholders at all levels from local to national in planning and sustainable resource uses; capacity development for regional government and key sector agencies; promotion of sustainable livelihood practices; extension of the regional PA system and improvement of PA management effectiveness; development of sectoral standards for sustainability; and provision of information systems, spatial analysis and decision support tools. This will be done through the provision of incremental funding to add on to investments already being made by project partners. The project preparation phase has also engaged stakeholders, developed a shared vision and initiated steps towards the removal of barriers for effective implementation. The project can therefore be considered entirely incremental above the baseline situation.



**Figure 1:** GEF project landscapes, seascapes, key habitats, existing and proposed PAs

### 1.5) global environmental benefits

The primary global environmental benefits that will be delivered include the mainstreaming of biodiversity and ecosystem service conservation over a landscape of 1,452,658 ha of globally significant terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems, through adoption of integrated land and seascape planning and management that will reduce land degradation over at least **390,824 ha**, secure SFM benefits in more than 300,000 ha, extend the Tanintharyi subregional PA system by more than 300,000 ha and contribute directly towards the conservation of globally significant ecosystems, habitats and species, as described in the table below. **See Annex 1 below for details of approach used to estimate carbon benefits.**



Baseline practices	Alternative to be put in place by the project	Selected environmental benefit
<b>Component 1: Integrated Land and Seascape Planning and Management</b>		
<p>Land use planning does not account for ecosystem values and biodiversity, leading to continued forest degradation, loss of HVCFs/HCSFs and loss of ecosystem functions</p> <p>Sectoral approach prevails in terms of land use decision-making; forest planning does not incorporate HVCF and HCSF approach, ridge to reef considerations nor SFM tools.</p> <p>National policies do not support land use optimization to sustain resource resilience nor do they allow operationalization of the HCVF and HCSF concept</p> <p>Weak enforcement capacities to ensure compliance with ecological standards in land use, and high levels of trespassing in use of forests</p>	<p>Mainstreaming SLM/SFM principles into region and district land use planning and development planning, compliance monitoring and enforcement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All land in target districts is classified with the principle of retaining highest carrying capacity of land and forest resources for ecosystem service maintenance, and the compliance is monitored and enforced.</li> <li>- The approach of HCVPs and HCSFs is operationalized in Tanintharyi Region with a suite of incentives established to avoid the loss of HCVPs/HCSFs and providing direct contribution to the national REDD + Strategy development process.</li> <li>- Biodiversity and ecosystem values are fully recognised and provisions are made in regional and district land use plans for their maintenance and enhancement.</li> <li>- Local and business communities and foreign investors are engaged in forest area and land use planning and use, and providing direct support for conservation and sustainable forest and land management actions.</li> <li>- Local communities are empowered for community based natural resource management and practicing improved land management and agricultural practices including natural forest regeneration, establishment of community woodlots on degraded lands, community forestry, agroforestry, rubber gardens, integrated pest management and silvicultural management.</li> <li>- Protected area system is expanded to incorporate all the key HCVPs, HCF, and KBAs with management structure and staff emplaced.</li> </ul>	<p><b>SFM benefits:</b> Pressures on forest landscapes reduced over 1,452,658 ha:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pressures on forest landscapes reduced<sup>9</sup></li> <li>- Avoidance of emissions from deforestation of 5,063,434 tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq in a total area of 381,859 ha over 10 years through the conservation of at least 323,138 ha of new HCVP/HCSF (Lenya and Ngawun proposed PAs)<sup>10</sup>, at least 43,652 ha of mangroves in Aukland Bay FR and Kyunsu Mangrove PPF, and 15,069 ha of intact or slightly degraded mangroves in Aukland Bay as protected and/or community co-managed areas, receiving strengthened legal protection</li> <li>- Improved functioning ecosystem services (such as carbon sequestration, watershed functions, forest/marine product provisions, maintenance/ enhancement of tourism assets)</li> <li>- Improved production sector practices (e.g. plantation and agriculture, extractives etc.) integrating ecosystem services values and biodiversity concerns in its management</li> <li>- Forest reserves, production forests and plantation areas integrate the concept of HCVPs and HCSFs in their management plans.</li> <li>- Concessions and infrastructure development are allocated in such areas to minimize disturbance to the connectivity of forest complexes ensuring the full value of forest ecosystems are maintained.</li> </ul> <p><b>LD benefits:</b> At least 1.45 million ha of Tanintharyi Region covering 4,334,330 ha employing integrated landscape management approach in the land use decision-making and forest and coastal landscape management, under enhanced cross-sector enabling environment for integrated landscape management, and with a range of support tools and mechanisms for cross sector integration. Land degradation reduced on at least 390,824 ha of productive systems.</p> <p>Integrated landscape management practices adopted by local communities in the Tanintharyi Range corridor.</p> <p><b>BD benefits:</b> Expansion of the Tanintharyi PA system from current 195,402 ha by at least 333,538 ha to 528,940 ha, securing KBAs in marine and terrestrial landscapes and HCVPs.</p> <p>In addition, there is significant scope for establishing core protected terrestrial and marine areas within the land and seascapes of Aukland Bay Mangrove (356,570 ha including Forest Reserves totaling 43,651 ha) and R2R Seascape</p>

<sup>9</sup> See details of calculations to determine carbon benefits in Annex 1 below

<sup>10</sup> See SFM TT in Annex 6 for details: covers 10 year period at a national average avoided deforestation rate of -0.81tC/yr

		(306,501 ha) to meet or exceed this target
<b>Component 2: Strengthened PA, Buffer Zone and Corridor Management</b>		
<p>Protected areas will continue to be under-resourced, with no management structure on the ground for some PAs, resulting in suboptimal management effectiveness.</p> <p>Protected areas remain as islands and threats from surrounding landscapes continue to increase, undermining PA objectives.</p> <p>Proclamation of new protected areas will come too late after heavy degradation of the habitats and there are insufficient resources and capacity for properly managing the areas even after proclamation.</p>	<p>Existing and new PAs are actively managed based on management plans and with participation of stakeholders including local communities, local governments, and businesses. PA boundaries are clearly demarcated, and basic park management infrastructure and equipment supporting PA management.</p> <p>PA managers are fully aware of costs for basic and optimal management of PAs, and will be able to request and encourage appropriate funding from the central government.</p> <p>Local level habitat and biological monitoring systems for key ecosystem and threatened species are in place, with established protocol for monitoring based on the SMART patrolling and enforcement techniques.</p> <p>Incentives for communities to reduce unsustainable forest use created through application of various incentive and support systems, including co-management, training, alternative livelihood support schemes such as conservation job creation and high value non-wood forest product development and marketing.</p>	<p><b>BD Benefits:</b> Improved management effectiveness of at least 323,138 ha of new PAs and community conserved areas in the Tanintharyi Range Corridor with a large array of globally threatened/ endangered species including species that are not yet described in science as well as pristine HVCFs/HCSFs. This area is part of the most important transboundary tiger landscape bordering Thailand.</p> <p>The project will also put in place integrated management of mangrove forest, intertidal flats and coastal waters of Auckland Bay Mangrove (356,570 ha, with Auckland Bay Forest Reserve and Kyunsu Mangrove Public Protected Forest, totalling 43,652 ha, providing a minimum area of integrated management and complemented by other co-management sites to be identified in Y1), including the development of conservation areas and establishment of large areas of community forests: most of which should be protected and, in the case of degraded forest and mangroves, allowed to regenerate naturally; and some of which can be sustainably harvested and used to meet local timber and fuelwood needs.</p> <p>Effective management of 10,400 ha of new Locally Managed Marine Areas including globally significant coral resources of the Myeik Archipelago in the Tanintharyi Marine Corridor.</p> <p>Increased or stable numbers of tiger, Asian elephant, Asian tapir, Gurney's pitta, plain-pouched hornbill and marine communities associated with coral reefs, seagrass beds, rocky shores, mangroves and intertidal flats.</p> <p>Reduction of threats to biodiversity from incompatible land use practices in PA landscapes/seascapes.</p> <p><b>SFM Benefits:</b> Emplacement of system for identification, management and monitoring of HCVFs, with participation of local communities for management and monitoring.</p>
<b>Component 3: Strengthened Capacity for Application of Biodiversity Knowledge</b>		
<p>Gravely low capacity for ecological surveys in relation to the country's size, abundance of biodiversity and intense development pressure will lead to massive loss of biodiversity resources, compromising sustainable development.</p> <p>Scientific knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystems will be confined to an extremely small number of</p>	<p>Accelerated establishment of foundation for biodiversity stewardship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National Biodiversity Survey (NBS) framework is established at national and local levels, providing duplicable systematic biological assessment protocols and standards.</li> <li>- National biodiversity data repository is established, resulting in improved knowledge sharing.</li> <li>- Geospatial tools for stakeholders and decision makers is available to inform and improve land use planning.</li> <li>- Capacity development system for maintenance and</li> </ul>	<p><b>BD Benefit:</b> Effective management of the above mentioned globally significant biodiversity and habitats in the Tanintharyi region. Accelerated emplacement of the framework and capacity which is also applied to increase effective management of the target PAs, landscapes/seascapes.</p>

individuals and some foreign scientists, with no systematic application at policy level and on the ground.	effective use of the NBS system is in place.	
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### 1.6) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

These issues are generally in line with the PIF. In addition, it should be recognized that the project comes at a critical time for Tanintharyi Region, just as the new government is initiating its term in office, and providing it with critical technical and financial assistance to put in place socially and environmentally sustainable governance systems. As such it has the strong support of the regional government as well as MoNREC at national level. The Karen National Union also have a strong interest in sustaining the many communities in Tanintharyi under their scope, who traditionally make use of the forest in diverse low impact ways to support their needs, and there are KNU supported natural areas which have survived the long civil war in good condition. The project offers the KNU an opportunity to engage with other partners and to receive support for their conservation initiatives which have hitherto been largely unrecognized.

### 2. Child Project?

No

### 3. Stakeholders

The implementation of the project will be based on extensive engagement with stakeholders at all levels across the project land and seascapes. The table below outlines various project stakeholders at all levels and their main roles/responsibilities during project implementation. At a broad level, participation and representation of stakeholders will be conducted through the governance structures put in place by the project as outlined and depicted in the organogram in the Governance and Management Arrangements section, and through the existing governance structures at national, regional and local levels (e.g. national government ministries and departments, regional government agencies (eg forestry, fisheries), PA management authorities, and district and township administrations , these are further described in project document **Annex 20**. Stakeholders will be consulted and engaged throughout the project implementation phase to: (i) promote understanding of the project's outcomes; (ii) promote stakeholder ownership of the project through engagement in planning, implementation and monitoring of the project interventions; (iii) communication to the public in a consistent, supportive and effective manner; and (iv) maximisation of linkage and synergy with other ongoing projects.

**Table: Engagement of Stakeholders in Project Implementation**

Outcome/ Output	Stakeholders	Key Responsibilities
<b>OUTCOME 1: Land and seascapes rich in biodiversity in Tanintharyi are connected and their planning and management are integrated.</b>		
<b>Output 1.1:</b> Inter-sectoral coordination and joint land/seascape planning mechanisms established in regional governance structure to integrate management of ecosystem services and biodiversity, using the High Conservation Value (HCV) approach.	PB, RTACG, UNDP/PMU, FFI	Oversight, coordination and facilitation of the process, and mobilization of inter-sectoral and sectoral participation and inputs.
	GAD, FD, DoF, FFI, UNDP, various sectoral agencies, landscape and issue based WGs	Participation in the policy and planning process and institutional capacity assessment, and timely delivery of sectoral inputs.
<b>Output 1.2:</b> Sector-specific standards, safeguards and incentives to protect Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), HCV Forests and High Carbon Stock Forests (HCSFs)	UNDP, FFI, FD, DoF, related sector agencies (plantations, agriculture, tourism, mining, fisheries, etc)	Coordination of the development of the sectoral standards, and subsequent operationalization and monitoring of their use



Outcome/ Output	Stakeholders	Key Responsibilities
developed and operational.		
<b>Output 1.3:</b> Integrated land and marine resource-use plans developed and implemented for Myeik and Kawthoung districts, involving community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) and sustainable land and sea management measures, including enforcement.	RTACG, GAD, District Governments, FFI	Oversight, coordination and facilitation of the process
	District Governments, FFI, FD, DoF, other sectoral agencies	Technical inputs to the process, and implementation of the plans and tools
	FFI, FD, DoF, Township Governments, CBOs, LNGOs, village administrations	Participatory land use planning
<b>Output 1.4:</b> Tanintharyi PA system expanded through proclamation of new sites that increase its representativeness of HCV biodiversity and cultural diversity, management capacity strengthened and financial viability addressed.	RTACG, FD, DoF, FFI	Oversight, coordination and facilitation of the process, and mobilization of participation and inputs from relevant agencies
	FFI, FD, DoF, Tourism Dept	Technical support and guidance
	FFI, FD, DoF	Field-based inputs to the process, and implementation of the planning and monitoring systems and processes.
	FFI, FD, DoF, District Governments, Township Governments	Mobilization of participation of local governments
	FFI, FD, DoF, Township Governments, CBOs, LNGOs, village administrations	Local inputs to the process, including consultation process with local communities and village administrations
<b>OUTCOME 2: Strengthened management and threat reduction in target proposed PAs, smallholder zones and corridors</b>		
<b>Output 2.1:</b> Management and financing plans for target proposed PAs developed and operational with full stakeholder participation.	FFI, FD, DoF	Oversight, coordination and facilitation of the process, and quality assurance of the conservation management plans.
	FFI, FD, DoF	Implementation of field surveys and studies, local stakeholder consultations, documentation and analysis, and preparation of the conservation management plans.
	FFI, FD, DoF	Training support for field surveys and conservation management planning.
	FFI, FD, DoF	Mobilization of participation of local stakeholders during field surveys and conservation management planning process.
<b>Output 2.2:</b> PA site operations strengthened to address existing threats to biodiversity.	FFI, FD, DoF	Oversight, coordination and facilitation of the process, and mobilization of resources for implementation of the conservation management plans, and their monitoring.
	FFI, FD, DoF	Implementation of the conservation management plans and reporting on progress, and establishment of basic infrastructure.
	FFI, FD, DoF	Support for raising public awareness on BC system among the local stakeholders.

<b>Outcome/ Output</b>	<b>Stakeholders</b>	<b>Key Responsibilities</b>
<b>Output 2.3:</b> Capacity of communities developed within KBAs, HCV habitats, smallholder zones and corridors for integrated and sustainable management of land/seascapes, including community-based natural resource management.	FFI, FD, DoF, Township Govts, UNDP	Oversight, coordination and facilitation of the process
	FFI, FD, FoD, Township Govts, Village administrations, CBOs, LNGOs	Mobilization of participation of local communities and other local stakeholders for CBNRM and community-based conservation
	UNDP, FFI	Administration of small grants to support village, CBO and LNGO inputs
<b>OUTCOME 3: Emplacement of the National Biodiversity Survey framework and knowledge management for Integrated Land and Seascape Management: Prototype operational in Tanintharyi</b>		
<b>Output 3.1:</b> National Biodiversity Survey framework designed, piloted and institutionalized within Tanintharyi Regional Government	SI, RTAGD	Oversight, coordination, and facilitation of NBS development and institutionalization in Tanintharyi govt
	SI, FD, DoF	Capacity development and technical support for NBS development
<b>Output 3.2:</b> Strengthened capacities of regional universities, research institutions and government agencies (FD and DOF) to survey and monitor biodiversity; and to store, manage and disseminate such data, information and knowledge.	SI, MU,	Oversight, coordination, and facilitation of capacity development and knowledge resource development
	SI, MU, wide range of organizations managing biodiversity information	Development of biodiversity information sharing protocols, mechanisms and agreements
	SI, MU, FFI, FD, DoF, etc.	Implementation of field surveys and monitoring of biodiversity in target areas
<b>Output 3.3</b> Development and institutionalization of a modular biodiversity conservation and monitoring training programme in Tanintharyi Region.	SI, FD, DoF	Oversight and coordination to identify professional competency standards for biodiversity conservation agencies
	SI, MU, FD, DoF, etc.	Develop and deliver training modules for biodiversity competency skills
	SI, MU, UNDP/PMU, all project stakeholders	Organize and convene first two project Stakeholder Forum Meetings
	All project stakeholders	Sharing of information and reporting on respective project outputs and activities during SF Meetings.
<b>OUTCOME 4: Enhanced knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation support biodiversity conservation in Tanintharyi</b>		
<b>Output 4.1:</b> Project results and lessons learned are made available to all project stakeholders	UNDP, PMU	Oversight, coordination, and facilitation of knowledge resource development; production and dissemination of project-based knowledge resources
	UNDP/PMU, SI, MU	Organize and convene final project Stakeholder Forum Meeting / project completion workshop
	All project stakeholders	Sharing of information/ monitoring and reporting on their respective project outputs and activities during SF Meetings.
<b>Output 4.2:</b> Project monitoring and evaluation system in place and used to inform project management	UNDP, PB, PMU	Implementation of the project M&E system, ensuring all M&E requirements are met as per standards and time-frame set for the project.

Outcome/ Output	Stakeholders	Key Responsibilities
decision-making	All RPs for implementation	Sharing of information/ monitoring and reporting on their respective project outputs and activities.

With regards to the direct engagement of local communities, in Component 1, Output 1.1 will design mechanisms and processes for engaging village tracts and townships in planning and integrating management of ecosystem services and biodiversity at land and seascape scales in Myeik and Kawthoung districts. Output 1.3 will develop and implement integrated land and marine resource-use plans for Myeik and Kawthoung districts, involving community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) and sustainable land and sea management measures. Output 1.4 will include the development and operationalization of a community-based ecotourism strategy for Tanintharyi.

In Component 2, Output 2.1 will develop management and financing plans for target proposed PAs with full stakeholder participation. The project will design participatory processes for development of management plans for sites targeted to be conserved and establish a Stakeholder Working Group for each proposed PA, namely Lenya, Ngawun (formerly Lenya Extension) and Auckland Bay Mangroves and Thayawthangyi-Daung and Langann Islands. Subsequently, it will implement the management plans in partnership with relevant stakeholders and, in particular, identify and realise opportunities for co-managing forests, mangroves and marine areas with local communities. This will include developing strategies for community engagement (e.g. joint patrolling, community patrolling in KNU areas).

