



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)¹

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Title:	Iyanola - Natural Resource Management of the NE Coast		
Country(ies):	Saint Lucia	GEF Project ID: ²	5057
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	00900
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology - Sustainable Development and Environment Division	Submission Date:	08-03-2012
		Resubmission Date:	09-03-2012
GEF Focal Area (s):	BD, CC, LD	Project Duration(Months)	36
Name of parent program (if applicable): ➤ For SFM/REDD+	SFM	Agency Fee:	\$233,182

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK³:

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Indicative Financing from relevant TF (GEF/LDCF/SCCF) (\$)	Indicative Cofinancing (\$)
BD-1	Outcome 1.1: Improved management effectiveness of existing and new protected areas.	Improved management effectiveness and financial sustainability of existing protected areas encompassed within proposed Iyanola National Park area (5,090 hectares)	665,109	2,365,000
BD-2	Outcome 2.1: Increase in sustainably managed landscapes and seascapes that integrate biodiversity conservation.	Land Use Plan and enhanced regulatory framework for the NE Coast incorporates biodiversity and ecosystem services valuation. Production of biodiversity friendly goods and services	560,000	2,085,000
CC-5	Outcome 5.2 Restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks in forests and non forest lands	1,157 hectares forest lands restored, 200 hectares forest lands enhanced management. Projected annual tons CO ₂ savings of 23,056. Potential total carbon benefit of 691,689 tons CO ₂ over 30 years.	173,160	700,000
LD-2	Outcome 2.2	1,157 hectares forest lands	259,740	800,000

¹ It is very important to consult the PIF preparation guidelines when completing this template.

² Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

³ Refer to the reference attached on the Focal Area Results Framework when filling up the table in item A.

	Improved dryland forest management 2.4 Increased investments in SFM dryland forest ecosystems .	restored, 200 hectares forest lands enhanced management. 2 private forest concessions established		
SFM/REDD 1	Outcome 1.2: Good management practices applied in in existing forests.	1,157 hectares forest lands restored, 200 hectares forest lands enhanced management.	562,770	2,624,483
Project management cost (5%) ⁴			111,039	340,000
Total project costs			2,331,818	8,914,483

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: Increased management effectiveness and sustainable use of the North East Coast's natural resource base to generate multiple global environmental benefits.					
Project Component	Grant Type (TA/INV)	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Indicative Financing from relevant TF (GEF/LDCF/SCCF) (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
1. Enhanced Land use Planning and regulatory framework (as applied to NE Coast)	TA	Integration of ecosystems approach into legal and policy framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ecological considerations integrated into planning policies and regulations for development categories Land Use Plan for NE Coast/Iyanola, incorporating valuation of ecosystem goods and services Enhanced capacity of national and local leaders to uptake ecosystem services values considerations in planning. in decision making. 	\$260,000 BD-\$260,000	\$1,700,000
2. Enhanced sustainable land management and carbon benefits in	TA	Improved ecosystems restoration and management Restoration of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zoning plan for restoration of degraded forest areas NE Coast Restoration of degraded priority forest areas nationwide, enhancing 	\$995,670 CC-\$173,160 LD-\$259,740 SFM-\$562,770	\$4,374,483

⁴ GEF will finance management cost that is solely linked to GEF financing of the project.

deciduous seasonal and low montane rainforest zones		1,157 hectares of forest of global BD significance, enhancing carbon stocks Restoration efforts and avoided degradation lead projected annual tons CO ₂ savings 23,056. Potential total carbon benefit of 691,689 tons CO ₂ over 30 years.	connectivity in a 10,000 ha and a 5,090 ha overall areas), with potential total carbon benefit of 691,689 tons CO ₂ at the end of a 30 year period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitation of riparian, ravine, beach and migratory corridors of NE Coast/ Iyanola forest areas (200 ha) • At least 1 agreement negotiated for non government forest areas NE Coast/Iyanola • 2 private concessions established to raise revenue for FD • Research and Monitoring programme established for indicator species 		
3. Iyanola Conservation		Increased management effectiveness score of 20% for Forest and Marine Reserves in NE Coast. Population of threatened species (iguana, turtle, birds) maintained or increased. Increase capacity & income derived from tourism by 10% in NE Coast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced management effectiveness of 4 key NE Dry Forest Reserves (200 ha) • Boundaries set for Grande Anse and Louvet Marine Reserves • Management and sustainable financing plan established for Grande Anse Marine Reserve • Community based management plan for Louvet Mangroves • Develop business plan to promote new tourism and other income generating activities and enhance existing ones 	\$665,109 BD-\$665,109	\$1,600,000
4. Enhanced Capacity for the production of biodiversity		Reductions in pressure on biodiversity and forest ecosystem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove market, knowledge and capacity barriers for the community level production of 	\$300,000 BD-\$300,000	\$900,000