Output 2.3 will invest substantially in developing the capacity of communities within KBAs, HCV habitats, smallholder zones and corridors for integrated and sustainable management of land/seascapes, including community-based natural resource management. This will involve a series of activities which will include: undertaking sustainability assessments of village clusters within land and seascapes, smallholder zones and R2R corridor to identify threats; economic, social and environmental sustainability of existing livelihoods; and opportunities for improving sustainability of livelihoods, along with associated training and other needs. Secondly, Village Cluster Sustainable Development Committees (VCSDCs) will be established, comprising village representatives and government agencies, to coordinate development of sustainability plans and liaise with respective townships and districts regarding support from relevant sectors to support plan implementation. 5-year Sustainable Development Plans will be prepared for village clusters in R2R Seascape, R2R Mangrove, R2R Corridor and Smallholder Zones (Lenya River, Mawtaung Road and Yadanarpon Road), based on SLM principles and with provisions for: long-term security of tenure for smallholdings: improved economic and environmental sustainability of livelihoods through agri-environment, agro-forestry and fishery practices and enhanced diversification of livelihoods; and protection of surrounding HCV habitats from further fragmentation and degradation. Small grants programmes will be established or strengthened for village clusters (US\$ 50,000 per cluster of approximately 20 villages per year - smaller clusters in R2R Seascape) to support implementation of Village Cluster Sustainable Development Plans (VCSDPs). A simple community-based system will monitor health and wealth of village communities; and the health of the environment (natural capital and HCV habitats) within and surrounding smallholdings and fishing grounds. Finally, village cluster enforcement networks will be established using SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) technology that enables villagers to report illegal activities to relevant authorities via an application to their mobiles, providing such details as time, date and location (automated via GPS), activity and, if observed, details of individuals, vehicles, boats and equipment involved. Such information would also contribute to the village cluster monitoring system.

Finally, in Components 3 and 4, the sharing of project results, knowledge, lessons learned and experiences through the Stakeholder Forum would overtly include participation from communities involved in the project activities, especially regarding local traditional knowledge and practices that may contribute towards conservation and sustainable natural resource management.

The risks and mitigation measures and recommendations from the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure for the project will guide the project to manage potential adverse impacts from the project to the environment and people whilst enhancing the environmental benefits to the local people (see Project Document **Annex 7**). Gender-based stakeholder engagement in project implementation will be pursued primarily on the basis of the gender analysis and

action points developed for the project to address gender-specific needs and priorities (See Project Document section IV.iv and **Annex 14** for socio-economic situation analysis including community engagement and gender mainstreaming recommendations).

During the PPG phase, extensive consultations with stakeholders at all levels have taken place through: bilateral consultations with central government agencies, civil society organizations, and relevant development partners; visits to the target project sites and meetings with local governments/ field agencies and local communities; stakeholder consultation workshops; and various studies and assessments which included field visits and local stakeholder consultations (see Project Document **Annex 13**: List of People Consulted, and **Annexes 14-17** for the various studies and assessments). Besides the inputs for project development, these stakeholder consultations have helped raise the awareness of the project concept and logic, project components and what they seek to achieve. This is expected to have developed a platform for further engagement of the stakeholders during project implementation.

#### *4. Gender Considerations*

During the PPG phase, a gender assessment was carried out to review the role of females, males and youth in the project development and implementation and potential impacts of the project on each gender group, and to develop a gender mainstreaming plan for the project. This aimed to ensure an inclusive approach through which women and men are able to participate actively and benefit equitably, have equitable access to the project resources and receive fair social and economic benefits. The full report of this study is given in project Document **Annex 14**, while its key findings and recommendations are summarized here.

##### *Gender analysis*

The situation analysis for the project study area included social economic assessment of selected communities throughout the island, mangrove and inland landscapes. In the context of this holistic approach, specific gender assessments included: gender dimensions of fisheries, gender dimensions of forest management, gender division of labour, and female headed households.

In the case of fisheries, fishing in coastal and deep-sea waters is almost always a male sphere, and carries with it high work-related health and safety risks. Women in fishing households perform preparatory work, such as mending nets, although their contribution is often "informal" and rarely remunerated. Women's roles are most prominent in small-scale and industrial fisheries, which is in post-production, processing and marketing. In the study area, post harvesting shrimp paste making is only done by women.

In the case of forest living, women have close ties to communal lands. This is where they gather fuel wood and forest plants for use within the household. Depending on their original residential area, livelihood pattern also varies from place to place. This attachment was revealed in one case where villagers had been resettled outside a protected area but preferred to return to use their old orchards (and were prevented from doing so). Because they depend on these resources, women need to be involved in decisions about how communal lands are managed. Ignore the roles of women as resource users and conservation programs will fail to address the needs of those very individuals who are key to the sustainable use of the environment.

Rural women and men often have deep knowledge of forest resources and different roles in tree and forest management. Women practice traditional agro-forestry production systems, such as home gardening, and harvest and sell wood and tree products and forest products such as honey as part of small-scale enterprises. They are mainly responsible for collection of fuel wood for the household, and of plants used as food and medicines. Men are involved more in high-value activities such as cutting timber. In the study areas, apart from wood cutting and trading, there was no noticeable task done by both male and female that could depend on their duration of settlement in the area. As per government land use policy, land is owned by the state, while local men have rights to trees and women to tree products. It was found out that trees and forests are more important to rural women's livelihoods than to those of men. In addition, responsibility for caring for household members and household chores falls mainly on women, leaving less time for agricultural production. As a result, they are becoming more reliant on forest foods and income from traditional orchards. During

conflicts and forced relocation time, displaced rural people become more reliant on forest products and services. Given their responsibility for meeting household food and fuel needs, depletion of forest resources increases burdens on women especially, forcing them to walk more distance to collect fuel wood. In addition, fuel wood scarcity has led to a reduction in the number of meals cooked in poor households.

In terms of division of labour, while women work both inside and outside the home, men work almost exclusively outside the home. Women’s responsibilities include housekeeping, cooking and fetching water and wood. Men have primary responsibility for fishing, harvesting, maintaining equipment, hunting and gathering. In the process of making shrimp paste, women themselves recognize that they are supporting men’s work but believe that they are dependent and jobless. See **Table 5** in Project Document **Annex 14** for details of gender roles by labour activity.

Finally, as per the 2015 Myanmar Census, the total number of conventional households in **Kyunsu** Township is 32,988 of which 27,672 are Male Headed Households (MHH) and 5,316 (16.1%) are Female Headed Households (FHH). In **Tanintharyi** Township, the total number of conventional households is 19,929, with MHH 11,956 and FHH 7,973 (40.0%). The study shows that in all visited villages, FHHs are the most vulnerable within the community compared with MHHs because of the burden to support the family and the restriction of not being able to leave in search of work. In MHHs, while women take care of household tasks, the men go out to look for work and food. Women are severely overburdened by the double responsibilities of household work and economic effort. Most FHHs are engaged as daily waged workers and some had assistance from grown up children. Many FHHs are headed by widows, having lost their husbands to disease, fishing accidents, drug addiction or alcohol abuse. Most of the FGD groups mentioned that the husbands had died following excess use of amphetamine/ alcohol; there is high usage of amphetamines to resist cold and water pressure and to cope with long diving hours, followed by strokes, decompression sickness and other complications especially among the Moken fishermen.

**Table: Proposed actions to mainstream gender into project output implementation**

Outcome/ Output	Responsible	Gender Mainstreaming Actions
<b>OUTCOME 1: Land and seascapes rich in biodiversity in Tanintharyi are connected and their planning and management are integrated.</b>		
<p><b>Output 1.1:</b> Inter-sectoral coordination and joint land/seascape planning mechanisms established in regional governance structure to integrate management of ecosystem services and biodiversity, using the High Conservation Value (HCV) approach.</p>	<p>UNDP/PMU</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women in working groups and committees involved in ILSM</li> <li>• Requirement for gender disaggregated information on socio-economic aspects of landscapes, resource use, livelihoods</li> <li>• Requirement to consider support for the most vulnerable HHs in communities in resource use and development planning</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 1.2:</b> Sector-specific standards, safeguards and incentives to protect Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), HCV Forests and High Carbon Stock Forests (HCSFs) developed and operational.</p>	<p>UNDP, FFI, FD, DoF, other sector agencies (plantations, agriculture, tourism, mining, fisheries, etc)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women in working groups and committees reviewing and developing sector specific standards</li> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women participants in related capacity development activities</li> <li>• Requirement for gender disaggregated information on sector activities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 1.3:</b> Integrated land and marine resource-use plans developed and implemented for Myeik and Kawthoung districts, involving community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) and sustainable land and sea management measures, including enforcement.</p>	<p>UNDP, Regional, District &amp; Local Governments, FFI, FD, DoF, other sectoral agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women in ILSM planning and resource use groups and committees</li> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women participants in related capacity development activities</li> <li>• Requirement for gender disaggregated information on sector activities</li> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women in planning for CBNRM and consideration of specific resource issues that address women’s interests and reduce labour burdens</li> <li>• Requirement to consider support for the most vulnerable HHs in communities in resource use and development planning</li> </ul>

Outcome/ Output	Responsible	Gender Mainstreaming Actions
<p><b>Output 1.4:</b> Tanintharyi PA system expanded through proclamation of new sites that increase its representativeness of HCV biodiversity and cultural diversity, management capacity strengthened and financial viability addressed.</p>	<p>UNDP, FD, DoF, FFI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women in working groups and committees considering PA system development</li> <li>• Requirement for gender disaggregated information on socio-economic aspects of landscapes, resource use, livelihoods for PA system planning</li> <li>• Requirement for FPIC, consultation with women's groups for communities affected by PA development, and mechanisms to address women's concerns regarding resource access</li> </ul>
<p><b>Gender indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholder committees established for new PAs include at least one female community / CBO representative</li> <li>• Working Group specifically to look at women's issues included in regional planning for CBNRM</li> </ul>		
<p><b>OUTCOME 2: Strengthened management and threat reduction in target proposed PAs, smallholder zones and corridors</b></p>		
<p><b>Output 2.1:</b> Management and financing plans for target proposed PAs developed and operational with full stakeholder participation.</p>	<p>UNDP, FFI, FD, DoF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women in PA stakeholder committees</li> <li>• Requirement for gender disaggregated information on socio-economic aspects of landscapes, resource use, livelihoods for PA management planning</li> <li>• Proactive employment of women for conservation related jobs and roles</li> <li>• Requirement for FPIC, consultation with women's groups for communities affected by PA management, and mechanisms to address women's concerns regarding resource access</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 2.2:</b> PA site operations strengthened to address existing threats to biodiversity.</p>	<p>UNDP, FFI, FD, DoF</p>	<p>As above</p>
<p><b>Output 2.3:</b> Capacity of communities developed within KBAs, HCV habitats, smallholder zones and corridors for integrated and sustainable management of land/seascapes, including community-based natural resource management.</p>	<p>UNDP, FFI, FD, DoF, Township Govts, Village administrations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women in ILSM planning and resource use groups and committees</li> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women participants in related capacity development activities</li> <li>• Requirement for gender disaggregated information on sector activities</li> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women in planning for CBNRM and consideration of specific resource issues that address women's interests and reduce labour burdens</li> <li>• Creation of sustainable livelihood and employment opportunities for women</li> <li>• Requirement to consider support for the most vulnerable HHs in communities in resource use and development planning</li> </ul>
<p><b>Gender indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Female Headed Households are identified as vulnerable in village cluster sustainable development plans and prioritized for social and financial support</li> <li>• At least 60% of USD 555,000 disbursed via small grants programme for sustainable livelihood and village development to female applicants in village clusters</li> </ul>		
<p><b>OUTCOME 3: Emplacement of the National Biodiversity Survey framework and knowledge management for Integrated Land and Seascape Management: Prototype operational in Tanintharyi</b></p>		
<p><b>Output 3.1:</b> National Biodiversity Survey framework designed, piloted and institutionalized within Tanintharyi Regional Government</p>	<p>UNDP, SI, FD, DoF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women in working groups and committees for NBS</li> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women participants in related capacity development and field activities</li> <li>• Requirement for gender disaggregated information on sector activities including traditional knowledge on biodiversity and its sustainable exploitation</li> </ul>

<b>Outcome/ Output</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Gender Mainstreaming Actions</b>
<b>Output 3.2:</b> Strengthened capacities of regional universities, research institutions and government agencies (FD and DOF) to survey and monitor biodiversity; and to store, manage and disseminate such data, information and knowledge.	UNDP, SI, MU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women in working groups and committees</li> <li>• Proactive inclusion of women participants in related capacity development and field activities</li> <li>• Requirement for gender disaggregated information on sector activities including traditional knowledge on biodiversity and its sustainable exploitation</li> </ul>
<b>Output 3.3</b> Development and institutionalization of a modular biodiversity conservation and monitoring training programme in Tanintharyi Region.	UNDP, SI, MU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As above</li> <li>• Proactive engagement of women participants and representation of women's groups in Tanintharyi Land and Seascape Forum E-group and conferences</li> </ul>
<b>Gender indicators:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tanintharyi Land and Seascape Forum includes at least 5 women's groups, and at least 50 female participants are invited to biannual TLSF conferences</li> <li>• At least 50% female participation in biodiversity courses run with project support at Myeik University</li> </ul>		
<b>OUTCOME 4: Enhanced knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation support biodiversity conservation in Tanintharyi</b>		
<b>Output 4.1:</b> Project results and lessons learned are made available to all project stakeholders	UNDP, PMU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requirement for gender disaggregated information on sector activities including traditional knowledge on biodiversity and its sustainable exploitation</li> <li>• Proactive attention to lessons learned regarding gender roles in CBNRM and ILSM</li> </ul>
<b>Output 4.2:</b> Project monitoring and evaluation system in place and used to inform project management decision-making	UNDP, PMU All RPs for implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requirement for gender-disaggregated information for appropriate indicators in the M&amp;E Plan</li> <li>• Specific monitoring of gender mainstreaming progress during project implementation</li> </ul>
<b>Gender indicators:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lessons learned regarding gender roles in CBNRM and ILSM generated by the Working Group on women's issues are reported and disseminated annually as part of project knowledge management</li> <li>• Gender disaggregated indicators in the project Results Framework are monitored and reported on annually</li> </ul>		

5 Risk.

Description	Type	Impact & Probability	Mitigation Measures	Owner	Status
<p>Risk 1. Political tension between ethnic minority groups and the central government and resultant refugee and internal displaced persons camps along the Thai border may limit ability to implement project activities effectively.</p> <p>This risk would potentially block access to project demonstration areas, delaying or stopping those aspects of project implementation. It could also impact plans for establishing and managing new protected areas.</p>	Political	<p>PIF: Medium - High</p> <p>P = 3 I = 3</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>The national government and the Karen National Union (KNU) signed a peace agreement in 2012. Some of the biodiversity rich areas in Tanintharyi are under the control of ethnic armed groups such as the Karen National Union. Both FFI and Forest Department staff have been able to operate in KNU controlled areas. There has also been an in-principle agreement with the KNU mapping department to collaborate on customary land mapping to avoid overlaps with the proposed parks and facilitate FPIC for park gazettement. During the PPG process, a series of meetings were held with the KNU regarding their engagement in the project as a key stakeholder (included in the Project Board), and also to obtain permission for baseline assessments. Further, FFI established an agreement on cooperation with KNU in August 2016. The project is open to supporting ex-combatants in developing biodiversity friendly livelihoods, including professional engagement in local conservation work. Local PA managers and conservation officers will be trained in conflict resolution and will conduct patrols unarmed to avoid any conflicts in KNU controlled areas.</p>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>Declining risk</i>
<p>Risk 2. Relevant government agencies at national and regional levels may be reluctant to promote conservation-oriented land-uses for a fear of losing other development revenues from the overwhelmingly large business and investment interests by local and foreign companies, compounded by corruption.</p> <p>Proposals for extending the protected area network would not succeed and forested land would be converted for other land uses such as commercial plantations and mining</p>	<i>Strategic</i>	<p>PIF – Medium</p> <p>P = 3 I = 3</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>Working closely with relevant government agencies, the project aims to influence the national development and fiscal development planning process, through mainstreaming biodiversity and PA system objectives. Participatory land use planning at national, regional and local levels through this project will serve as a platform for development plans that integrate conservation priorities. The project will develop necessary capacity and tools for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services values into land use planning. The international presence created by the UNDP/GEF supported project will support greater transparency in decision-making for land allocation and</p>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>Uncertainty re change of government, but positive indications</i>



concessions. Sector-dominated land use management would prevail, including unsustainable fishery practices.			concession and business interest management.		
<p>Risk 3. The private and business sector associations may be reluctant to collaborate with conservation initiatives, fearing loss of business and revenue expansion opportunities.</p> <p>Lack of cooperation from the private sector may influence government planning and allow the expansion of sector-dominated land uses to occur. This would result in further deforestation, loss of forest connectivity and ecosystem services. On the marine side, unsustainable fishery practices and related revenue leakage would continue.</p>	<i>Strategic</i>	<p>PIF – Medium</p> <p>P = 3 I = 2</p> <p>Low</p>	The project will work towards developing capacity of local government officials and stakeholders in different sectors, integrating biodiversity and ecosystem services into local land-use and development planning. The emphasis will be that the interventions will be essential for achieving long-term sustainable, inclusive and equitable development, and therefore make business sense. The project will support development and application of a range of tools, including maps (overlay of HVCF, KBAs, carbon density, land use patterns, regional forest and deforestation analysis) and targeted biodiversity and ecosystem valuation work including targeted scenario analysis as appropriate. The process will be done with full participation of the stakeholders in government, non-government and the private sector, including women, fostering understanding of the need for and benefit from striking the right balance between development and safeguarding of biodiversity. A communication strategy and stakeholder involvement plan will also be developed and implemented, to ensure stakeholder support.	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>Strong / increasing interest in plantation development and other business investment opportunities</i>
<p>Risk 4. Opening of the Dawei Seaport and development corridor will cause negative impact on biodiversity management.</p> <p>Opening of the Dawei seaport is likely to have impacts on a large tract of landscapes / seascapes due to rapid economic development and improved accessibility through a new road linking Dawei and Thailand. However, direct impacts will mainly affect the Moscos Island Marine Protected Area (due to its proximity to the port, with possible impacts from increased sea traffic and pollution) and Tanintharyi Nature Reserve (through increased pressure on land conversion for plantation and crop production, and possible increase in</p>	<i>Environmental</i>	<p>PIF – Medium</p> <p>P = 3 I = 3</p> <p>Medium</p>	Much of the project's site level support will focus on the southern part of Tanintharyi, which will not be directly affected by the seaport construction and economic corridor development. The project will explore ways to capitalize on the infrastructure development and existence of large businesses in the region. The project will seek to develop partnerships with the private sector companies to draw in their support for conservation, such as establishment of offset mechanisms. The project will closely collaborate with WWF Myanmar, which provides targeted support for green infrastructure development over the corridor to minimize the ecological barriers and fragmentation. The project approach to integrate natural capital values and biodiversity conservation in land use planning and management is a direct response to management of this type of risk.	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>No Change</i>

encroachment and poaching.)					
<p>Risk 5. Major private sector stakeholders continue business as usual rather than adopting RSPO principles for sustainable plantation development.</p> <p>Develop of new plantations would result in landscape-level forest clearance with no HCVF, buffer zones, etc left. Management of existing plantations would not prioritize habitat protection or rehabilitation or measures to support wildlife populations.</p>	<i>Strategic</i>	<p>PIF – Medium</p> <p>P = 2 I = 2</p> <p>Low</p>	<p>FFI has already established a positive dialogue with key government agencies and leading oil palm estates and facilitated their participation in a global RSPO conference and established a stakeholder RSPO learning group. All key decision makers have expressed their commitment to support the improvement of plantation practices towards achieving RSPO certification. MoNREC has just cancelled plantation licences that overlap with the proposed protected areas, and the new regional government is reviewing contracts issued for plantations. Therefore, both government and private sector commitments are high and the risks are considered low. The project will support an active stakeholder dialogue to change behaviour and mitigate risks.</p>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>Strong / increasing interest in plantation development , but new regional government interested in sustainability</i>
<p>Risk 6. Climate change may undermine the conservation objectives of the project in both terrestrial and marine ecosystems.</p> <p>The most immediate climate change related risk is of prolonged elevated seawater temperatures associated with El Nino conditions with the capacity to devastate coral reefs, and possibly even seagrass beds and mangroves. Other climate change impacts are less abrupt and would have little direct impact on project outcomes.</p>	<i>Environmental</i>	<p>PIF – Medium</p> <p>P = 3 I = 3</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>The project will work to address the anticipated negative impacts of climate change by increasing resilience through improving PA management and landscape linkages, and the expansion and rationalization of the PA system. Through this, the project will contribute to the maintenance of ecosystem resilience under differing climate change conditions, so as to secure a continued sustainable flow of ecosystem services. In particular for marine ecosystem resilience, the project will support measures to strengthen coral reef monitoring, including climate induced bleaching and other impacts, as well as capacity to minimise and respond to those impacts. These will include improved MPA spatial planning and connectivity development to increase coral reef resilience.</p>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>Likely increase</i>

*Social and environmental safeguards:*

During the PPG phase, UNDP contracted a national consultant to conduct a demographic and socioeconomic situation analysis for potential target communities; identify community related social risks including human rights issues and develop risk mitigation measures using the SESP checklist; assess community roles in the project implementation; ensure local communities' understanding and consent to the project, and their participation in project development and implementation; and to conduct a gender assessment and gender mainstreaming strategy for the project. During the course of these duties the consultant conducted extensive consultations with a wide range of stakeholders including village communities as described in project document **Annex 13** (list of persons consulted) and **Annex 14** (socioeconomic and gender situation analysis report).

Overall the project seeks to uphold international standards concerning human rights and to implement human right based approach through its activities. Component 1 of the project will support a consultative approach to participatory land use planning at the village level for the target landscapes, while Component 2 will proactively support CBNRM approaches including community forestry, community fisheries, community based tourism and small grants to support the demonstration of sustainable livelihoods in villages throughout the project landscapes. It will also proactively support gender mainstreaming (see above).

The project has been rated as Moderate risk according to the UNDP *Social and Environmental Screening Procedure* (see project document **Annex 6**). This is on account of the fact that four risks were rated as Moderate:

Risk 1: Adverse impacts on human rights of local communities, including marginalized groups.

Risk 2: Restricted access to natural resources due to enhanced enforcement for local communities, including marginalized groups.

Risk 4. Rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights

Risk 5. Human rights concerns raised by local people regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process

In these cases, safeguard measures are proposed in the SESP Risk mitigation table (see project document **Annex 14**) that should reduce the risk levels to low. The overall project approach will involve consultations and engagement of all villages in the project target areas in order to obtain support and agreement for proposed project activities. The project will adopt a participatory and consultative approach towards the management of natural resources. It will actively promote and support through small grants the involvement of communities and local organizations in various types of CBNRM, including community forestry, community fisheries, community based tourism and participation in park management. Thus the emphasis is on strengthening the sustainability of local livelihoods rather than strict nature protection. The project aims to ensure that its activities do not restrict **legal access** of local people to natural resources. In addition, appropriate mitigation measures will be considered and incorporated if it is judged that project activities will curtail illegal activities which form a significant portion of local peoples' livelihoods. Customary land use / rights / tenure will be fully respected by the project, and in fact the project will help to map out such claims as part of its participatory land use planning approach. The project will take a positive engagement strategy towards ethnic minorities /

indigenous peoples within the project landscapes, and will seek to assist them in developing sustainable marine / forest resource use within the context of their own traditions and customs. Small grants schemes will be provided to such communities along with technical assistance and awareness raising.

The Tanintharyi Land and Seascape Forum offers an opportunity for stakeholders to express concerns about the project both electronically and during its biennial meetings. It is proposed that the project establish a hotline to the PMU (grievance mechanism) which is distributed among all concerned local stakeholders in particular, through which grievances can be expressed, and logged by the PMU. The PMU will then decide upon, act on and record their response to each individual complaint. These will then be reported to the Project Board each year. Complainants also have access to legal recourse through the Myanmar justice system. Environmental and social grievances will be reported to the GEF in the annual PIR.

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

### *6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination.*

Roles and responsibilities of the project's governance mechanism: The UNDP Country Programme in Myanmar (2013-2017) is directly implemented by UNDP to ensure technical and financial accountability for the funds entrusted by multilateral and international donors. Although the recent political and democratic transition of Myanmar provides new opportunities for UNDP to scale up partnerships with public institutions in Myanmar, for the time being, the modality of Direct Implementation remains the most effective option to ensure delivery of GEF resources for integrated land and seascape management in the Tanintharyi Region. Consequently, the project will be implemented following UNDP's Direct Implementation Modality (DIM), according to the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Myanmar (GoM) and the UNDP Country Programme. The GoM has explicitly endorsed this GEF project to be executed directly by UNDP, with a focus on delivery through international partner organizations and local institutions (regional government agencies, NGOs, CBOs).

Following the DIM modality, UNDP will serve as Implementing Partner (IP) for this project. In this capacity, UNDP will be responsible for the implementation of the proposed GEF project in collaboration with the specified Responsible Parties and in collaboration with other partners, which requires the administration and delivery of financial inputs as detailed in the Financial Planning and Management and Total Budget and Workplan sections of this document.

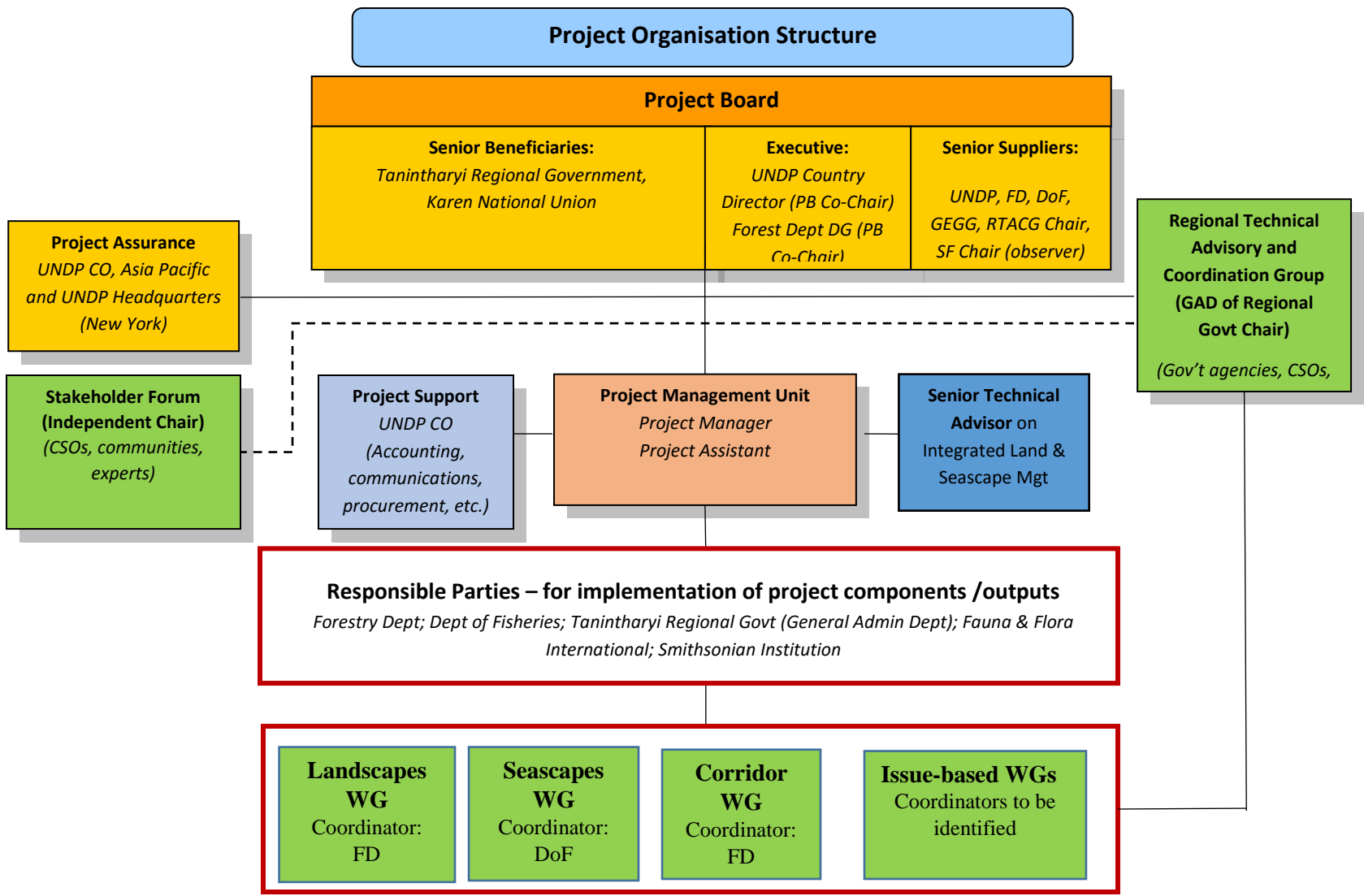
A **Project Board (PB)** will be established to provide high-level guidance and oversight to steer the implementation of the project. The PB will be co-chaired by the UNDP Country Director and the Director General of the Forestry Department. The PB is responsible for generating consensus on management decisions when guidance is required by the Project Management Unit (PMU), including recommendation for approval of project plans and revisions. In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, PB decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the Board, the final decision shall rest with the UNDP Country Director. The PB will be made up of senior officials from various agencies representing the following categories:

- Executive, representing project ownership including the govt. co-Chair of the PB

- Senior Supplier, representing the interests of the parties that provide specific cost-sharing projects and/or technical expertise to the project. The Senior Supplier’s primary function within the PB is to provide guidance regarding the technical feasibility of the project.
- Senior Beneficiary, representing the interests of those who will ultimately benefit from the project. The Senior Beneficiary’s primary function within the PB is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries.

See Project document **Annex 5 Part A** for Terms of Reference for the PB. The project organisation structure is shown in the figure below.

**Regional Technical Advisory and Coordination Group (RTACG):** a small multi-disciplinary team of scientific/technical experts from government agencies, implementing partners and scientific/technical organizations will be formed, primarily to coordinate a holistic approach to project implementation, supported by sound science to achieve integrated land and seascape management that encompasses biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, sustainable land management, climate change adaptation and community livelihoods. Secondly, it will provide technical advice to the project, ensuring that the project interventions are technically sound and in keeping with Government of Myanmar and UNDP/GEF social, environmental and other standards. The Working Groups on Landscapes, Seascapes and Corridor will provide technical support to RTACG on ILSM matters, and the RTACG can create additional issue-based WGs as needed. See Project document **Annex 5 Part B** for Terms of Reference for the RTACG.



**Project Management Unit:** A PMU will be established to run the project under the oversight and guidance of the UNDP CO (UNDP Programme Manager). The PMU will be responsible for day-to-day project management, including monitoring and evaluation of the project activities implemented by the responsible parties, and coordination with the various responsible parties for planning and implementation of the activities for the delivery of project results in a timely and effective manner and as per standards set for UNDP/GEF projects. It is proposed that the PMU will be staffed by a full-time project manager and full-time project assistant. The PMU will be supported by the UNDP CO for services, including accounting, communications, procurement etc on a direct project cost (DPC) basis. The Responsible Parties will report to the PMU.

The **Project Manager** will run the project on behalf of UNDP. The Project Manager function will end when the final project terminal evaluation report, and other documentation required by the GEF and UNDP, has been completed and submitted to UNDP (including operational closure of the project). The implementation of field activities will be supported by Coordinators for each of the project landscapes and seascapes, drawn from the Responsible Parties (see below) and located in respective regional government offices. These land/seascape/corridor coordinators will also lead project working groups for their respective 'scapes'. See Project document **Annex 5 Part C** for Terms of Reference for the proposed key project management positions.

**UNDP will provide Direct Project Services (DPS)**, according to UNDP Direct Project Cost (DPC) policy for GEF and AF. DPS costs are those incurred by UNDP for the provision of services that are execution driven costs, directly related to the delivery of project. They relate to operational and administrative support activities carried out by UNDP such as payment processing, recruitment of project personnel/consultants, procurement of goods and services, organization of training/workshops, travel arrangements, shipments, customs, etc. As determined by the GEF Council, Direct Project Costs associated with DPS should not be charged as percentage. It must be itemized and allocated within PMC budget. The Responsible Parties will report to the PM. The Project Manager function will end when the final project terminal evaluation report, and other documentation required by the GEF and UNDP, has been completed and submitted to UNDP (including operational closure of the project).

A **Senior Technical Advisor**, while not part of the PMU, will provide overall technical guidance on Integrated Land and Seascape Management and quality assurance for the implementation of the project's technical components. S/He will liaise with the RPs, land/seascape coordinators and other contracted parties, as well as report to the PB and play an active strategic role in supporting the work of the RTCG. S/He reports to UNDP.

Responsible Parties for Implementation: The Responsible Parties are project partners in receipt of project funds through the PMU for implementation of their assigned project activities. Thus, they are, accountable for implementing and reporting on project activities as per approved work plans and budgets. To the extent possible and relevant, the approach of the project is to decentralize implementation of the project activities to the stakeholders at the regional and local levels, so as to build ownership of project activities and project implementation capacity at these levels in keeping with the national policy objective to increasingly decentralize governance of development programs. Accordingly, the project is designed to be implemented by the following:

- Forestry Department – responsible for technical support for activities within its mandate including biodiversity conservation, protected areas, sustainable forest management, enforcement and related education, training and information management;
- Department of Fisheries – responsibility for technical support to the marine aspects of the project, including marine biodiversity conservation, marine protected areas, sustainable fishery management, enforcement and related education and training and information management;
- Fauna and Flora International – technical assistance to the regional and national government agencies in biodiversity conservation, protected area development and management, and integrated land and seascape management; and

- Smithsonian Institution – technical assistance to the regional and national government agencies in establishing the National Biodiversity Survey (NBS) framework, training practitioners in biodiversity conservation, and generating knowledge from biodiversity surveys to profile important land/seascapes in Tanintharyi.

The above-mentioned organizations will implement the project activities assigned to them with technical support from, or in collaboration with other agencies, depending on the nature of the activities and requisite expertise. RPs will act on the basis of written agreements or contracts with UNDP to purchase goods or provide services to carry out project activities and produce outputs. All RPs are directly accountable to UNDP in accordance with the terms of their agreement or contract with UNDP. Under DIM, UNDP can engage NGOs/CSOs as Responsible Parties through Strategic Selection, based on their collaborative advantage<sup>11</sup> for the provision of specific inputs and/or delivery of agreed outputs. Additionally, local CSOs and CBOs would be engaged through UNDP's Micro Capital Grant (MCG) facility to deliver specified project activities. UNDP shall ensure that all RP engagements follow UNDP rules and regulations, policies and procedures.

A stakeholder engagement plan is presented in subsection IV.iii. It outlines the participation of all project stakeholders in respect of various project outputs during project implementation.

There will also be a **Tanintharyi Land and Seascape Forum**, which will provide a mechanism for consultation, sharing of knowledge and lessons learned, and coordination with other project stakeholders and related initiatives (see the Stakeholder Engagement section). This will be a network of local and regional stakeholders that will meet to share results and experiences through conferences hosted every 2 years by Myeik University in collaboration with other project partners, and a communication platform in the form of an electronic network for exchanges managed by the PMU. It will regularly brief the RTACG Chairperson on inputs to and outputs from forum meetings, knowledge events and other events and also have observer status on the PB. If the TLSF Chair is appointed by the Project Board, then s/he reports to the PB Chair or his/her delegate.

**Working Groups** on Landscapes, Seascapes and Corridor will be established to support the implementation of ILSM under Components 1 and 2. These would be led by Landscape Coordinators from FD (for Landscapes and Corridor) and DoF (for Seascapes) and will be aligned with existing initiatives, namely OneMap Myanmar, marine spatial planning with support from FFI, and the current government-led review of oil palm plantation licences. The Working Groups would provide substantive input to the development of project outputs on these subjects (i.e. land use plan for Myeik District, strategy for Protected Area development, community based planning for conservation areas, participatory resource use planning and livelihood support for the smallholder zone, and review of forest connectivity, plantation development and smallholder use of the Corridor Zone). In addition, the RTACG has the mandate to create additional issue-based Working Groups, such as on Multi-Sector Standards.

Agreement on intellectual property rights and use of logo on the project's deliverables and disclosure of information: In order to accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF for providing grant funding, the GEF logo will appear together with the UNDP logo on all promotional materials, other written materials like publications developed by the project, and project hardware. Any citation on publications of projects funded by the GEF will also accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF. Information will be disclosed in accordance with relevant policies, notably the UNDP Disclosure Policy<sup>11</sup> and the GEF policy on public involvement<sup>12</sup>.