friendly goods and services in inland forest and coastal communities (National with emphasis on NE Coast)		services Producers adopt best practices for production of BD friendly goods	biodiversity friendly goods and services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess marketing potential for BD friendly goods and services Produce Guidelines for 3 BD friendly goods and services Pilot development of management plans and promotional strategies for 3 selected categories of products and services Community replication module Establish and implement national management system for sustainable production and sale of BD friendly goods and services 		
Project management Cost (5%) ⁵				111,039	340,000
Total project costs				2,331,818	8,914,483

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

Sources of Co-financing for baseline project	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Government	Government of St. Lucia (GOS) – includes bi- and multi-lateral grants (Aus Aid, EC, GIZ, and PPCR) managed by GOS	Cash: \$2,400,000 In-Kind: \$6,114,483	\$8,914,483
NGOS	Durrell Wildlife Trust, HERITAS, , Birdlife International, Fauna and Flora International, Saint Lucia National Trust	Cash: 50,000 In-Kind: \$50,000	\$100,000
CBOS	NICE, HOPE, BELFUND	Cash: \$50,000 In-Kind: \$50,000	\$100,000
Agency	UNEP	Cash: In-Kind: \$200,000	\$200,000
TOTAL		Cash: \$2,500,000 In-Kind: \$6,414,483	\$8,914,483

D. GEF/LDCF/SCCF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY¹

⁵ Same as footnote #3.

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal area	Country name/Global	Project amount	Agency Fee (b) ²	Total c=a+b
UNEP	GEF TF	Biodiversity	St. Lucia	1,286,364	128,636	1,415,000
UNEP	GEF TF	Land Degradation	St. Lucia	272,727	27,273	300,000
UNEP	GEF TF	Climate change	St. Lucia	181,818	18,182	200,000
UNEP	GEF TF	SFM	St. Lucia	590,909	59,091	650,000
Total Grant Resources				2,331,818	233,182	2,565,000*

* An additional \$135,000 to be requested for a GEF Project Preparation Grant from the BD STAR allocation.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

A.1.1 THE GEF FOCAL AREA/LDCF/SCCF STRATEGIES:

Biodiversity (BD) Strategy: The project will promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance of ecosystem goods and services through the improved management of ecologically sensitive areas of interest (particularly those outside protected area systems) towards long-term positive impacts in representation of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, and threatened species. The project will address **Strategic Objective 1** to improve sustainability of protected area systems through development of site specific management plans underpinned by strengthened management and monitoring effectiveness. **At the strategic outcome level**, the project will reduce the funding gap through the development and implementation of sustainable financing modalities.

The project will address **Strategic Objective 2** to mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors. **At the strategic outcome level** the project will seek to increase and expand sustainably managed landscapes and seascapes that integrate biodiversity conservation. In the project a significant underpinning will be maintaining economic livelihoods that are closely tied to maintenance of healthy ecosystems through improved natural resource management

Land Degradation (LD) Strategy: The project seeks to contribute towards arresting and reversing current trends in land degradation as aggravated by deforestation and unsustainable land management particularly in the more mountainous areas and other landscapes with fragile soils that are vulnerable to degradation. The project will address **Strategic Objective 3** to reduce pressures on natural resources from competing land uses in the wider landscape. **At the strategic outcome level**, the project will enhance the cross-sectoral enabling environment for integrated landscape management.

Climate Change (CC) Strategy: The project will address **Strategic Objective 5**, to promote conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management of land use, land-use change, and forestry by seeking to reduce pressure on forests, mangroves and adjoining lands. **At the strategic outcome level**, the project will promulgate the adoption of good management practices in LULUCF within the forest land and in the wider landscape. The project will furthermore, in conjunction with Land degradation and biodiversity objectives, advance uptake of good forest management practices, develop alternative livelihoods for sustainable use of non timber resources and innovative financing mechanisms.