Project management: It is proposed that the PMU will be based in Myeik, as the main focus of project intervention, with the Senior Technical Advisor based in Dawei to support the regional government. As part of the co-financing support from the Government of Myanmar, office space will be provided by Forestry Department. These proposed arrangements will be reviewed and confirmed during the project inception period. The project will coordinate with other ongoing projects and initiatives, in particular the proposed FAO/GEF MyCoast project, Instuto Oikos project in Lampi Marine National Park, WCS project in Tanintharyi Nature Reserve, the UNDP/GEF 5 Protected Area System project,

<sup>11</sup> See [http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/transparency/information\\_disclosurepolicy/](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/transparency/information_disclosurepolicy/)

<sup>12</sup> See [https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies\\_guidelines](https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines)



ADB Greater Mekong Subregion Core Environment Programme and OneMap Myanmar amongst others so that there is coordination and synergy, and exchange of lessons and experiences that will strengthen the quality of project implementation (see projec document section IV.ii – Partnerships).

## *7. Benefits*

Forest protection, strengthened SFM and watershed management achieved through the combined impacts of all project components will ensure the sustainability of ecosystem services that contribute directly to the national economy, including water supply, slope stabilization, soil protection, pollination, tourism and recreation, etc. These services are as yet unquantified, but underpin a number of Myanmar’s most important economic sectors – hydro-electric power, agriculture, forestry and tourism development. In line with the emphasis on ridge to reef connections, sustainable land management in catchment areas will provide benefits to downstream riparian and coastal communities through ensuring sustained watershed services such as secure water supply, water purification and regulation of floodwaters. The maintenance of forested catchment areas will also assist in maintaining coastal water quality, essential for the continued productivity of Tanintharyi’s marine fishery resources and coastal tourism attractions (clean beaches, clear water and vibrant reefs). While no values are available to support the specific contributions from this land and seascape in Tanintharyi Region, one recent study<sup>13</sup> estimated that the value of Myanmar’s overall forest ecosystem services is over \$7 billion USD. Of this, some 85%, or around \$6 billion USD – comes from forest ecosystem services such as forest carbon sequestration, watershed protection services, insect pollination, tourism, and mangrove protection of coastlines and fish nurseries. Investment in forest conservation is therefore expected to deliver significant net returns, estimated at around \$39 billion USD over the next twenty years, or a net present value of \$10 billion USD.

The second component of the project will secure effective management of protected areas, and community conserved dryland forests, mangroves and marine areas. These will secure ecosystem services (as mentioned above) and also provide jobs and livelihoods that support local communities. The community forestry activities in the mangroves and the three LMMAs are particularly significant as examples of sustainable livelihood support. In total, it is estimated that some 50,000 people will be direct beneficiaries of the project across the targeted land and seascapes, with details as follows (see Project document **Annex 14**). The project encompasses parts of Kyunsu, Tanintharyi and Bokpyin townships. Total population in project area of 1,452,658 ha is estimated to be 145,230 (10.3% of population in Tanintharyi Region), based on spatial analysis of 2014 village tract census data.

The third component will build capacity within local government agencies and academic institutions for ILSM and biodiversity conservation, strengthening the academic programmes offered and improving the career prospects of students and trained government staff as they become the new local and national leaders in the field of integrated natural resource management.

## *8. Knowledge Management.*

Through its fourth component, the project will ensure that information and knowledge accumulated and produced within the project will be documented and made available for wider communication and dissemination of project lessons and experiences to support the replication and scaling-up of project results. Further to the focused capacity development and information management systems to be developed in Component 3, project support through Component 4 will enable the strengthening of institutional and individual understanding of the mechanisms and approaches to achieve integrated landscape planning and management, where to source information on biodiversity and natural resource status, and information on these resources. The project will support the enhanced documentation and sharing of best practices and knowledge arising from project activities, including case studies and technical reports to document best practices and traditional (indigenous) knowledge. This will be achieved through sharing these materials on project-related websites,

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<sup>13</sup>Emerton, L. and Yan Ming Aung. (2013) The Economic Value of Forest Ecosystem Services in Myanmar and Options for Sustainable Financing. International Management Group, Yangon.

social media and a range of outreach and communication materials. Three Stakeholder Forum meetings, culminating in a project completion conference will be convened at Myeik University in order to comprehensively share experiences between all regional stakeholders and provide opportunity for the development of a shared vision and collaborative efforts towards this. Lastly, project support will ensure the establishment of a rigorous project M&E process to take stock of progress and constraints, support adaptive management and coordination between the various project components, and document and share lessons learned.

Under Output 4.1, the documentation and dissemination of emerging project results, best practices in integrated land and seascape management and lessons learned will be supported. This will include case studies to document and present best practices, based on innovative activities piloted through project support, and including traditional (indigenous) technical knowledge of sustainable forest and marine resource management and livelihood practices. Results will be published, disseminated and presented at Stakeholder Forum meetings as well as national and international knowledge sharing events. The project will make use of a targeted communication strategy to systematically document, publish and share information emanating from project activities and knowledge sharing events, including making use of UNDP and project partner websites and knowledge sharing mechanisms and social media.

### *9. Consistency with National Priorities.*

Overall, the project is consistent with national climate change adaptation policy, biodiversity policy (NBSAP), and the national 30-year Forest Master Plan (2001) targets to increase the Permanent Forest Estate (constituted by reserved forests and public protected forests) to 30%, and PAs to 10% of the total country area.

The project will directly support implementation of the Myanmar National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (MNBSAP)<sup>14</sup>. Specifically, it directly supports implementation of actions in the MNBSAP contributing to the Aichi Targets, in particular under Strategic Goal B (reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use) as follows:

- Target 5: 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 8: reduction of pollution to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem functions and biodiversity;
- Target 11: increasing the coverage and connectivity of the PA system in important regions with high biodiversity importance and significant ecosystem services and by increasing management effectiveness of the PA system in a way that is integrated into the wider landscapes;
- Target 12: preventing extinction of known threatened species;
- Target 14: restoring and safeguarding essential ecosystem services for securing health, livelihoods and well-being of people; and
- Target 15: enhancing ecosystem resilience and contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks through conservation and restoration.

Significantly, the project will address critical gaps in the national protected area system for coastal mangroves (only 0.92% protected) and coastal rainforest ecosystems (0.44% protected) identified in the MNBSAP. It will also address the urgent need to establish more marine PAs in order to increase the area protected from the current 2.6% of Myanmar's EEZ and to provide protection to coastal ecosystems in the Myeik Archipelago.

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<sup>14</sup> Forest Department 2015. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2015-2020)

The project area is recognised under MNBSAP as a top priority corridor containing 12 identified KBAs. In addition, the high priority conservation corridor identified for the project overlaps with one of the country's Tiger Conservation Landscapes (TCL). Project activities will also address all components of the *Myanmar National Tiger Recovery Plan* as submitted to the Global Tiger Initiative in June 2010. These activities include:

- Landscapes with appropriate extensions and corridors legally protected;
- Improved management especially concerning law enforcement in source landscapes;
- Monitoring on-going tiger population source landscapes; and
- Improved national and trans-boundary cooperation.

Furthermore, the country's National Action Programme (NAP) for UNCCD (2005) identifies deforestation as one of the primary causes of land degradation in Myanmar. Thus, it includes a number of actions related to sustainable forest management and integrated land use planning. The project contributes directly to Action Programme for Key Issue 6.2 calling for undertaking of an ecological survey, socioeconomic survey and consumption survey in order to have ecological and socioeconomic data relating to land degradation processes, and the establishment of an information management system. The project also contributes to implementation of Action Programme for Key Issue 6.3 Institutional Framework, which includes institutional capacity development planning and development of training curricula for forestry including specialised fields of forest economy, ecological, social, and wildlife and biological management to enhance capacity. Furthermore, the project provides direct support to the NAP programme: Integration of Environment and Development into decision-making under NAP, aims to integrate environment and development in the national development and planning process, and to strengthen institutional and legal structures, and participation in international programmes.

#### **Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

The project will contribute primarily towards the implementation of two SDGs in Myanmar through its focus on integrated landscape and seascape management, emphasising the ecosystem approach and maintenance of habitat connectivity, and extension of the protected area system to cover terrestrial, coastal and marine Key Biodiversity Areas:

- *SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources*
- *SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss*

The project intervention will take strong account of climate change adaptation needs (SDG 13 *Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*) and inclusive and equitable social and economic development for dependent rural communities, thereby contributing towards poverty alleviation (SDG 1 - *No poverty (end poverty in all its forms everywhere)*). In addition, the project will also contribute towards SDG 2 (*End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture*) through promoting sustainable land management; SDG 3 (*Good health and well-being*) as a result of sustainable ecosystem services from the management of forest and agricultural landscapes and improved livelihoods; and SDG 5 (*Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*) through directed capacity building for equal participation and equitable sharing of benefits from the implementation of project interventions.

#### *10. M & E Plan.*

The project results as outlined in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation to ensure the project effectively achieves these results. Supported by Component 4, which includes knowledge management and M&E, the project monitoring and evaluation plan will also facilitate learning and ensure knowledge is shared and widely disseminated to support the scaling up and replication of project results.

Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the [UNDP POPP](#) and [UNDP Evaluation Policy](#). While these UNDP requirements are not outlined in this project document, the UNDP Country Office will work with the relevant project stakeholders to ensure UNDP M&E requirements are met in a timely fashion and to high quality standards. Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements (as outlined below) will be undertaken in accordance with the [GEF M&E policy](#) and other relevant GEF policies.

In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed during the Project Inception Workshop and will be detailed in the Inception Report. This will include the exact role of project target groups and other stakeholders in project M&E activities including the GEF Operational Focal Point and national/regional institutes assigned to undertake project monitoring. The GEF Operational Focal Point will strive to ensure consistency in the approach taken to the GEF-specific M&E requirements (notably the GEF Tracking Tools) across all GEF-financed projects in the country. This could be achieved for example by using one national institute to complete the GEF Tracking Tools for all GEF-financed projects in the country, including projects supported by other GEF Agencies.

#### **M&E Oversight and monitoring responsibilities:**

Project Manager: The Project Manager is responsible for day-to-day project management and regular monitoring of project results and risks, including social and environmental risks. The Project Manager will ensure that all project staff maintain a high level of transparency, responsibility and accountability in M&E and reporting of project results. The Project Manager will inform the Project Board, the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF RTA of any delays or difficulties as they arise during implementation so that appropriate support and corrective measures can be adopted.

The Project Manager will develop annual work plans based on the multi-year work plan included in **Annex 1**, including annual output targets to support the efficient implementation of the project. The Project Manager will ensure that the standard UNDP and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring the results framework indicators are monitored annually in time for evidence-based reporting in the GEF PIR, and that the monitoring of risks and the various plans/strategies developed to support project implementation (e.g. gender strategy, KM strategy, communications strategy, etc.) occur on a regular basis.

Project Board: The Project Board will take corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. The Project Board will hold project reviews to assess the performance of the project and appraise the Annual Work Plan for the following year. Immediately following the Mid Term Review, the Project Board will meet to determine the management response to its findings. In the project's final year, the Project Board will hold an end-of-project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to highlight project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences. This final review meeting will also discuss the findings outlined in the project terminal evaluation report and the management response.

Project Implementing Partner: In this case as the project will follow Direct Implementation Modality (DIM), so the UNDP PMU is responsible for providing any and all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary and appropriate. The UNDP PMU will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes, and is aligned with national systems so that the data used by and generated by the project supports national systems.

UNDP Country Office: The UNDP Country Office will support the Project Manager as needed, including through annual supervision missions. The annual supervision missions will take place according to the schedule outlined in the annual work plan. Supervision mission reports will be circulated to the project team and Project Board within one month of the mission. The UNDP Country Office will initiate and organize key GEF M&E activities including the annual GEF PIR, the independent mid-term review and the independent terminal evaluation. The UNDP Country Office will also ensure that the standard UNDP and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality.

The UNDP Country Office is responsible for complying with all UNDP project-level M&E requirements as outlined in the [UNDP POPP](#). This includes ensuring the UNDP Quality Assurance Assessment during implementation is undertaken annually; that annual targets at the output level are developed, and monitored and reported using UNDP corporate systems; the regular updating of the ATLAS risk log; and, the updating of the UNDP gender marker on an annual basis based on gender mainstreaming progress reported in the GEF PIR and the UNDP ROAR. Any quality concerns flagged during these M&E activities (e.g. annual GEF PIR quality assessment ratings) must be addressed by the UNDP Country Office and the Project Manager.

The UNDP Country Office will retain all M&E records for this project for up to seven years after project financial closure in order to support ex-post evaluations undertaken by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) and/or the GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO).

UNDP-GEF Unit: Additional M&E and implementation quality assurance and troubleshooting support will be provided by the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor and the UNDP-GEF Directorate as needed.

**Audit:** The project will be audited according to UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies.

**Additional GEF monitoring and reporting requirements:**

Inception Workshop and Report: A project inception workshop will be held within two months after the project document has been signed by all relevant parties to, amongst others:

- a) Re-orient project stakeholders to the project strategy and discuss any changes in the overall context that influence project implementation;
- b) Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting and communication lines and conflict resolution mechanisms;
- c) Review the results framework and finalize the indicators, means of verification and monitoring plan;
- d) Discuss reporting, monitoring and evaluation roles and responsibilities and finalize the M&E budget; identify national/regional institutes to be involved in project-level M&E; discuss the role of the GEF OFP in M&E;
- e) Update and review responsibilities for monitoring the various project plans and strategies, including the risk log; Environmental and Social Management Plan and other safeguard requirements; the gender strategy; the knowledge management strategy, and other relevant strategies;
- f) Review financial reporting procedures and mandatory requirements, and agree on the arrangements for the annual audit; and
- g) Plan and schedule Project Board meetings and finalize the first year annual work plan.

The Project Manager will prepare the inception report no later than one month after the inception workshop. The inception report will be cleared by the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor, and will be approved by the Project Board.

GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR): The Project Manager, the UNDP Country Office, and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor will provide objective input to the annual GEF PIR covering the reporting period July (previous year) to June (current year) for each year of project implementation. The Project Manager will ensure that the indicators included in the project results framework are monitored annually in advance of the PIR submission deadline so that progress can be reported in the PIR. Any environmental and social risks and related management plans will be monitored regularly, and progress will be reported in the PIR.

The PIR submitted to the GEF will be shared with the Project Board. The UNDP Country Office will coordinate the input of the GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders to the PIR as appropriate. The quality rating of the previous year's PIR will be used to inform the preparation of the subsequent PIR.

Lessons learned and knowledge generation: Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention area through existing information sharing networks and forums. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit

to the project. The project will identify, analyse and share lessons learned that might be beneficial to the design and implementation of similar projects and disseminate these lessons widely. There will be continuous information exchange between this project and other projects of similar focus in the same country, region and globally. This will be supported by knowledge management activities in Component 4, including the sharing of experiences through annual Stakeholder Forum meetings, national and regional workshops and exchange visits, and online information exchange.

**GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools:** The following GEF Tracking Tool(s) will be used to monitor global environmental benefit results: GEF Biodiversity (METT and sustainable financing scorecard), GEF SFM and GEF LD. The baseline/CEO Endorsement GEF Focal Area Tracking Tool(s) – submitted as **Annex 4** to this project document – will be updated by the Project Manager/Team and shared with *the* mid-term review consultants and terminal evaluation consultants (not the evaluation consultants hired to undertake the MTR or the TE) before the required review/evaluation missions take place. The updated GEF Tracking Tool(s) will be submitted to the GEF along with the completed Mid-term Review report and Terminal Evaluation report.

**Independent Mid-term Review (MTR):** An independent mid-term review process will begin after the second PIR has been submitted to the GEF, and the MTR report will be submitted to the GEF in the same year as the 3<sup>rd</sup> PIR. The MTR findings and responses outlined in the management response will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project’s duration. The terms of reference, the review process and the MTR report will follow the standard templates and guidance prepared by the UNDP IEO for GEF-financed projects available on the [UNDP Evaluation Resource Center \(ERC\)](#). As noted in this guidance, the evaluation will be ‘independent, impartial and rigorous’. The consultants that will be hired to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the UNDP-GEF Directorate. The final MTR report will be available in English and will be cleared by the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser, and approved by the Project Board.

**Terminal Evaluation (TE):** An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terminal evaluation process will begin three months before operational closure of the project allowing the evaluation mission to proceed while the project team is still in place, yet ensuring the project is close enough to completion for the evaluation team to reach conclusions on key aspects such as project sustainability. The Project Manager will remain on contract until the TE report and management response have been finalized. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and guidance prepared by the UNDP IEO for GEF-financed projects available on the [UNDP Evaluation Resource Center](#). As noted in this guidance, the evaluation will be ‘independent, impartial and rigorous’. The consultants that will be hired to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the UNDP-GEF Directorate. The final TE report will be cleared by the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser, and will be approved by the Project Board. The TE report will be publicly available in English on the UNDP ERC.

The UNDP Country Office will include the planned project terminal evaluation in the UNDP Country Office evaluation plan, and will upload the final terminal evaluation report in English and the corresponding management response to the UNDP Evaluation Resource Centre (ERC). Once uploaded to the ERC, the UNDP IEO will undertake a quality assessment and validate the findings and ratings in the TE report, and rate the quality of the TE report. The UNDP IEO assessment report will be sent to the GEF IEO along with the project terminal evaluation report.

**Final Report:** The project’s terminal PIR along with the terminal evaluation (TE) report and corresponding management response will serve as the final project report package. The final project report package shall be discussed with the Project Board during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up.

**Table 9.** Mandatory GEF M&E Requirements and M&E Budget

GEF M&E requirements	Primary responsibility	Indicative costs to the Project Budget <sup>15</sup> (US\$) (GEF)	Time frame
Inception Workshop	UNDP Country Office	USD 15,000	Within three months of project document signature
Inception Report	Project Manager	None	Within two weeks of inception workshop
Standard UNDP monitoring and reporting requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP	UNDP Country Office	None None	Quarterly, annually
Monitoring of indicators in project results framework	Project Manager with support from STA and RPs	Per year: USD 2,000 x 6 yrs. = USD 12,000	Annually
GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)	Project Manager and UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF team	None	Annually
Audit as per UNDP audit policies	UNDP Country Office	Per year: USD 3,500 x 6 yrs. = USD 21,000	Annually or other frequency as per UNDP Audit policies
Lessons learned and knowledge generation	Project Manager	USD 12,000	Annually
Monitoring of environmental and social risks, and corresponding management plans as relevant	Project Manager UNDP CO	None	On-going
Addressing environmental and social grievances	Project Manager UNDP Country Office BPPS as needed	None for time of project manager, and UNDP CO	
Project Board meetings	Project Board UNDP Country Office Project Manager	<i>USD1000 per meeting x 12 = USD12,000</i>	Meeting twice annually
Technical Advisory Group meetings*	Technical Advisory Group UNDP Country Office Project Manager	USD 1000 per meeting x 12 = USD 12000	Meeting twice annually
Participatory review and planning workshops for project stakeholders*	Project Manager	USD 500 per meeting = USD 36,000	Quarterly meetings for 3 landscape WGs
Supervision missions	UNDP Country Office	None <sup>16</sup>	Annually
Oversight missions	UNDP-GEF team	None <sup>16</sup>	Troubleshooting as needed
GEF Secretariat learning missions/site visits	UNDP Country Office and Project Manager and UNDP-GEF team	None	To be determined.
Mid-term GEF Tracking Tool to be updated by (add name of national/regional institute if relevant)	Project Manager	None	Before mid-term review mission takes place.
Independent Mid-term Review (MTR) and management response	UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team	USD 30,000	Between 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> PIR.
Terminal GEF Tracking Tool to be updated by (add name of national/regional institute if relevant)	Project Manager and STA with help from RPs	None	Before terminal evaluation mission takes place

<sup>15</sup> Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff time and travel expenses.


<sup>16</sup> The costs of UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF Unit's participation and time are charged to the GEF Agency Fee.

GEF M&E requirements	Primary responsibility	Indicative costs to the Project Budget <sup>15</sup> (US\$) (GEF)	Time frame
Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE) included in UNDP evaluation plan, and management response	UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team	USD 40,000	At least three months before operational closure
<b>TOTAL indicative COST</b> Excluding project team staff time, and UNDP staff and travel expenses		USD 190,000	

**PART III: CERTIFICATION BY GEF PARTNER AGENCY(IES)**



**A. GEF Agency(ies) certification**

<b>This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies<sup>17</sup> and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for CEO endorsement under GEF-6.</b>					
<b>Agency Coordinator, Agency Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date (Month, day, year)</b>	<b>Project Contact Person</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Adriana Dinu GEF Executive Coordinator UNDP		24 January 2017	Doley Tshehering Regional Technical Advisor, EBD	+66-2-304- 9100 Est. 2600	doley.tshehering@undp.org

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<sup>17</sup> GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, and SCCF

## Annex 1: Carbon benefit calculation

### Summary of the Approach used to Estimate Carbon Benefits from the UNDP/GEF Project Ridge to Reef: Integrated Protected Area Land and Seascape Management in Tanintharyi

The Carbon benefits to be gained from the successful implementation of the project are described in the GEF Tracking Tools for Sustainable Forest Management (Project Document **Annex 4c**) and Land Degradation (**Annex 4b**). These benefits were estimated through the use of GIS map analysis by Fauna and Flora International – Myanmar Programme (a project partner) to determine the different types and conditions of land cover in the project area, and application of the FAO EX-ACT tool to calculate the avoided GHG emissions benefit accruing from the project as described below. The total GHG emissions benefit is estimated at **5,063,434 tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq in a total area of 381,859 ha over 10 years**

### Basis for the EX-ACT estimation of avoided GHG emissions

A total of 323,138 ha is estimated to be identified as HCVPs and accorded high level of protection. The estimated annual deforestation rate is 0.81% per year for Myanmar (Wang & Myint, 2016<sup>[1]</sup>). The increased protection accorded to the 323,138 ha of HCVP will reduce cumulative deforestation from 8% in 10 years (25,857 ha of forest lost) to just 6% loss (equivalent to 19,389 ha lost in 10 years), see FAO Exact file attached, module 2.1 Deforestation. The forest type selected for the calculations is Tropical Wet Forests. For Harvested Wood Products (HWP), the above-ground biomass for Tropical Wet Forests is provided in Table 4.7 (Table 4.7. Ecological zone Rainforest, Asia) of IPCC 2006 Volume 4 ([http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/4\\_Volume4/V4\\_04\\_Ch4\\_Forest\\_Land.pdf](http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/4_Volume4/V4_04_Ch4_Forest_Land.pdf)) as 280 (120 – 400) tonnes dry matter/ha. The HWP was therefore estimated as 8.4 tonnes dry matter/ha based on the advice “The resulting HWP fractions (of total biomass) were 10% for the developed world and 3% for the developing world” in Searle, S and Malins, C. 2011. Estimates of carbon storage in wood products following land clearing ( ICCT):

[http://www.theicct.org/sites/default/files/publications/ICCT\\_carbon\\_storage\\_in\\_wood\\_products\\_August\\_2011.pdf](http://www.theicct.org/sites/default/files/publications/ICCT_carbon_storage_in_wood_products_August_2011.pdf) (Myanmar falling within the developing world - 3% which is equivalent to 8.4 tDM/ha; corresponds to the figure used in the FAO Exact file, Module 2.1 Deforestation). Methods of land clearance vary (i.e. concession areas are often logged first), but use of fire is common both by plantation companies and smallholders to complete the land clearance. According to the EXACT calculations, the project’s implementation of reduction of deforestation will lead to a mitigation potential of **5,063,434 tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq over a period of 10 years**.

Around 15,069 ha out of the total 114,369 ha of mangroves in the project area<sup>18</sup> is intact or only slightly degraded. Most of these mangroves fall within the Auckland Bay target area and will be proposed as protected and/or community co-managed areas, receiving strengthened legal protection. This will reduce

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<sup>[1]</sup> Wang & Soe W. Myint, 2016. Environmental Concerns of Deforestation in Myanmar 2001–2010, Remote Sensing 2016, 8, 728. [www.mdpi.com/journal/remotesensing](http://www.mdpi.com/journal/remotesensing)

<sup>18</sup> It should be noted that there are two total areas indicated for mangrove forest in the project document, which are different. One is for the project target area of Auckland bay and seascape (114,369ha), while the other is for all of the project area (115,759 ha) – including mangrove areas within the R2R Corridor landscape.

deforestation and avoid GHG emissions. According to Richards and Friess (2016) ‘Rates and drivers of mangrove deforestation in Southeast Asia, 2000-2012’ at: <https://phys.org/news/2016-01-mangrove-deforestation-southeast-asia.html#jCp>, mangrove forests in Southeast Asia were lost at an average rate of 0.18% per year. Thus for the 10 years, without the project this would equate to around 1.8% loss and deforested areas are usually converted to alternative land uses such as aquaculture with the project’s intervention, assuming a reduction in the rate of loss by around 60%, the total loss of mangroves will be reduced to 0.72% in 10 years. These figures have been used in FAO Exact File Module Land Use Change to give a total GHG emissions avoided of **91,213 tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq over 10 years**, as per FAO Exact automatic calculations.

Aukland Bay Forest Reserve (FR), 19,341 ha, and Kyunsu Mangrove Public Protected Forest (PPF), 24,311 ha represents approximately 20% of the mangrove and associated terrestrial vegetation in Aukland Bay and they will be the subject of initial efforts to bring at least 43,652 ha under integrated management. This will involve applying a range of practices such as enhanced capacities for integrated and sustainable management of land/seascapes, including community-based natural resource management. The project will focus on systematically engaging and empowering communities to take control over the sustainable management of their natural resources. These practices will halt degradation and help move the degraded mangrove areas from ‘low’ degradation to ‘very low’ degradation status. Using this information, the FAO EXACT Management Degradation Module calculates automatically avoided GHG emissions of **2,384,808 tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq over 10 years**.

### **Practices that will reduce deforestation in the project**

Those mangroves and forests included within proposed protected areas will receive strengthened legal protection, while those within both existing and proposed protected areas will benefit from strengthened management effectiveness as a result of project interventions in Outputs 2.1 (Management and financing plans for target proposed PAs developed and operational with full stakeholder participation) and 2.2 (PA site operations strengthened to address existing threats to biodiversity). Measures include: establishment of PA stakeholder working groups, surveys of the sites, demarcation of PA boundaries, participatory development and implementation of management plans and financing plans; establishment of staff management structures, recruitment and training of PA staff, development of site infrastructure, develop and implement biological monitoring protocols, develop SMART patrolling capacity and implement participatory patrolling with local communities.

Output 2.3 (Capacity of communities developed within KBAs, HCV habitats, smallholder zones and corridors for integrated and sustainable management of land/seascapes, including community-based natural resource management) will provide the main contribution towards integrated landscape management, by systematically engaging and empowering communities to take control over the sustainable management of their natural resources. For more detail on all project activities, see Project Document **Annex I**.

In the Aukland Bay landscape, the opportunity will be taken to establish large areas of community forests: most of which should be protected and, in the case of degraded forest and mangroves, allowed to regenerate naturally; and some of which can be sustainably harvested and used to meet local timber and fuelwood needs. This is directly in line with the National Forestry Master Plan target of establishing 980,000 ha of community forest by 2030.

### **Breakdown of Project Activities Contributing Towards Carbon Mitigation by Area**

Please see **Table 3** extracted from the Project Document below for the details of the project landscapes, targeted sites for protection/community-based management, and integrated natural resource management, including the types of project activities contributing towards carbon sequestration and avoided deforestation.

### **Definition of Local Areas of Mangrove Forests in Aukland Bay Landscape to be Brought Under Integrated Management**

At the end of the project preparation (PPG) period, the project landscapes had been defined and a certain degree of GIS analysis had been obtained to determine the current extent and condition of mangrove forests. However, it was not possible (for reasons explained below) to conduct detailed assessment of the extent and condition of these mangrove areas before submission to GEF, or to complete the necessary consultations with all concerned local communities and local authorities. Consequently, further assessment and consultations will be required during the first year of project implementation to confirm the specific areas and types of intervention in each, in line with GEF and UNDP expectations of local stakeholder engagement and free prior informed consent.

Different mangrove forest types have markedly different C storage content depending on dominant species, community structure and the age and stature of the forest. There is also a difference in the proposed rating of degradation levels against currently available GIS data available from Fauna and Flora International (FFI) in Myanmar, which are “Intact to slightly degraded”, degraded, heavily degraded and Nipa” – the last being palms that often occur in monospecific stands. FFI’s GIS analyst has also indicated that the available satellite imagery would not stand up to any further refinements to their current classification system in respect of % levels of degradation. Thus, intact to slightly degraded would probably roughly equate to 0-20% degradation, degraded to 20-60%; and 60-100% to extremely degraded. But these areas are to be determined in year 1 following consultations with communities.

During the scoping process (PPG) the project development team faced very significant obstacles to obtain the necessary baseline information on forest target areas. These included the rapidly evolving national and local political situation, weather (imminent monsoon season) and ultimately time to submit the project documents. The Karen National Union (KNU) indicated that they didn’t want one of the proposed National Park (NP) areas (Tanintharyi) included in the project, as it was premature in relation to their ongoing cease-fire negotiations with government, so we mitigated by including two adjacent forest reserves; then we learnt from KNU that they did not want us doing socio-economic and other reconnaissance work in their villages in the proposed Lenya NP, which is adjacent to the two Forest Reserves. Fortunately, we had access to data from FFI who had been working in this highland area for the last few years to cover this gap. So, at what was now a very late stage in the PPG process we decided to focus the very limited remaining survey time on communities in the mangroves of Aukland Bay. But survey time was seriously constrained by the incoming monsoon season, during which the sea is too rough to access many of these communities. Thus, there was insufficient time to discuss co-management opportunities with many of these mangrove communities and it became clear that this needed to be done during the project inception phase to identify with government and communities the candidate mangrove sites. So, while the project document has identified the landscapes the project will focus on, plans will need to be elaborated regarding the specific local target areas and land use types especially for the mangrove areas once the project starts up. Any potential SLM or PA establishment in the corridor, smallholder zones and all mangrove, apart from the indicated PPF and FR will need to be subject to identification, consultation and agreement with government and the related communities during Year 1.

**Project Document Table 3. Project area and target sites for new PAs and demonstrating integrated natural resource management**

PROJECT AREA				
Name	Legal Status	Project Status	Area ha	Activity
Lenya	Forest Reserve	R2R Landscape	183,279	Reduce deforestation in proposed PA
Ngawun	Forest Reserve	R2R Landscape	447,834	Reduce deforestation in proposed PA, SFM & SLM
Aukland Bay Mangrove	FR/PPF/UA*	R2R Landscape	356,570	Reduce deforestation in proposed PAs, community based SFM
R2R Seascape	Territorial Waters	R2R Seascape	306,501	Reduce deforestation in proposed PAs, community-based coastal resource management
R2R Corridor	FR/OPC/UA**	R2R Corridor	119,220	INRM/SLM/SFM
Lenya River	unknown	Smallholders Zone (outside Lenya Landscape)	39,254	INRM/SLM
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,452,658</b>	
PROJECT TARGET SITES				
Proposed Protected Area	Legal Status	Project Status	Area ha	Activity
Lenya	Forest Reserve	R2R Landscape	183,279	Reduce deforestation in proposed PA
Lenya Extension	Forest Reserve	Part of Ngawun R2R Landscape	139,859	Reduce deforestation in proposed PA
Aukland Bay Mangrove	FR/PPF/UA*	R2R Landscape	19,341	Reduce deforestation in proposed PAs, community based SFM, target to be determined in Y1, minimum of 43,652 ha for FR & PPF.
Aukland Bay Forest Reserve			24,311	
Kyunsu Mangrove Public Protected Forest (PPF),				
R2R Seascape	Territorial Waters	R2R Seascape	TBD	Reduce deforestation in proposed PAs, community-based coastal resource management, targets to be determined in Y1
- Lin Long	LMMA	R2R Seascape	3,605	Community-based coastal resource management
- Donepale Aw	LMMA	R2R Seascape	1,877	Community-based coastal resource management
- Langann	LMMA	R2R Seascape	4,918	Community-based coastal resource management
<b>Total</b>			<b>377,190</b>	
Integrated NRM	Legal Status	Project Status	Area ha	Activity
R2R Corridor	FR/OPC/UA**	R2R Corridor	119,220	INRM / SLM / SFM
Lenya River	unknown	Smallholders Zone (outside Lenya Landscape)	39,254	INRM/SLM
Mawtaung Road	unknown	Smallholders Zone (inside Ngawun Landscape)	34,352	INRM/SLM
Yadanarpon Road	unknown	Smallholders Zone (inside Lenya Landscape)	16,197	INRM/SLM
<b>Total</b>		<b>Integrated Natural Resource Management</b>	<b>209,023</b>	

\*Aukland Bay Mangrove Landscape comprises Aukland Bay Forest Reserve (FR), 19,341 ha (GIS estimate), and Kyunsu Mangrove Public Protected Forest (PPF), 24,311 ha (GIS estimate), from Myeik southwards to Shaw Taw Maw (represents approximately 20% of the mangrove and associated terrestrial vegetation), and the rest is unassigned.

\*\*The Corridor comprises Taungfru Reserve Forest (18,974 ha of which 4,756 ha is under production according to Myeik District 10-year Management Plan 2016-2025); the rest is Permanently Protected Forest or proposed PPF and much of that is earmarked as oil palm concessions. Note that all oil palm concessions are currently under review by the Regional Government.

LMMA: Locally Managed Marine Area NRM: Natural Resource Management TBD = To Be Determined

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

<b>Contributions to Sustainable Development Goals:</b> Primary focus – 14 (life below water) and 15 (life on land); secondary contributions towards – 1 (no poverty), 13 (urgent action on climate change), 2 (end hunger), 3 (good health) and 5 (gender equality)					
<b>Intended Outcome as stated in the UNDAF/Country Programme Results and Resources Framework:</b>					
<b>Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Programme Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets:</b>					
<b>Applicable Outputs from the 2014 – 2017 UNDP Strategic Plan:</b> Output 1.3: Solutions developed at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste.					
<b>Applicable Output Indicators from the UNDP Strategic Plan Integrated Results and Resources Framework:</b> Output 1.3 indicator 1.3.1: Number of new partnership mechanisms with funding for sustainable management solutions of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste at national and/or subnational level.					
	<b>Objective and Outcome Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline<sup>19</sup></b>	<b>Mid-term Target<sup>19</sup></b>	<b>End of Project Target<sup>19</sup></b>	<b>Assumptions<sup>20</sup></b>

<sup>19</sup> Baseline, mid-term and end of project levels must be expressed in the same neutral unit of analysis as the corresponding indicator.

<sup>20</sup> Risks must be outlined in the Feasibility section of this project document.