The project will be consistent with the **Sustainable Forest management/REDD-Plus Strategy**, supporting management regimes that strengthen conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

A.1.2. FOR PROJECTS FUNDED FROM LDCF/SCCF: THE LDCF/SCCF ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES: N/A

N/A

A.2. NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS, IF APPLICABLE, I.E. NAPAS, NAPs, NBSAPs, NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, TNAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, ETC.:

UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): The project will contribute to achievement of the key objectives of biodiversity conservation of the Saint Lucia's 4th National Report including: mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation issues into land use planning. The project will prioritize promotion of co-management approaches to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, enhance capacity for data collection and monitoring (for both coastal/marine and terrestrial ecosystems), and build public awareness.

UN Convention to Combat Land Degradation (UNCCD). The Country Report on National Action Programme for St Lucia priorities of rehabilitation and restoration; increasing public awareness; development of successful model interventions; and promotion of environmental conservation in development and enterprise will be supported through targeted project activities.

UN Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC). The project will reforest and restore degraded lands with native species, and sustain the existing forest, including coastal dry forest habitats and mangroves, as outlined in St. Lucia's Second National Communication for the UNFCCC (2012). The project is consistent with the Policy directives outlined in Saint Lucia's National Climate Change Adaptation Policy and Strategy (http://www.climatechange.gov.lc/NCC_Policy-Adaptation_7April2003.pdf), particularly those relating to coastal and marine resources and Terrestrial Resources, Terrestrial Biodiversity & Agriculture.

St. Lucia has ratified **The Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region – Cartagena Convention:** and its supporting Protocols. Of particular relevance is the **Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region**, committing to protect, preserve and manage in a sustainable way: 1) areas and ecosystems that require protection to safeguard their special value, 2) threatened or endangered species of flora and fauna and their habitats, and 3) species, with the objective of preventing them from becoming endangered or threatened.

St. Lucia has ratified the **Ramsar Convention**, listing 2 sites. The Ramsar Convention's mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world".

The GEF National Portfolio Formulation Document (NPDF) for St. Lucia

<http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/document/FINAL%20DRAFT%20of%20NPDF%20January%2013%202012.pdf> was finalized in late 2011 on the basis of extensive consultations. The project proposed will contribute to at least 7 of the stated priorities (I, II(1,2,3), III, IV, V, VI, VII) as laid out under 3 of the focal areas (Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Land Degradation) -- with a Sustainable Forest Management Overlay and focused on the NE Coast – meeting a maximum number of global environmental priorities with incremental GEF resources.

B. PROJECT OVERVIEW:

B.1. DESCRIBE THE BASELINE PROJECT AND THE PROBLEM THAT IT SEEKS TO ADDRESS:

Background

The island of Saint Lucia, is a small volcanic island located at latitude 13o 59' N, and 61o W within the Eastern Caribbean, and its total land area is approximately 616 km², of which 77% is forested. The island possesses a high degree of diversity, not only in the ecosystems and habitats found on the island, but also in the variety of biological resources present, and the endemism of species found in the country. Biodiversity is important to the country for food, shelter, medicines, ecosystem services, sustainable livelihoods, agriculture and tourism industries and future untapped industries of the country.

The National Land Policy (NLP), approved since 2007 incorporates aspects of environment and natural resource management, however lacks the regulatory framework and guidelines needed to guide development in a manner that takes into a broad range of some times critical ecosystem services and important biodiversity . There is no National Land Use Plan, resulting in short sighted planning permissions being granted with little apparent attempt to avoid or mitigate adverse impacts to critical ecosystem goods and services. A National Land Use Plan is long overdue, however, budgetary constraints have precluded this from being included in the 2012-2-13 budget.

There are currently 12 Forest Reserves and 24 Protected Forests covering about 15% of the island. The reserves perform essential functions in safeguarding and regulating the island's water supply, preventing soil erosion and landslides, supporting the country's present and future renewable fuel supply and providing many services such as nutrient enrichment, and pollination through its wildlife species. Main threats are habitat modification and destruction. Habitat change is occurring at a rapid rate and is expected to increase even further in the future with the projected increase in hotels, marinas and golf courses earmarked for coastal regions, and an increase in housing and infrastructure which may impact dry forest areas.