<p><b>Project Objective:</b></p> <p><b>Securing long-term protection of Key Biodiversity Areas through integrated planning and management of the protected area land and seascape in Tanintharyi</b></p>	<p><b>Indicator 1:</b> Number of new partnership mechanisms with funding for sustainable management solutions of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste at national and/or subnational level (IRRF Output 1.3 indicator 1.3.1)</p>	<p><i>No current policy for mainstreaming biodiversity (BD) and ecosystem services (ES) into ILSM. There are: Environmental Conservation Committee (ECC), and Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands Management Committee. Land-coast-sea connections in existing policies not recognised except for temporary coordination committees led by concerned ministries. National Land Use Policy still in preparation.</i></p>	<p><i>ILSM coordination mechanism proposed to Tanintharyi regional government for integration of BD and ES into regional and local planning, in line with national policy and administration structures.</i></p>	<p><i>Fully functional and funded ILSM coordination mechanism institutionalized within Tanintharyi regional government ensures integration of BD and ES into regional and local planning, in line with proposed National Land Use Policy and existing coordination mechanisms.</i></p>	<p><i>Sectoral agencies are willing to cooperate at national, regional, district and township levels to achieve ILSM.</i></p> <p><i>Increases in institutional capacity are sustained through retention of trained staff and organizational stability</i></p> <p><i>Project will enhance regional governance by mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem service considerations and sustainable natural resource management, thereby providing environmental quality and ecological security benefits to all residents</i></p>											
	<p><b>Indicator 2:</b> Increase in ILSM Capacity Development Score of Tanintharyi regional government for integrated landscape and seascape management (ILSM), (see <b>Annex 13a</b>)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">ILSM Capacity Development Scorecard score</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>Baseline 2016</th> <th>Mid-Term (PY3)</th> <th>EoP Target (PY6)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Tanintharyi Regional Government</td> <td>7</td> <td>15</td> <td>36</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ILSM Capacity Development Scorecard score					Baseline 2016	Mid-Term (PY3)	EoP Target (PY6)	Tanintharyi Regional Government	7	15	36	<p><i>See inset table for 2016 baseline</i></p>	<p><i>See inset table for target score.</i></p>	<p><i>See inset table for target score.</i></p>
ILSM Capacity Development Scorecard score																
	Baseline 2016	Mid-Term (PY3)	EoP Target (PY6)													
Tanintharyi Regional Government	7	15	36													

	<b>Indicator 3:</b> Number of direct project beneficiaries (parts of Kyunsu, Tanintharyi and Bokpyin townships within the project landscapes, based on spatial analysis of 2014 village tract census data)	0	<i>At least 4 Village Cluster Sustainable Development Committees in place (at least 40% female) serving at least 25,000 people</i>	<i>50,000 persons in village clusters (at least 50% female)  Indirect beneficiaries at least 145,000 persons (estimated population of project target area within these townships; 50% female)</i>	
<b>Component 1:</b>  <b>Integrated land and seascape planning and management in Tanintharyi</b>  <b>Outcome 1:</b> <i>Land and seascapes rich in biodiversity in Tanintharyi are</i>	<b>Indicator 4:</b> Total area of globally significant terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems under integrated land and seascape management	0	<i>600,000 hectares</i>	<i>1,452,658 hectares</i>	<i>The recognized benefits of ILSM towards providing ecosystem services, ecological security and biodiversity conservation outweigh the immediate short term economic benefits of sectoral land development practices</i>  <i>MoNREC / FD</i>



connected and their planning and management are integrated.	<p><b>Indicator 5:</b> Number of regional and local plans informed by / integrating biodiversity information including KBAs, HCVF and HCSF distribution</p>	<p>Regional and local government plans do not take account of spatial planning data concerning biodiversity information and comprehensive mapping data for KBAs, HCVF and HCSF is not available</p>	<p>Geospatial platform operational, accessible and being populated with data to inform regional and local plans</p>	<p>Information on distribution and status of biodiversity including KBAs, HCVF and HCSF has informed land use plans for Myeik and Kawthoung Districts and at least two Regional sectoral plans.</p>	<p>continue to provide strong political and financial support for the development and operational management of the PA system, as well as science-based integrated management of forest resources as key contributions towards national prosperity and ecological security.</p>													
	<p><b>Indicator 6:</b> increase in GEF Financial Sustainability Scorecard (see <b>Annex 4a</b>).</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Component</th> <th colspan="2">FSC score (%)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Baseline (2016)</th> <th>Target (PY6)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks</td> <td>15%</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Business planning and tools for cost- effective management</td> <td>24%</td> <td>60%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Tools for revenue generation</td> <td>4%</td> <td>40%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	FSC score (%)		Baseline (2016)	Target (PY6)	1. Legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks	15%	50%	2. Business planning and tools for cost- effective management	24%	60%	3. Tools for revenue generation	4%	40%	<p>See inset table for 2016 baselines</p>	<p>Component 1: 25% Component 2: 40% Component 3: 20%</p>	<p>See inset table for target scores.</p>
Component	FSC score (%)																	
	Baseline (2016)	Target (PY6)																
1. Legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks	15%	50%																
2. Business planning and tools for cost- effective management	24%	60%																
3. Tools for revenue generation	4%	40%																
<b>Component 2:</b>	<p><b>Indicator 7:</b> Improved management</p>	<p>See inset table for</p>	<p>METT scores are</p>	<p>See inset table for</p>	<p>The Tanintharyi</p>													

<p><b>Strengthened management and threat reduction in target proposed PAs and surrounding land and seascapes</b></p> <p><i>Outcome 2:</i></p> <p><i>Strengthened management and threat reduction in target proposed PAs, smallholder zones and corridors</i></p>	<p>effectiveness of individual existing and new PAs of global significance, covering over 500,000 ha<sup>21</sup>, indicated by the percentage increase in the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) scores (see <b>Annex 4a</b>):</p>		<p><i>METT baseline scores.</i></p>	<p><i>mid-way towards end of project target.</i></p>	<p><i>METT target scores</i></p>	<p><i>Regional Government and other key stakeholders continue to be committed to the extension of the PA system, buffer zones and corridors in the face of other demands for land and resources.</i></p> <p><i>Coral reef condition is not impacted by elevated sea water temperatures related to El Nino / global warming impacts beyond the scope of project control</i></p>	
	Protected Area	METT Baseline Score (2016)					METT Target Score (PY6)
	Lenya proposed NP (183,012 ha)	24					60
	Ngawun (Lenya Extension) proposed NP (184,997 ha)	21					60
	Tha Gyet (166,338 ha) and Thein Khun RFs (96,151 ha)	11					40
	Thayawtatangyi Island LMMA (5,626 ha)						
	Lin Long-Parawa (3,605 ha)	38					65
	Don Pale (1,877 ha)	36					65
Langann Island LMMA (4,918 ha)	40	65					
<p><b>Indicator 8:</b> Increased capacity of communities to plan and manage land and marine resources in an integrated and sustainable manner indicated by the implementation of Sustainable Development Plans for village clusters.</p>			<p><i>Planning and management of land and marine resources lacks coordination, integration and sustainability.</i></p>	<p><i>At least 4 Sustainable Development Plans drafted for village clusters (approximately 80 villages in total); participatory land use planning process</i></p>	<p><i>At least 4 SDPs implemented; Smallholder Zone properties mapped through participatory land use planning process and recognized by local</i></p>		

<sup>21</sup> Expansion of the Tanintharyi PA system from the current 195,402 ha by at least 333,538 ha (see Table 3, Proposed PAs) to 528,940 ha, securing KBAs in marine and terrestrial landscapes and HCVFs.

			underway for Smallholder Zone properties; village cluster enforcement networks established using SMART for 3 LMMAs.	government; at least 5 infringements reported for each of 3 LMMAs through village cluster enforcement networks.																			
	<b>Indicator 9:</b> Improved integrity and functioning of coral reef ecosystems within the targeted seascape, indicated by coral reef condition (Reef Check methodology)	Coral reef condition – Reef Check index of 57.07% for sites surveyed in GEF project seascape (Good condition category) (see Reef Check scores in Annex 23)	Stable condition of coral reefs (Reef Check scores)	Stable / improved condition of coral reefs (Reef Check scores)																			
	<b>Indicator 10:</b> Status of selected indicator species in the targeted landscapes as indicated by monitoring protocols (see inset table and Annex 2).	Baselines to be established during Year 1.	Status of indicator species is maintained or improved over baseline (see inset table)	Status of indicator species is improved over baseline (see inset table)	Monitoring and status surveys of key species are conducted systematically																		
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Indicator Species (specify units of measurement)</th> <th>Baseline Status (Year 1)</th> <th>Target Status (PY6)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Tiger</td> <td>TBC</td> <td>TBC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asian Elephant</td> <td>TBC</td> <td>TBC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asian Tapir</td> <td>TBC</td> <td>TBC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gurney's Pitta</td> <td>TBC</td> <td>TBC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plain-pouched Hornbill</td> <td>TBC</td> <td>TBC</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Indicator Species (specify units of measurement)	Baseline Status (Year 1)	Target Status (PY6)	Tiger	TBC	TBC	Asian Elephant	TBC	TBC	Asian Tapir	TBC	TBC	Gurney's Pitta	TBC	TBC	Plain-pouched Hornbill	TBC	TBC				
Indicator Species (specify units of measurement)	Baseline Status (Year 1)	Target Status (PY6)																					
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Asian Elephant	TBC	TBC																					
Asian Tapir	TBC	TBC																					
Gurney's Pitta	TBC	TBC																					
Plain-pouched Hornbill	TBC	TBC																					

<p><b>Component 3:</b></p> <p><b>Emplacement of the National Biodiversity Survey and geospatial platform for Integrated Land and Seascape Management</b></p> <p><b>Outcome 3:</b></p> <p><i>Prototype National Biodiversity Survey framework and geospatial platform</i></p>	<p><b>Indicator 11:</b> Training programme in biodiversity conservation and monitoring is developed and institutionalised with adequate human and financial resources in place at Myeik University, addressing staff competence requirements within FD and DoF for staff engaged in PA and related conservation management work, and capacity development strategy adopted by MoNREC and DoF</p>	<p><i>Current university programmes cover traditional disciplines of botany, zoology, marine science etc but not applied courses that cut across disciplines or contribute towards conservation management competence standards; lack of directed capacity building on biodiversity knowledge generation and application</i></p>	<p><i>Training programme of some ten modules on biodiversity conservation and monitoring is developed and run at least twice; mechanism developed to offset costs through course fees; capacity building strategy on biodiversity knowledge generation and application adopted by MoNREC and DoF</i></p>	<p><i>Training programme of some ten modules on biodiversity conservation and monitoring is run annually as part of Myeik University programmes by end of project, with adequate human and financial resources in place; capacity building strategy on biodiversity knowledge generation and application within MoNREC and DoF.</i></p>	<p><i>Stakeholders responsible for hosting the information system, providing data and information and making use of the information are willing to collaborate and share information and resources openly.</i></p> <p><i>The knowledge management system is sustainable, supported by the host government institutions and easily accessible to all</i></p>
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<p><i>operational within Tanintharyi Regional Government.</i></p>	<p><b>Indicator 12:</b> Capacity to collect and analyse biodiversity information/data, and apply them to the conservation and management of PAs and KBAs, and land and marine resource use planning, (as measured by the improvement in scores of UNDP capacity development scorecard (see <b>Annex 13b&amp;c</b>):</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="449 483 867 760"> <thead> <tr> <th>Target Institution</th> <th>CD Baseline Score (2014)</th> <th>CD Target Score (PY6)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Regional Forestry Dept</td> <td>35%</td> <td>76%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Regional Dept of Fisheries</td> <td>33%</td> <td>72%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Target Institution	CD Baseline Score (2014)	CD Target Score (PY6)	Regional Forestry Dept	35%	76%	Regional Dept of Fisheries	33%	72%	<p><i>See inset table for Capacity Development Scorecard baselines.</i></p>	<p><i>Capacity development scores improved by 20% (mid-way towards achieving target)</i></p>	<p><i>Increased institutional capacity to collect and analyse biodiversity information/data, and apply them to the conservation and management of PAs and KBAs, and land use planning (see targets in inset table and Annex 13b&amp;c)</i></p>	<p><i>stakeholders</i></p>
Target Institution	CD Baseline Score (2014)	CD Target Score (PY6)												
Regional Forestry Dept	35%	76%												
Regional Dept of Fisheries	33%	72%												
<p><b>Component 4: Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation</b></p> <p><b>Outcome 4:</b> <i>Enhanced knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation support biodiversity conservation in Tanintharyi</i></p>	<p><b>Indicator 13:</b> Number of key project lessons and strategies for sustainable land and seascape management documented, disseminated and adopted at local and national levels</p>	<p><i>Baseline (2016): Project implementation is yet to start</i></p>	<p><i>Target by midterm: Initial project results and lessons learned shared through website (one news article per month – at least one/year on gender issues; at least 5 completed technical reports available online); and Tanintharyi Land and Seascapes Knowledge Forum held (50 female participants); initial</i></p>	<p><i>Target by end of project: All project results and lessons learned shared through website with one news article per month – at least one/year on gender issues; at least 15 completed technical reports available online; and three Tanintharyi Land and Seascapes Knowledge Forums held (150 female participants in</i></p>	<p><i>Involvement in the design and implementation of project interventions and knowledge sharing on the experiences and expected benefits of ILSM practices will result in long-term support for the project and adoption of new knowledge, skills and practices.</i></p>									

			<i>ILSM lessons shared with FD, DoF and Regional Government for consideration in landscape planning</i>	<i>total); ILSM lessons learned presented to FD, DoF and Regional Government for adoption in landscape planning processes.</i>	
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**ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS** (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

<b>Responses to GEF Secretariat Review Comments at CEO Endorsement</b>			
<b>Questions</b>	<b>GEF Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement</b>	<b>Responses</b>	<b>Reference in Project Document</b>
7. Are the components, outcomes and outputs in the <b>project framework</b> (Table B) clear, sound and appropriately detailed?	<p>12/20/2016 UA: Not fully.</p> <p>[A] Concerns raised by the reviewer at PIF stage on the outputs of Component 3 are still valid at CEO endorsement stage. The component needs to be brought fully in line with what was agreed at PIF stage:</p> <p>Expected outcomes agreed at PIF stage:</p> <p>i) - Capacity building strategy for biodiversity knowledge generation and application integrated in the regional and national development framework and institutionalized in the government's human resource management strategy.</p> <p>ii) - Increased institutional capacity to collect and analyze biodiversity</p>	<p>A - Thank you for these comments. During the PPG, UNDP engaged a consultant to conduct a baseline analysis and provide recommendations for project strategy specifically on these two proposed outcomes for Component 3 in close collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution, which will lead implementation as a Responsible Party. The results of this analysis are given in Annex 17. In fact, the component design remains consistent with these two outcomes, only that we have emphasized the operationalization of a Prototype National Biodiversity Survey framework and geospatial platform within the Tanintharyi Regional Government, which we see as critical in supporting the other project components to achieve the overall functionality of integrated land and seascape management within this top priority Region of Myanmar for biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>(i) - As described in the CEO ER (p8), the third component focuses on developing institutional capacity for the generation and application of biodiversity knowledge at national and subnational levels. The NBS framework will be established as the umbrella for the biodiversity information management system. In building national and local capacity, a wide range of programmes and tools developed by the Smithsonian Institution will be utilised, and a range of training programs established and provided. Biodiversity information and data will be consolidated through establishment of the NBS framework,</p>	<p>III Strategy, IVi Results, IV Project Results Framework, Annex 1,2</p>

	<p>information/data, and apply them to the conservation and management of PAs and KBAs, and land use planning, as indicated by the UNDP capacity development scorecard.</p> <p>iii) -The project document mentions: "A key result by the end of the project will be a book on the biodiversity of Tanintharyi based on analysis of the data collected". This is not eligible for GEF funding. Please clarify if GEF funding will be used to produce this book.</p> <p>iv) - It is also unclear how travel costs of \$367,000 are calculated for component 3.</p> <p>[B] - On component 2: It is well designed and should be the focus of the GEF investment.</p> <p>i) - With regard to "at least 4 Sustainable Development Plans implemented for village clusters (c.80 villages) and USD 755,000 dispersed via small grants programme (at least 40% to female applicants)" please clarify: - discrepancy between budget line 12 (\$555,000) and \$755,000</p> <p>ii) - why only 40% female applicants?</p> <p>iii) - Please also justify travel budget for component 2.</p>	<p>focusing initially on the Tanintharyi Range Corridor, coastal wetlands (mangrove and mudflats) and Myeik Archipelago. Working from detailed capacity needs assessments, the capacity of national and local government agencies, research institutions and national CSOs will be strengthened in the areas of biodiversity assessment and monitoring, environmental planning and management for development and poverty alleviation, and utilization of open access methods and tools to design, implement and evaluate projects. In order to ensure full consistency with the PIF outcomes, a new activity has been added to Output 3.3 specifically to develop a capacity building strategy for biodiversity knowledge generation and application at regional and national government levels for adoption by MoNREC and the Dept of Fisheries at least, and thus institutionalized in the government's human resource management strategy as the PIF Outcome requires.</p> <p>(ii) - This outcome from the PIF Project Framework is included in the Results Framework and CEO Endorsement table as follows: Increased institutional capacity to collect and analyse biodiversity information/data, and apply them to the conservation and management of PAs and KBAs, and land use planning- CD scorecard for Regional Forestry Dept 35&gt;76%, Dept of Fisheries 33&gt;72%</p> <p>This encapsulates the baseline scores from the UNDP Capacity development scorecard of 35% and 33% for the Forestry Dept and Dept of Fisheries and target scores of 76% and 72% respectively. The full CD scorecards are given in Annex 13b &amp; c.</p> <p>iii) - The deliverable has been changed to guidelines / SOP on how to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services information into the management of protected areas, key biodiversity areas and land use planning.</p> <p>iv) - Travel budget details for Component 3 as follows (see revised budget note 14): Output 3.1 – SI staff international travel USA – Myanmar 2 trips/year x 6 years @ \$4000 = \$48,000; in-country transport (Yangon – NPT – Dawei – Myeik – Kawthoung and field sites) \$13,000; Output 3.2 – SI staff international travel USA – Myanmar 5 trips/year x 6 years @ \$4000 = \$120,000; in-country travel (Yangon – NPT – Dawei – Myeik – Kawthoung and field sites)</p>	<p>CEO ER Part I Table B</p>
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		<p>\$26,000; per diems for survey participants \$5000 / year x 5 years \$25,000; per diems for training participants \$5000 / year x 5 years \$25,000; Output 3.3 - SI staff international travel USA – Myanmar 3 trips/year x 6 years @ \$4000 = \$72,000; in-country transport (Yangon – NPT – Dawei – Myeik – Kawthoung and field sites) \$13,000; per diems for training participants \$5000 / year x 5 years \$25,000. Note that all flights will be economy class.</p> <p>B – The difference is an error - so the \$755,000 has been corrected to \$555,000 as per the budget.</p> <p>The ratio has been changed to 60% female applicants in line with the proactive gender mainstreaming strategy for the project.</p> <p>Travel budget for component 2 is reduced by \$200,000. Revised Budget Note 10: Travel costs for conducting collaborative marine and terrestrial patrols of LMMAs and PAs including community patrolling in KNU areas - FFI 97,000 Output 2.2; travel support for FD and DOF staff to participate in component 2 activities \$140,000, including joint patrolling, attending training in PA management, SMART and biological monitoring (all outputs). These are essential activities to provide on-the-job experience for FD, DoF, community representatives and CSOs in how to work together for effective PA management on the ground and to combat and deter encroachment and illegal hunting / fishing activities.</p>	<p>Annex 13b &amp; c</p> <p>IVi Results, Annex 1</p> <p>X Budget, Budget Note O ER Part I Table B</p> <p>CEO ER Part I Table B</p> <p>IViv, Viii, Table 4 in Annex 20</p> <p>X Budget, Budget Notes</p>
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<p>15. Has the cost-effectiveness of the project been sufficiently demonstrated, including the cost effectiveness of the project design as compared to alternative approaches to achieve similar benefits?</p>	<p>12/20/2016 UA: Not fully. The project's budget includes \$960,000 travel costs and a vehicle for \$45,000. This comes to almost 20% of the GEF grant. Please reduce/justify.</p>	<p>The travel budget for Component 2 has been reduced by \$200,000, and explanation provided for travel budget inputs to Components 2 and 3. This does include significant international travel for Component 3 to allow Smithsonian Institution to lead the provision of substantial technical assistance needed for planning, training inputs, leadership in conducting biological surveys, curriculum development and capacity development for knowledge management. Consistent with the rationale in the PIF, the weak capacity of the central and especially regional government agencies as a result of the country's current emergence from long isolation and civil war requires strong international technical assistance to deliver the proposed GEF outcomes, which otherwise may be in doubt. This is based on a long history of collaboration between Fauna and Flora International and the Smithsonian Institution (SI scientists have been studying the biodiversity and ecology of Myanmar over the last 20 years and, since 1993, have trained more than 300 MoNREC staff, completed 50 research projects, 150 science publications, aided in the discovery of over 70 species new to science, and located and identified hundreds of species; while FFI supports a range of biodiversity conservation programmes in Myanmar, including community forest programmes and collaborative PA management initiatives, and a major terrestrial and marine conservation programme in Tanintharyi). This support is cost-effective in that all travel costing is based on economy class transportation, and in FFI's case the majority of staff except senior technical/management are local and based in Myanmar. Both organizations are bringing substantial cofinancing to the project – USD 2,425,116 from FFI and USD 1,500,000 from SI.</p> <p>Significant travel inputs are needed for all project components in order to travel between the three districts of Tanintharyi, which often requires local air travel, as well as between Tanintharyi and Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw. Boats will need to be hired for fieldwork in the coastal regions which include a substantial mangrove coastline and the numerous offshore islands of the Myeik Archipelago.</p> <p>A 4WD vehicle is essential to support effective project implementation: the project landscapes are extremely large (over 1.45 million hectares), and road access to many parts is difficult (including unsurfaced roads, oil palm plantation and logging tracks) and can be near-impossible in</p>	<p>X – Budget and Budget Notes</p>
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		<p>the monsoon season. The project activities include substantial ground travel between district and township centres, biological surveys and management activities in protected areas, and extensive work with local communities to develop, implement and monitor sustainable development plans and small grants for which vehicle support is critical. This view is supported by experience from current ongoing UNDP projects in Myanmar where vehicle access has been critical for effective implementation. For comparison, hiring a 4WD vehicle costs in the region of \$1500 per month in Myanmar, which would work out at \$108,000 over the six year project (excluding fuel and maintenance costs, and with probable additional fees for remote off-road usage – for example, cars hired in Mandalay are charged an additional USD50/day for travel outside Mandalay area). While the project will work closely with the regional Forestry and Fisheries Departments, their resources are very limited (e.g. Fisheries Dept. had no boat during the PPG) and reliance on their equipment is likely to lead to operational bottlenecks and delays during implementation as it also needs to support their other needs, beyond project control. It is therefore recommended that the project procure a car of its own rather than renting one for the duration of the project. Having a dedicated car for the project would be more efficient, as well as travel to project sites would be safer and more secure, which are very important considerations in the local context.</p>	
<p>17. At CEO endorsement: Has cofinancing been confirmed?</p>	<p>12/20/2016 UA: Yes, adequate. However, as most of the co-financing is in kind or parallel, it is even more important to use the GEF grant in the most cost-efficient way possible and so that beneficiaries have tangible benefits (see comments in box #15). Cleared</p>	<p>See response to comment #15 above</p>	<p>N/A</p>