In 2009, a participatory threat analysis was carried out to identify the main threats and pressures on forest biodiversity (Biodiversity Assessment of Saint Lucia's Forests, with Management Recommendations, Jennifer C. Daltry (Fauna and Flora International), 2009 - financed by the EC and Banana Industry Trust under the National Forest Demarcation and Bio-physical Resource Inventory Project). Chief among the threats were the ongoing degradation and loss of deciduous seasonal forests, mangroves and freshwater swamp forests to residential, tourism and other developments, alien invasive species; and, for a few species, over-exploitation. The analysis demonstrated that forests outside of the Forest Reserve system were approximately four times more at risk from severe threats than forests inside the reserves: a testimony to the effectiveness of the reserves management.

Iyanola is St Lucia's original name, means "the land where iguanas are found" – believed to refer to a once abundant population of the St Lucia iguana now restricted to the deciduous tropical dry forests of the North East Coast. The North East Coast is considered the last stronghold for many rare and endemic animal and plant species including the rare and endangered St. Lucia iguana. Birds (such as the white breasted thrasher and St Lucia nightjar) and reptiles (like the St Lucia iguana and leatherback turtle) are particularly well represented in this area, in addition to rare and restricted range plants. The habitats themselves – deciduous tropical dry forests, mangroves and xeric scrublands which threatened throughout the Eastern Caribbean – are best represented here.⁶

Priority marine ecosystems of the NE Coast comprise: 1) Grand Anse Beach and 2) Louvet Mangrove Marine. Both are designated Reserves, and adjoin private estates poised for development. Immediate

⁶ From Morton, M. N., Compton-Antoine, J. et al. 2009. Iyanola: Sustainable Development for the North East Coast of St Lucia. 2nd draft. Unpubl. report

threats include invasives, degradation of conch habitats, hunting of iguanas and turtles, dumping in mangrove areas, and sand mining. These Marine Reserves have not been mapped and therefore have an imprecise location, no identifiable boundaries, and no spatial dimensions. Furthermore, there is no current data on their status or condition; no active management, no enforcement of their statutory protection and no regime of inspection or policing. Planning permission for developments that will damage or destroy Marine Reserves has been granted with little apparent attempt to avoid or mitigate adverse impacts, whilst in other cases damaging activities are ignored by the relevant authorities. Management of forest, riparian, mangrove and marine areas is absent, and livelihoods options limited.

Iyanola National Park is one of the designated areas proposed in the Systems Plan which has not yet been approved. The area is documented as a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) and an Important Bird Area (IBA). Given the challenges afforded by ownership of lands within the proposed park, its future is uncertain. The proposed boundaries including privately held lands, covers an area of approximately 5090 hectares in the north east of the island and would serve to protect the only extensive area of undeveloped coastline remaining in St Lucia. This area encompasses most of the island's intact dry forest ecosystems and is critical to the continued survival of some of its most rare and threatened endemic species, most notably iguanas and turtles.

Overarching areas of concern in the context of GEF priorities, national and those specific to the NE Coast are:

- Land Use Planning. Lack of planned, guided and managed development of all types (residential, agricultural, touristic and access) which takes into account ecosystems goods and services.
- Lack of measures to ensure that areas of key global and national significance (forest, coastal and marine) are safeguarded, while taking into account development needs. Lack of follow up or financing for completed biodiversity assessment and priority setting exercises.
- Lack of sustainable options to reduce pressures on ecosystem services and goods.

The project will build on the following initiatives:

Land Use Planning. While there is widespread concurrence that a National Land Use Plan is long overdue, budgetary constraints have precluded this from being included in the 2012-2-13 budget. Piloting a forward looking land use plan for the NE Coast is viewed as a replicable precursor to the larger national land use planning exercise. A noted development priority is the construction of the Northeastern highway which will create a more direct link between the south of the island and international airport from the north and vice versa. The Government expresses its commitment to: "preserving the natural environment and will ensure that such a major initiative is supported by the necessary land use planning requirements to ensure sustainable, quality development in this region." A feasibility study led by the Caribbean Development Bank will be launched soon and in concert with the development of this project with a view towards capitalizing on offsets and environmental sustainable choices. Through the Physical Planning Department and with the support of the Sustainable Development and Environment Division, the \$1.2 million **Supporting the Eastern Caribbean States to Improve Land Policies and Management** project (9 countries), St. Lucia will ostensibly revise their National Land Policy based on the OECS Land Policy guidelines as well as improve Land Records. Also working with the Physical Planning Department, the \$27 million **St. Lucia Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR)** will support enhancement and application of the St. Lucian GIS system, enhancing use of the Geonode system, slope stabilization and watershed management efforts to specifically increase resilience to climate change, building bridges and roads in accordance with international best practice and building codes.

Management and carbon benefits in deciduous seasonal and low montane rainforest zones. As preliminary analysis of the carbon storage of Saint Lucia's forests was conducted as part of the earlier

referenced 2009 Biodiversity Assessment of Saint Lucia's Forests. The analysis showed that approximately 1.8 million tonnes are stored within the Forest Reserve and 1.2 million tonnes outside the Forest Reserve, with clear potential for the latter figure to increase by enabling young secondary forests to mature. The project will furthermore collaborate with the efforts of St Lucia Forest Restoration and Rehabilitation Project in restoration of forest reserves damaged by Hurricane Tomas in October 2010.

Conservation and Sustainable Management of Ecosystems. The project is closely aligned with the Forest Department's objectives to "meet the socio-economic, cultural, spiritual, and environmental development needs for forest goods and services, in ways that ensure their continued availability in the long term, through the conservation of soil, water, biodiversity, and biological resources." And is consistent with the threat analysis carried out with EC support of the 2009 National Forest Demarcation and bio-Physical Resource Inventory Project and will emphasize support to its first three priorities of:

- Within the Forest Reserves, establish and implement site management plans that integrate biodiversity conservation with other forest uses and services
- Make a concerted effort to safeguard important forests outside of the current Forest Reserves, with particular attention to deciduous and semi-evergreen seasonal forests
- Under the GEF project "Mitigating the Threats of Invasive Alien Species in the Insular Caribbean", St. Lucia has completed its National Invasive Species Strategy (NISS), Critical Situational Analysis and has drafted national IAS Legislation. Under the proposed project, management and control over the introduction and spread of alien invasive species that seriously endanger Iyanona's forests, marine reserves and their related biodiversity would be advanced.

The earlier referenced Biodiversity Assessment of St. Lucia's Forests, clearly identifies the Dry Forests of the NE coast in first place as the priority area with "very high" conservation importance, for intervention both within and outside of Forests Reserves.

St. Lucia's Marine reserves, number 24, and include the NE Coast reserves of Grande Anse and Louvet. These reserves are declared under the Fisheries Act Number 10 of 1984 for the purpose of protecting the natural resources contained herein. Building on the experience of the Soufriere Marine Management reserve which was supported through previous successfully completed GEF projects, the Fisheries Department and NGO partners are keen to replicate lessons learned in these designated reserves where little management exists. Project efforts will build on and in partnership with the work of the Durrell Wildlife Trust, St. Lucia National Trust and Fauna and Flora International (FFI).

Sustainable Use of Biodiversity. In response to economic challenges, St. Lucia's first and second priorities in its 2012-2013 Budget Statement are Job Creation and Construction Stimulus. Upon this baseline can be built opportunities to develop sustainable livelihoods. The Budget Statement commits to starting the process to create the institutional framework to guide the development of high growth segments of the tourism industry and modernizing the legislative framework for tourism. At the national level, a number of associations believe that there are opportunities to consistent with sustainable use of biodiversity which can complement and build on St. Lucia's important agricultural sector which dominates its economy. The following associations have indicated a willingness to provide the platforms from which to incrementally build on, including Rural Women's Network-Babboneau Cluster, Superior Broom Producers, Rural Women's Network- Micoud, St. Lucia Cooperative for essential oils and, St. Lucia Youth Agricultural Entrepreneurship Programme (YAEP), St Lucia Koudmen Sent Lisi, St Lucia Holistic Opportunities for Personal Empowerment (HOPE), St Lucia The James Belgrave Micro Enterprise Development Fund (BELFUND). Strengthening benefits to communities surround project interventions will underpin sustainability of all aspects of the project.

B. 2. INCREMENTAL /ADDITIONAL COST REASONING: DESCRIBE THE INCREMENTAL (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ADDITIONAL (LDCF/SCCF) ACTIVITIES REQUESTED FOR GEF/LDCF/SCCF FINANCING AND THE ASSOCIATED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ASSOCIATED ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF) TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT:

Without GEF interventions, land use planning would continue to undervalue biodiversity and ecosystem services in the planning and management processes. The GEF intervention will build on existing legal framework to develop appropriate supporting regulations and guidelines which integrate environmental sensitivities, priorities and sustainable management options in forest, coastal and marine ecosystems. In the absence of the possibility of a national land use plan, a pilot land use plan for an area of critical global significance would constitute an incremental building block to move towards this overarching goal. Without the GEF intervention the high biodiversity, priority forest, and marine areas of the NE Coast would continue to be degraded and imperiled by development initiatives which fail to take into account local, national and global environment considerations. A GEF intervention, focusing on prevention and informed decision making strengthens sensitive planning, conservation and management measures in lieu of ad hoc development and inaction. Building on anti-poverty initiatives, GEF support will permit testing of innovative sustainable use of biodiversity resources. Of particular emphasis is the opportunity to integrate biodiversity concerns and sustainable land use options into the forthcoming development scenario for the NE Coast (highway, tourism development).