23. Has the Agency adequately responded to comments from:	12/20/2016 UA:  No. Please include in the Annex B of the CEO endorsement request template a response to Council members' comments France and Germany.	As advised we added response to Annex B of the CEO Endorsement Request Document below.	CEO ER Annex B
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Comments	Responses	Reference in Project Document
<b>Responses to STAP Review Comments 1 May 2015: Minor issues to be considered during project design</b>		
1. The table (page 11-12) and map of the protected areas are useful in providing context to the project. It would be useful to name explicitly the protected areas and conservation corridors the project will focus on, since this information is not clear in the document. Furthermore, STAP recommends describing the biodiversity in each area, along with the social-ecological characteristics. This information will complement the description of the Tanintharyi region that is provided in the document, and will be relevant to analyzing the planning and management needs of the protected areas.	Detailed GIS maps indicating KBAs, protected areas, land cover and habitats, and the project land and seascapes are provided in the project document. The project will focus on Lenya proposed PA, Lenya Extension (Ngawun) proposed PA and three Locally Managed Marine Areas of Tayawthatangyi and Langann Island groups. It will also identify potential protected areas within the Auckland Bay (Kyunsu) mangrove forest area. Landscape profiles in Annex 11 provide further details of these proposed / protected areas and wider landscapes.	Table 1, Table 2, Figure 6, Annex 18
2. Under threats, it would be valuable to include information on trends and projections of climate change in the region. The project developers may wish to refer to Myanmar's National Programme of Action to Adaptation (NAPA) for climate information and Myanmar's priorities for increasing the resilience of coastal zones in the Tanintharyi region. <a href="http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/napa/mmr01.pdf">http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/napa/mmr01.pdf</a> Additionally, STAP recommends detailing how climate change may affect the resilience of marine ecosystems, and how the project intends to address these risks. Under risks, the project proponents begin to describe how coral reefs will be monitored. Component 1 can build on this text by defining the methods used, and how the project aims to contribute to learning and data gaps on dynamic and linked systems such as the terrestrial and marine environments.	Climate change trends and projections are described in the Development Challenge section of the project document, with attention to impacts on marine ecosystems. These indicate serious long term threats to coastal habitats associated with rising sea levels and ocean warming episodes.  Indicators for monitoring of coral reef extent and condition are included in the Results Framework, building on baseline work by FFI. These recent Reef check surveys have shown that coral condition within the selected seascape is rated good (Score of 57.07%). More detailed biological survey and assessment would be supported by the third project component led by SI and involving Myeik	Development Challenge, Fig 3. Table 6 - Risk 6, Results Framework

	University Marine Science Dept.	
3. In the table on barriers (page 9), STAP recommends adding a fourth barrier on weak cross-sectoral planning for terrestrial and coastal management. The document lists weak integrated approaches to land-seascape management under barrier 1. However, STAP believes this aspect should be listed separately and described comprehensively, given the aim of the project is to address this barrier.	Additional attention has been provided to this barrier in the project Development Challenge, Strategy and Theory of Change. A fourth barrier has been added reflecting weak cross-sectoral planning which is addressed by the Component 1 intervention.	II Dev Challenge, III Strategy
4. Additionally, STAP believes the proposal does not detail sufficiently an integrated approach on ridge to reef planning - an important aspect of component 1 and indeed a prominent feature of both the title of the project and its headline objective. The importance of connectivity between different parts of the landscape from ridge to reef does not feature in the proposal to date; and STAP is concerned that the project will merely attempt a multi-stakeholder and multi-thematic approach to what is essentially a conservation protected area project without engaging the interactions between, say, shifting cultivators, illegal hunters and loggers and rubber plantation enterprises, all of which will be critical to the success of the core objectives of the project. The issue of land(sea)scape connectivity and activities that promote integration has been reviewed recently in the academic literature: see Makino, A. et al (2013). Integrated planning for land - sea ecosystem connectivity to protect coral reefs. <i>Biological Conservation</i> 166: 35-42. These authors discuss how integrated planning delivers substantially different spatial priorities compared to an approach that ignored connections.	<p>The landscape scoping and rationale subsection of the Strategy section of the project document articulates the ridge to reef approach of the project.</p> <p>This is further elaborated in the Results and Partnerships Section for Component 1. This component will support the development of institutional capacity to enable Integrated Land and Seascape Management (ILSM), to ensure that development and land use practices in Tanintharyi will support conservation objectives favouring High Conservation Value forests and KBAs through spatial mapping and decision support analysis tools (as is already being initiated for oil palm plantation concessions). It will support establishment of a mechanism within the regional governance system for multi-sectoral ILSM to inform decision-making. It will also enhance capacity within the Tanintharyi government to mainstream ecosystem-based approaches into development planning.</p> <p>Specifically this would be supported by regulatory standards developed to safeguard KBAs, HCV Forests, other HCV habitats (e.g. reefs, seagrass beds) and HCSFs from production sectors, notably plantations (oil palm, rubber, other crops), mining, hydropower, fisheries and</p>	III Strategy, IV Results & Partnerships – Component 1

	<p>tourism, whose implementation would be facilitated by a Multi-Sector Standards Working Group with consultant support. The land-sea connections will be specifically considered through the regional multi-stakeholder advisory and coordination group and working groups for each project land/seascape. The sector standards reviews will be important in improving sustainability of plantation and mining sectors in particular, which are likely to have significant effects on land-based pollution (including sedimentation) of coastal waters.</p>	
<p>5. STAP therefore recommends using a framework that links management of land and marine resources, and which can assist the project developers in the planning process. A framework is needed to assist in analyzing and synthesizing the social-ecological processes and trends of linked systems characterized by multiple decision-makers. A recommendation is to apply the Biogeographic Assessment Framework (BAF) developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The BAF is a decision support tool for marine spatial planning and can be found at:  <a href="http://www2.coastalscience.noaa.gov/publications/detail.aspx?resource=P2gqej303LREYS1FC8GThy5x7dkal0eESTYDQqNZ3eg=">http://www2.coastalscience.noaa.gov/publications/detail.aspx?resource=P2gqej303LREYS1FC8GThy5x7dkal0eESTYDQqNZ3eg=</a></p>	<p>The PPG team reviewed this tool, but considered it not appropriate for the development context, given the extremely low level of capacity for resource management at provincial level in Tanintharyi at present. For example, there is very limited use of computers in the regional Forestry and Fisheries Departments, and the Fisheries Department lacks even boats for its operations.</p>	
<p>6. In component 1 and 2, STAP recommends defining how the project will address runoff, or pollution, from watersheds that may impact the status and sustainability of marine resources. It will be important to factor these issues into the component so that the boundaries of the terrestrial-marine systems can be defined and their management needs assessed.</p>	<p>The impacts of sector-based landuses (plantations and mining in particular) are addressed in Output 1.2: Sector-specific standards, safeguards and incentives to protect Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), HCV Forests and High Carbon Stock Forests (HCSFs), which links strongly to existing work on reviewing the practices and impacts of these sectors. This will focus especially on the plantation sector, which is the main cause of deforestation in Tanintharyi, through review of concession licences and mapping of HCVF in relation to proposed concessions. See also the response to point 4 above.</p>	<p>IV Results &amp; Partnerships – Component 1</p>

<p>7. The baseline narrative and global environmental benefits table synthesizes this information in a useful manner. STAP believes its contents can be improved in the following ways:</p> <p>i. Under land and seascape planning and management, the table and the baseline descriptions of on-going initiatives do not appear to be consistent always. For example, the table suggests the project will empower local communities to improve land and forest management, and biodiversity conservation. However, the baseline activities, suggest that Wildlife Conservation Society and the Smithsonian Institute worked with the Ministry of the Environmental Conservation and Forestry to strengthen local capacity on community forest management and biodiversity conservation in a variety of ways. STAP recommends describing how the project's interventions will contribute to these baseline activities.</p> <p>ii. For each selected environment benefit, STAP suggests defining indicators. Specifying how the benefits will be measured and tracked will strengthen this section and the incremental reasoning.</p> <p>A minor point is to reference the EX-ACT calculations (found in annex 1) on avoided greenhouse gas emissions in the table. STAP appreciates these estimates.</p>	<p>Point i) is presumably specific to the PIF. The project document provides a detailed description of the baseline scenario and baseline project including investments by WCS and SI in the landscape. It also discusses strategies to align these and employ current investments as a vehicle to integrated BD and ES issues while also promoting integrated approaches that secures land and sea connectivity.</p> <p>Point ii) the GEF BD, SFM and LD tracking tools annexed to the project document address this suggestion by providing quantified measures of PA management effectiveness, reduced carbon emissions due to avoided deforestation, etc. See Annexes 4a, 4b and 4c.</p>	<p>Annexes 4a,b &amp; c</p>
<p>8. On the potential for scaling-up the project's impacts, STAP wishes to see further details on this aspect in the full proposal. Currently, in the PIF there is some confusion as to whether the project is primarily to be geographically-focused on Tanintharyi, or will address integrated protected area management more broadly across Myanmar. In doing so, STAP recommends paying close attention to the following points:</p> <p>a. identify monitoring and evaluation methods to measure the scaling-up impact and process</p> <p>b. determine the cost-effectiveness of scaling-up</p> <p>c. detail how partnerships, mechanisms for policy dialogue and uptake, and effective communication between multi-stakeholders will be developed, and</p> <p>d. define how cross-sectoral learning will be encouraged and achieved</p>	<p>The project will focus on Tanintharyi Region. The PPG team also realized weaknesses in the PIF in this respect. With the resources available, the outstanding importance of Tanintharyi region for biodiversity conservation, and the scale and complexity of this project for the Myanmar context, a strong focus on Tanintharyi was deemed essential for this project. That said, the project strategy pays adequate attention to scaling up especially subsequent to a stage when the project achieves a point of sustainability in Tanintharyi itself under current very challenging circumstances.</p> <p>Thus, although primarily focusing on Tanintharyi region, the project incorporates aspects that contribute directly to the national level agenda on governance of natural</p>	<p>IV i Results ii Partnerships V Feasibility iv Sustainability and scaling up</p>

<p>This information will contribute to the knowledge management of the project, an important contribution to the GEF and the marine spatial planning community.</p>	<p>resources and protected areas, increasing the sustainability and scalability of its outcomes. A key part of the project baseline is the 10-year Strategic framework for “<i>Building the Foundation for Natural Resource Stewardship, for Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Development</i>” for 2015-2025. This aims to accelerate capacity development for better stewardship of natural resources, directly implementing needs identified under the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP, 2014).</p> <p>The project contributes directly to PA system-wide work, again providing good upscaling potential. Under Component 1, the project will establish the integration of key biodiversity areas (KBAs) and HCVPs/HCSFs in the regional PA system and land use planning and management, which is highly replicable in other regions. It will also introduce the “ridge to reef” approach, which will be critical in coastal regions such as Tanintharyi. By applying this approach at a sub-national level, the project will help inform development and implementation of national land use policies, which in turn contribute to the sustainable forest management framework at the national level. This directly implements part of the national vision for establishing priority corridors for biodiversity conservation<sup>22</sup> (for Tanintharyi Range Corridor and Tanintharyi Marine Corridor), and demonstrates tools and approaches for corridor implementation in the country.</p> <p>Coordination and synergy with the GEF 5 protected areas system project will be important for national scaling up, as this project aims to remove barriers constraining the expansion, management and sustainable financing of the national PA system.</p> <p>Cross-sectoral learning will be promoted by Output 4.1, which includes a Tanintharyi Land and Seascape Forum,</p>	
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<sup>22</sup> Wildlife Conservation Society 2013. Myanmar Biodiversity Conservation Investment Vision, Wildlife Conservation Society, Yangon, Myanmar.

	<p>providing an electronic means of communication, as well as three biennial conferences to share experiences between related CSOs, CBOs, projects as well as project proponents.</p> <p>See the results, partnerships and feasibility sections of the project document.</p>	
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<b>Responses to GEF Council Comments</b>			
<b>Comments from France</b>			
<b>Council Comments</b>	<b>Responses at PIF Stage</b>	<b>Responses at CEO Endorsement Stage</b>	<b>Reference in Project Document</b>
<p>Has the Government of Myanmar indicated its buy-in to this program? Has the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry indicated its buy-in to this program? Has the Tanintharyi Regional Government indicated its buy-in?</p>	<p>Yes, both the national and regional governments have been fully involved in project conceptualization and have full buy-in for the project objectives and outcomes. The project is submitted by the UNDP on behalf of the Government of Myanmar, in particular the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry (MOECAF). MOECAF officials in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Tanintharyi were fully involved in consultations for project concept development, including meetings in Nay Pyi Taw and Dawei. At the national levels, a series of thorough consultations at the Minister’s level as well as at the technical staff level was conducted over the period of 2 years. The regional stakeholder consultation meeting which was held in Dawei on June 18, 2014, was officiated by the Chief Minister of Tanintharyi and participants included a number of regional cabinet members, as well as technical officials, private sector and civil</p>	<p>Both the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MoNREC), as successor to MOECAF, and the Tanintharyi Regional Government participated in bilateral and multilateral consultations during the PPG stage, providing their support for project preparation and the final project document. The PPG validation workshop was hosted by the Tanintharyi Regional Government in October 2016. Both the national and regional governments are providing substantial in-kind financing for project implementation (\$3,000,000 each) as confirmed by the official letters in Annex 10.</p>	<p>Section IX, Annex 10</p>



	society representatives.		
How will this project fit into the GOB's current work on land use/development policy? Has there been any consideration of the land use policy that is currently being developed?	<p>Yes, the project design has fully considered the new National Land Use Policy which is in the process of finalization by the Government and the Parliament, after a series of national and regional level consultations since it was drafted in October 2014. The draft Land Use Policy covers a wide range of land related issues, including traditional rights, urban development, harmonization between land and sectoral laws such as forestry and agriculture. The policy draft includes mechanisms for community consultations for the development of plantation. The project will mainstream the principle of free, prior, informed consent for the adaptation of the new policy into the practice of land use planning at state, district and village tract level, as well as in the private plantation sector in Tanintharyi.</p> <p>In tandem, MOECAAF has started an initiative called the One Map Myanmar Programme to harmonize the spatial planning data required for land use planning at the national and regional levels. Two districts in Tanintharyi have been selected as pilot districts under the programme. Therefore the project work on biodiversity mainstreaming in land use planning in Tanintharyi will directly feed into</p>	<p>At the time of submission for GEF CEO Endorsement, the National Land Use Policy remains under review. Consultations with MoNREC, Tanintharyi Regional Government, the Karen National Union Fauna, Flora International and local communities examined land use planning issues during the PPG. As mentioned at PIF stage, the project will mainstream the principle of free, prior, informed consent for the adaptation of the new policy into the practice of land use planning at state, district and village tract level, as well as in the private plantation sector in Tanintharyi.</p> <p>The baseline analysis notes that MoNREC started an initiative called One Map Myanmar Programme to harmonize the spatial planning data required for land use planning at the national and regional levels with technical assistance from the University of Bern and financed by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) (CHF 1795203 for the first two years of 8 year initiative). Tanintharyi has been selected as a pilot region under the programme. The project will engage with this</p>	<p>Section II</p> <p>Section IVi Results</p>