Component 1. Enhanced Land use Planning and regulatory framework - as applied to NE Coast. (GEF: US\$260,000)

NATIONAL

- Ecological considerations integrated into national planning policies, regulations and guidelines for development categories (*as a complement to PPCR exercise on integrating CC considerations*).
- In the context of existing policies and regulations, assess viability of innovative options for biodiversity conservation non government lands, such as; BD offsets, land purchase, conservation easements, private nature reserve, conservation incentives, payment for ecosystem services, timber and NFTP production, tax incentives (to be piloted for NE Coast) in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and tax authorities, with a view towards exploring how prospective incentives can be legislated. This component will build on the experience obtained by the Ministry of Finance in the GEF supported Sustainable Financing of Marine Protected Areas Project, currently underway where they lead the Sustainable Fisheries component. The Ministry of Finance will be a major player in this component of the new project.
- Ecosystem valuation awareness and training modules tailored refined (work of WRI) and given to national and local community leaders.

NE COAST/IYANOLA

- Evaluation of ecosystem goods and services of the NE Coast, to generate data to prioritize areas of high biodiversity and ecosystem services value.
- Using existing GIS system and planning tools, eg. The Saint Lucia Integrated National GeoNode (SLING), input data to generate overlays to develop proposed zonation of the NE Coast, (modelling to be replicable for future national exercise).
- Land Use Plan for NE Coast incrementally incorporates ecosystem values and consideration of wildlife of global significance.
- Sustainable capacity for land use planning is being supported by a number of complementary co-financing efforts (see section B.6) which together with this project, would be carefully coordinated by the executants to maximize synergies. The GEF project builds incrementally on these approved projects to achieve real results on the ground by generating new data and learning by doing through application of tools and innovative mechanisms.

Component 2. Enhanced sustainable land management and carbon benefits in deciduous seasonal and low montane rainforest zones. Delivery of GEBs in through conservation and innovative sustainable use of dry forest, riverine, mangrove, coastal, and marine ecosystems of the NE Coast (GEF: US\$995,670)

NATIONAL

Together with AusAid effort, rehabilitate and restore 907 hectares within priority degraded natural forest areas with a view towards increasing habitat quality, ensuring wildlife corridors, safeguarding rare and endemic species and consistent with biophysical assessment. Recovery and rehabilitation areas targeted are (consistent with management recommendations of 2009 Biodiversity Assessment of St Lucia's Forests and further supported by the ongoing Biophysical Resources Assessment):

- Soufrieres/Quillesse Ranges (low montane to montane rainforest – approximately 620 hectares
- Castries Waterworks inc. Sorciere (low montane rainforest) – approximately 287 hectares (to establish connectivity with NE Coast Dry forests)

NE COAST/IYANOLA

- Develop a zoning plan for restoration of degraded forest areas in the NE Coast which are priorities for wildlife corridors and habitats of globally significant species.
- Restoration of forest cover along riparian buffer zones (100 meters) on public and private lands (approximately 250 hectares). Additionally forest cover to be maintained along ravines, along beaches (in the *Coccoloba* fringe where iguanas and hawksbill turtles nest), and along migration corridors for iguanas moving to and from their traditional nesting areas. Restoration of secondary and degraded deciduous seasonal forests in the IBA which features St. Lucia's endangered white breasted thrasher and black finch and most of the world's population of Saint Lucia nightjars and other endemic birds.
Restoration efforts are initiated in close coordination with local communities to maximize livelihood opportunities. Men are generally closely involved with replanting activities, whilst women are charged with nursery operations to ensure equal gender opportunities. In keeping with St. Lucia's adherence to IAS policy, appropriate native species are selected.
- Develop at least 1 agreement with local private landowners (Marquis (191 ha), Grande Anse (707 ha) or Louvet (294 ha)) to enlarge the effective area under protection. A top priority is to maintain contiguous forest cover to the iguanas coastal nesting areas. (options include: regulation, biodiversity offsets, land purchase, conservation easements, private nature reserve, conservation incentives, payment for ecosystem services, timber and non-timber forest products, tax incentives)
- Establish 2 public-private sector concession partnerships based on service concessions (eg. zip lining, birdwatching tours, hiking)
- Establish a research and monitoring program for the North East Dry Forests and selected wildlife indicator species in partnership with interested regional and international universities, non-governmental and community based organizations, and local communities. This would permit monitoring success of the restoration work in terms of positive impacts on key biodiversity components (e.g. endemic and or globally threatened species). Positive impacts might be measured as positive population trends or reproductive (e.g. nesting) success. Monitoring these impacts would allow restoration efforts supported by the project to be adapted to meet biodiversity goals. This activity would be Inclusive of a methodology to measure and monitor carbon stocks above and below ground and to explore option to use the nascent Saint Lucia Integrated National GeoNode (SLING)

Component 3. Iyanola Conservation (GEF: US\$665,109)

- Establish management demonstration areas in existing North East Dry Forest Reserves (approximately 200 hectares) focused on enhanced provisioning and accounting of ecosystem goods and services. Enable the recovery and long term conservation of these sites in the context of the wider dry forest landscape. These areas would protect all indigenous wild animals and plants, and prohibit hunting (with possible exception of pig hunting as part of an invasives control programme), and develop systems for the collection of non-timber forest products that are strictly regulated within sustainable limits (or possibly developed as part of component 4). All efforts will be spent to encourage enhancement of native seasonal deciduous forest but including localized clearings that may help create the low forests favoured by the rare Saint Lucia nightjar (*Caprimulgus rufus otiosus*). Complementary with Component 2, production of nurseries to produce seedlings for the planting of rare trees that naturally occur in this habitat, e.g., arkokwa, akoumat, and gayak (*Guaiaacum officinale*), would benefit these forests and the species concerned.
- Identify and map boundary for two Marine Reserves (and include under the list of Marine Protected Areas of the SPAW Protocol). Map buffers. Install demarcation and signage as well as produce informational literature.
- Develop a comprehensive management plan through participatory research for Grande Anse Marine Reserve, including opportunities for expanding research opportunities with universities, including management and control plan for invasives (opposums, mongooses, and other alien invasive predators) impacting forest and coastal species of global significance (iguana and leatherback turtle) and basic studies on hydrology, fish nursery potential and other bio-ecological functions.
- Develop and implement a community based management plan for the Louvet Mangroves
- Assess feasibility for low-impact, nature tourism local businesses (e.g, Bird watching tours to see endemic and endangered species of area; and boat rides in the mangroves). Develop and implement business plan to promote new tourism activities in the NE Coast. This activity to include: training and exchanges within country (e.g Soufriere). Assistance for small businesses and communities to implement activities would be advanced by working in partnership with St. Lucia's GEF Small Grants Program).

Component 4. Enhanced Capacity for the production of biodiversity friendly goods and services in inland forest and coastal communities (National with emphasis on NE Coast). Remove market, knowledge and capacity barriers for the community level production of biodiversity friendly goods and services. (GEF: US\$300,000)

Building on UNEP's experience with the GEF funded Andean Biotrade initiative, this component will be developed to identify and develop new enterprises having a positive impact on biodiversity of global significance. The success of biodiversity businesses in St. Lucia and indicators of biodiversity levels will be measured by the monitoring and verification protocols for the project. The component will further draw from tools developed under the SEED initiative, implemented in partnership with UNEP (see comparative advantage section).

NATIONAL (with at least one pilot in NE Coast)

- Assess marketing potential assessed for at least 3 biodiversity friendly goods and services (to be selected consultatively during preparation).
- Develop guidelines for at least 3 categories of biodiversity friendly goods and services, for example: Lianas - Awali (*Clusia* spp.); Pomdelien (*Passiflora laurifolia*) and Mauby (*Colubrina elliptica*): used for drinks; Lencens (*Protium attenuatum*): the exudate is used for religious purposes.

- Pilot development of management plans and promotional strategies for at least 3 selected categories of products and services, including capacity to assess, inventory and monitor BD indicator species.
- Replication of successes through Producer Associations and Community sharing events.
- Establish a national management system for biodiversity friendly goods and services - a one stop resource to assist communities in identifying viable natural resources for sustainable use, provide business and marketing assistance and monitoring guidance.