	<p>the on-going Land Use Policy finalization and the One Map Myanmar Initiative.</p> <p>The full project preparation activities during the PPG period will take full account of the recent political and land tenure issues in the country, including impacts of the National Land Use Policy finalization and implementation, so as to further elaborate on the connection between the Policy and project.</p>	<p>initiative as part of its integrated approach to land use planning in the demonstration landscapes.</p> <p>Working Groups on Landscapes, Seascapes and Corridor will be established by the project to support the implementation of Integrated Land and Seascape Management under Components 1 and 2. These would be led by Landscape Coordinators from Forestry Dept (for Landscapes and Corridor) and Dept of Fisheries (for Seascapes) and will be aligned with existing initiatives, namely OneMap Myanmar, marine spatial planning with support from FFI, and the current government-led review of oil palm plantation licences. The Working Groups would provide substantive input to the development of project outputs on these subjects (i.e. land use plan for Myeik District, strategy for Protected Area development, community based planning for conservation areas, participatory resource use planning and livelihood support for the smallholder zone, and review of forest connectivity, plantation development and smallholder use of the Corridor Zone).</p>	
<p>Regarding Project Output 1.2 on the development of “sector-specific standards, safeguards and incentives to protect KBAs and HVCFs/High Carbon Stock Forests (HCSFs),” on which set of standards will</p>	<p>The intent of the project is to promote the adoption of sector specific national/regional standards and safeguards to protect KBAs, HVCFs/HCSFs, within the framework of existing international standards such as RSPO. Targeting sectors that have high impact on biodiversity loss and ecosystem integrity, the project aims to mainstream biodiversity in sector regulation and operation. The project preparation work with PPG will further investigate which sectors and existing national</p>	<p>Under output 1.2, the project will:</p> <p>Develop regulatory standards to safeguard KBAs, HCV Forests, other HCV habitats (e.g. reefs, seagrass beds) and HCSFs from production sectors, notably plantations (oil palm, rubber, other crops), mining, hydropower, fisheries and tourism.</p> <p>Establish a multi-Sector Standards Working Group, familiarize WG members with the principles and practices of land/seascape planning and</p>	<p>Results section IVi p27</p> <p>Annex 1 workplan</p>

<p>these new ones be based? With whom will these standards be developed? Will civil society/local communities play a part in the formation of these standards?</p>	<p>regulatory frameworks and standards the project could best exert influence on, looking at more in-depth at potential sectors including palm oil, rubber, tourism, extractives, fisheries and hydropower industries. In Tanintharyi, tourism could be important for protection of HCVPs, and there are standards already being defined through a major national ecotourism initiative being undertaken by MOECAP. Some of these sector specific standards could be tested during the project. The project will ensure that civil society organisations and local communities will be part of the work to develop standards and safeguards.</p> <p>As for the HVCF assessment, the project will use the global HCV standards used by the FSC and the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). The standard for High Carbon Stock Forest Standards is currently being finalized by the RSPO. Civil society organisations such as the project partner, Fauna and Flora International (FFI) are members of RSPO and participate in the finalization of the standard. The standard is expected to be adopted by RSPO this year and will subsequently be used for this project.</p>	<p>management, based on HCV approach; and make them responsible for facilitating the development of environmental and social standards for their respective sectors. Consultants experienced in the HCV approach will contribute to such training. The WG will consist of representatives from the relevant sectors and other members selected by the Regional Technical Advisory and Coordination Group including civil society representatives eg FFI (see addition to Outcome 1 text on p27).</p> <p>Relevant standards include the Round Table on Sustainable Palm Oil <a href="http://www.rspo.org/">http://www.rspo.org/</a> environmental standards for oil palm plantations (which could also be applied to rubber plantations), FAO standards for sustainable fisheries (linking with the proposed FAO/GEF MyCOAST project) - <a href="http://www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en">http://www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en</a> , Global Sustainable Tourism Council criteria for tourism <a href="http://www.gstcouncil.org/en/gstc-criteria-hotels-tour-operators-destinations/sustainable-tourism-gstc-criteria.html">http://www.gstcouncil.org/en/gstc-criteria-hotels-tour-operators-destinations/sustainable-tourism-gstc-criteria.html</a>. For the mining sector, guidance could be sought from the BGR Project “Sustainable Development of the Mining Sector in Myanmar”, which is a module integrated in the technical cooperation programme “Sustainable Economic Development” commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The project partner is the Department of Mines that has been integrated in MoNREC. The overall aim is the improvement of the quality of mining supervision and operations with respect to safety, social and environmental aspects. The first phase of the project is scheduled for a 2-year term, ending November 2017.</p>	
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<p>Will any communities and/or livelihoods be affected or displaced by the expected project outcome of “expand[ing] the Tanintharyi PA System from current 195,402 ha to 500,000 ha?”</p>	<p>This is highly unlikely. The government has now adopted a process of prior community consultation and any agricultural land, including shifting cultivation fallow land will be excluded from protected areas. Areas of forest or aquatic ecosystems with customary use can be zoned as traditional use zones based on the wildlife law. UNDP’s Social and Environmental Screening will be conducted as part of the project preparation work. The screening process will ensure that the project will have no negative social and environmental impacts, including unintended impact, mainstreaming the human-rights based approach and improving gender equality and women’s empowerment, and ensuring environmental sustainability of the project. Risks will be identified and mitigation measures will be developed to be integrated in project design for implementation and continuous monitoring and adaptive management. A chief challenge for the project and the conservation in Tanintharyi as a whole is the possibility of large scale development forcing people into the inland forests where the highest HVCs are. All these will be assessed thoroughly through the Social and Environmental Screening Process.</p>	<p>As explained at PIF stage. See SESP section of prodoc (Viii) and Annexes 6 and 14.</p> <p>During the PPG, consultations with the Karen National Union determined that they were concerned about the project’s inclusion of Tanintharyi Proposed National Park in view their desire to consider this area for resettlement of returning refugees and IDPs. Consequently, this area was removed from the project plans. The KNU also desires a strong community-based approach to conservation of forest areas, evident from the generally good condition of forest areas under its control in Tanintharyi. It is concerned about the risks of potential removal of villages from proposed protected areas, consequently the project has adopted a more flexible and adaptive approach towards protected area development than was evident in the PIF in order to ensure that sustainable community livelihoods are not impacted and to provide the option for community managed conservation areas.</p> <p>The project proposal includes a grievance procedure to cover for possible issues (see section Viii).</p> <p>In Component 2, Stakeholder Working Groups (SWGs) will be established for each proposed PA, eventually to become institutionalized as Forums within the governance system of the respective PAs; and Sustainable Development Committees (SDCs) set up for each Village Cluster (VCSDCs). SWGs should comprise representatives of local communities, CSOs, NGOs, research and educational institutions, private sector and other government agencies having an interest in the PA.</p>	<p>Section Viii, Annexes 6, 14</p>
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		<p>SDCs should be representative of villages within the cluster and include officers from the relevant government agencies, such as forestry, fisheries, rural development, agriculture and tourism. To the extent possible, SWGs and especially VCSDCs should be gender balanced and representative of different ethnic and age groups.</p>	
<p>What are some examples or projected activities of “innovative local incentive mechanisms to avoid loss of HCVF and promote sustainable land use” as noted under Project Output 2.3?</p>	<p>Types of incentives that can be considered include resource/area co-management, training, alternative livelihood support schemes such as conservation job creation and high value non-wood forest product development and marketing. Development of community forestry and agroforestry will provide an incentive for more sustainable land use, as well as the development of community based ecotourism. Smaller holder sustainable palm oil production following the RSPO principle may also be another area for support, to be investigated during the PPG</p> <p>Possible activities include i) the expansion of community forestry – a tested and popular mechanisms for diversifying permaculture in upland areas and protecting watersheds and biodiversity, ii) domestication of forest products such as elephant foot yam (tuber forms the raw material for Japanese and Chinese dietary foods - low calorie noodles and artificial meats, iii) smallholder oil palm production, iv) community tourism, v) expansion of popular agroforestry models, vi) hill permaculture.” In addition, given that main threat to forest is from agricultural activity displaced by the plantations, and so</p>	<p>Further to the response at PIF stage, Output 2.3 will be: <i>Capacity of communities developed within KBAs, HCV habitats, smallholder zones and corridors for integrated and sustainable management of land/seascapes, including community-based natural resource management.</i></p> <p>This output is process oriented, with the nature of the interventions varying with the broad land use zones identified during the PPG – Smallholder Zones, R2R Corridor, and the landscapes and seascapes centered around KBAs and proposed protected areas.</p> <p>The first step in all zones will be to undertake sustainability assessments of village clusters within land and seascapes, smallholder zones and R2R corridor to identify: threats to natural capital and HCV habitats within and surrounding village lands and fishing grounds; economic, social and environmental sustainability of existing livelihoods; and opportunities for improving sustainability of livelihoods, along with associated training and other needs. Assessments will inform village cluster plans.</p> <p>This will be accompanied by the establishment of Village Cluster Sustainable Development Committees (VCSDCs), comprising village</p>	<p>Section IVi Annex 1</p>

	<p>engagement with them on the freeing up of concession lands (likely fast draining areas and ridge tops) for local investment would also be important to consider.</p> <p>PPG will investigate various potential incentive mechanisms and develop concrete plans for project intervention.</p>	<p>representatives and government agencies, to coordinate development of sustainability plans and liaise with respective townships and districts regarding support from relevant sectors to support plan implementation.</p> <p>The third step is preparation of participatory 5-year Sustainable Development Plans for village clusters in R2R Seascapes, R2R Mangrove, R2R Corridor and Smallholder Zones, based on SLM principles and with provisions for: long-term security of tenure for smallholdings; improved economic and environmental sustainability of livelihoods through agri-environment, agro-forestry and fishery practices and enhanced diversification of livelihoods; and protection of surrounding HCV habitats from further fragmentation and degradation. These will be prepared within the wider framework of land uses zoned in the district level land use plans.</p> <p>The project will set up (or enhance existing) small grants programmes for village clusters (US\$ 50,000 per cluster of approximately 20 villages per year - smaller clusters in R2R Seascapes) to support implementation of Village Cluster Sustainable Development Plans (VCSDPs). Grants are to deliver conservation and sustainable livelihood outcomes; and to be available to Village Committees, individual smallholders and local CBOs and NGOs. The socio-economic outcomes will be monitored through a simple community-based system.</p> <p>Finally, village cluster enforcement networks will be established, using SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) technology that enables</p>	
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		villagers to report illegal activities to relevant authorities.	
The project document states that “it is envisaged that an increasing level of authority and responsibility will be decentralized to the regional and state governments, including natural resource management” (p. 7). How, specifically, will such authority be devolved to regional and state governments?	<p>Myanmar has been going through the “triple transition”: nation-building, including securing a sustainable peace with ethnic minorities; state-building, or democratizing and modernizing state institutions; and economic liberalization, moving the country from a closed, command economy to an open and transparent market. As part of the reform, the government has been focusing on more decentralized and people-oriented governance and administration.</p> <p>However, so far, the reform is slow and ad-hoc. No detailed plans for further decentralization and detailed policies for its implementation are expected to be finalized before the upcoming elections. However, some departments, e.g. the department of fisheries have been decentralized already to the state level. In Forestry sector, revenues from forest products previously collected for National Government is now partially transferred to state/region government. Still there is a plenty of overlapping jurisdiction between the national and regional authorities. Exact devolution modality is still to be worked out, particularly after the next election. The project will support local MOECAAF officials and other government agency staff in the early stages of devolution with relevant training, in the areas of interest such as village boundary</p>	<p>Further to the comments at PIF stage, decentralization is still in progress, but the new government took up office at regional level on 31 March 2016 and is now operational. The project’s primary concern is how to operationalize Integrated Land and Seascape Management (ILSM) through mainstreaming inter-sectoral coordinating mechanisms at the regional government level. See the ILSM capacity development scorecard baseline in Annex 12a for information on the current status.</p> <p>The National Land Use Policy (Jan 2016 draft) has provision for establishing a National Land Use Council, which will establish Land Use Committees in all regions, states and Union Territory, having the Chief Minister as its Chairman. Each region etc will establish Self-administered Division or Self-administered Zone Land Use Committees and District Land Use Committees, Township Land Use Committees, Village-tract or Ward Land Use Committees with appropriate representation (see paragraph 10(b)). Thus, it will be important for both this project and the proposed FAO/GEF MyCoast project to work within or link to these proposed structures/mechanisms.</p> <p>There is a “National Environmental Conservation Committee (NECC)” and “Vacant, Fallow and Virgin lands Management Committee” at Union Level, State/region level down to District,</p>	Section II Section VIII Annex 12a

	<p>mapping, establishment of community forests, and establishment of SMEs to develop local level capacity for natural resource management.</p>	<p>Township, Village tract and village level. The secretary of the NECC is from Forest Department. The Vacant, Fallow and Virgin lands management committee is chaired by GAD and the secretary is from Settlements and Land Records Department. The State/Regional Committee has authority to allow up to 50 acres (<math>\pm 20.24</math>ha) of vacant, fallow and virgin land for agriculture purpose. The objective is to achieve harmony and balance between economic development and environmental conservation across multiple sectors via the coordination efforts of the committees. The General Administration Department is responsible to lead and coordinate inter-agency task forces under the regional government, but has only just started work under the new government, thus is in need of technical assistance from this project.</p> <p>In the case of the present project, a Regional Technical Advisory and Coordination Group (RTACG) will be established: a small multi-disciplinary team of scientific/technical experts from government agencies, implementing partners and scientific/technical organizations, primarily to coordinate a holistic approach to project implementation, supported by sound science to achieve integrated land and seascape management that encompasses biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, sustainable land management, climate change adaptation and community livelihoods. Secondly, it will provide technical advice to the project, ensuring that the project interventions are technically sound and in keeping with Government of Myanmar and UNDP/GEF social, environmental and other standards. The Working Groups on Landscapes,</p>	
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		Seascapes and Corridor will provide technical support to RTACG on ILSM matters, and the RTACG can create additional issue-based WGs as needed. Township and Village coordination committees will also be established through Component 2 of the project to facilitate participatory land use planning.	
<b>Comments from Germany</b>			
Germany recommends considering a governance assessment of the PA system in Tanintharyi Division according to the IUCN methodology (PA Governance: From Understanding to Action, 2013) to be conducted in project component 1 as a baseline and to explore different governance options for the expansion of the PA system. This could also provide a good basis for interventions in component 2 with regard to enhancing management effectiveness and establishing shared	Thank you for the useful suggestion. We will closely review the IUCN methodology during the PPG phase, and explore how the project can support assessment, evaluation and improvement of governance system the Tanintharyi protected area systems and individual target protected areas in preparation for component 2 development.	<p>This suggestion is well in line with the NBSAP (2014) Target 11.2 <b>IUCN governance categories and management categories are recognized in policy and practice, which includes actions to:</b></p> <p>11.2.1. Conduct a review of opportunities for recognizing governance and management diversity, including ICCAs, within the current legal and governance framework, including forests, protected area categories, and other area-based conservation approaches;</p> <p>11.2.2. Recognize additional governance types and management categories using appropriate legal tools, including amendments of laws and revisions of implementing rules and regulations; and</p> <p>11.2.3. Pilot governance types and management categories by establishing co-management PA systems, recognizing ICCAs, and developing PA zonation.</p> <p>These will require attention primarily at national level through the Forestry Department, and the national GEF 5 protected area system project would be in the strongest position to lead on them. Therefore, the current project will need to</p>	Section IVi Results,  Section IVv S-S Cooperation  Annexes 1, 19

governance systems.		<p>collaborate with the GEF 5 project to review governance options for the extension of the PA subsystem in Tanintharyi Region including the proposed protected areas under the current project.</p> <p>It is currently proposed to develop a strategic plan for the Tanintharyi PA subsystem in Component 1, which will include a review of governance options. The strategy for expanding Tanintharyi's PAs subsystem (Output 1.4) should be based on the HCV approach, considering the distribution and status of KBAs, existing and proposed PAs including forest reserves and community managed areas (e.g. CFRs and LMMAs), and cultural heritage. Key considerations to be addressed in this strategy are: adequate representation of the Region's and Myanmar's biodiversity and ecosystems; application of relevant management categories<sup>2324</sup> and adoption of appropriate governance regimes<sup>25</sup> across the PAS subsystem; and provision of corridors and stepping stones to connect or re-connect biodiversity hotspots and refugia. It will be particularly important and timely to explore the full spectrum of governance options, given the recent history of the region and on-going post conflict negotiations between the Union Government and Karen National Union (KNU). This will include initial steps towards participation in transboundary conservation initiatives such as Dawna Tenasserim Landscape and investigation of the potential for Peace Park development (see</p>	
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<sup>23</sup> Dudley, N. (Editor) (2008). Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. x + 86pp.

<sup>24</sup> Day J., Dudley N., Hockings M., Holmes G., Laffoley D., Stolton S. & S. Wells, 2012. Guidelines for applying the IUCN Protected Area Management Categories to Marine Protected Areas. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 36pp.

<sup>25</sup> Borrini-Feyerabend, G., N. Dudley, T. Jaeger, B. Lassen, N. Pathak Broome, A. Phillips and T. Sandwith (2013). Governance of Protected Areas: From understanding to action. Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 20, Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. xvi +124pp

		South-South/Triangular Cooperation section and <b>Annex 19</b> ).	
More explicit reference should be made to coastal zone management and sustainable fisheries in component 1.	Noted. We will conduct further investigation, during the PPG, on how the project will be able to positively impact coastal zone management and sustainable fisheries. Project Document will also elaborate on the situation analysis on these subjects.	<p>During the PPG, specific attention was given towards the inclusion of coastal and marine areas in the project proposal, including a baseline analysis of coastal and marine issues (see Annex 15), and consultation with regional and national fisheries departments. This is now reflected throughout the project document, including the strategy, outcome, outputs and activities for Component 1. In addition, a capacity assessment was conducted for Tanintharyi Regional Department of Fisheries (see Annex 12c). The specific mangrove/coastal landscape and marine seascape have been described in the project strategy section and maps are given in Annex 18.</p> <p>The project also intends to coordinate with the proposed FAO/GEF MyCoast project on coastal area management and sustainable fisheries (Annex 20)</p>	<p>III Strategy, IVi Results, IVii Partnerships</p> <p>Fig 5</p> <p>Annexes 12c, 15, 18, 20</p>

**ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS<sup>26</sup>**

Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: \$150,000			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GEF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent To date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
Component A: Technical review	60,000.00	40,050.64	19,949.36
Component B: Institutional arrangements, monitoring and evaluation	30,000.00	20,025.32	9,974.68
Component C: Financial planning and co-financing investments	22,500.00	15,018.99	7,481.01
Component D: Validation workshops	15,000.00	10,012.66	4,987.34
Component E: Completion of final documentation	22,500.00	15,018.99	7,481.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>150,000.00</b>	<b>100,126.61</b>	<b>49,873.39</b>

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

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

<sup>26</sup> If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue to undertake the activities up to one year of project start. No later than one year from start of project implementation, Agencies should report this table to the GEF Secretariat on the completion of PPG activities and the amount spent for the activities. Agencies should also report closing of PPG to Trustee in its Quarterly Report.