This component will:

Establish the enabling environment for the management of the sustainable use of local biological resources to provide biodiversity friendly goods and services for sustainable livelihoods, i support initiatives that a) promote the fair and equitable distribution of the benefits arising from biodiversity, and b) include within their management plans protocols that guarantee the conservation of ecosystems and the sustainable use of the products they extract from them. These criteria will constitute preconditions for eligibility to receiving support; ii provide training on issues regarding management and quality for key actors and the adequate dissemination of information on products to promote a better management, using the criteria of conservation and sustainable use proposed by the CBD and adopted through the UNCTAD biotrade criteria; iii Promote protocols that allow for the extraction of biological resources for medical, pharmaceutical and nutritional use in line with the principles of biotrade and the CBD, and to encourage markets that provide incentives for an extraction that applies the same principles of conservation, sustainable use and just distribution of benefits; and iv Promote adequate protocols of use to guarantee positive environmental externalities proceeding from the conservation of the ecosystems from which these products are derived and the consequent conservation of their biodiversity in accordance with the biotrade guidelines.

Execution Arrangements. The project will be led by the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology's Sustainable Development and Environment Division. Specific execution responsibilities are foreseen, by component (see Stakeholder Table) which will be further elucidated during the project preparation phase,

Global environmental benefits (GEBs).

Specific Global Environmental Benefits under the GEF Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation (including SFM) and Sustainable Forest Management focal areas can be summarized as follows:

Biodiversity (and SFM): Incorporation of biodiversity and ecosystem services into land use planning will improve the management and regulate the use of biodiversity in productive sectors, particularly tourism development. The improved management and restoration of degraded forest areas, will stem habitat loss and degradation thereby safeguarding habitat for forest plants and animal species of global significance, including migratory species and thereby improving ecosystem services provided by the forest; increase the management effectiveness of forest of high priority conservation value and restoration of high value mangrove ecosystems. The project will increase conservation and management effectiveness of coastal marine habitat and ecosystem of Grande Anse, of global importance to the St. Lucia iguana, and leatherback turtle, whilst also addressing threats posed by invasive alien species. The reduction of pressure on forest ecosystems will also occur through the development of markets for biodiversity friendly sustainable goods and services. Through the development of alternative livelihoods, including agroforestry and non timber forest products, pressure on forest resources will be relieved while providing opportunities for generation of income in remote coastal communities hard hit by the economic downturn and loss of tourism revenues.

Climate Change (and SFM). Adoption of sustainable forest and land management techniques, and restoration efforts will result in enhanced resilience to climate change, rebuilding and conservation of carbon stocks and a reduction in emissions from forest deforestation and degradation. In terms of carbon benefits, the estimates are based on 2009 inventory data for St. Lucia. The carbon benefits of the project are estimated at an annual sequestration of **23,056 tons CO₂**, with a potential total carbon benefit of **691,689 tons CO₂** at the end of a 30 year period.

Land degradation (and SFM): Improved provisioning of ecosystems services through restoration of riparian buffer zones, resulting in erosion and sediment control benefits, water quality benefits, flood control -- with contributions to carbon sequestration through forest restoration, sustainable forest management, and improved land use planning and management.

Costing and Cost Effectiveness. Project approaches discarded regarding the 3 components of the project:

- Piloting land use planning for the NE Coast is cost effective with scale up potential, a national land use planning effort is not economically feasible at this time.
- Focus on protected areas only would limit the possibility of interventions in privately held areas which feature habitat and species of global biodiversity significance.
- Grassroots options to address head on the staggering unemployment are a win-win economic and ecological strategy for meeting the needs of the St. Lucian people in a manner sensitive to the rich biodiversity of the country. Human capital will drive the success of the innovations in sustainable use of biodiversity.

B.3. Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the Project at the national and local levels, including consideration of gender dimensions, and how these will support the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF). As a background information, read [Mainstreaming Gender at the GEF](#):

The proposed project is designed to have socio-economic benefits for local communities. Protection and sustainable management of forest and marine biodiversity resources will not only serve to maintain marine and forest produce-related enterprises but will open new opportunities to diversify traditional local economies and support local microenterprises and tourism. Local communities and women’s groups would be involved in the designing and implementation of national interventions to ensure their equitability and sustainability. Many of the suggested biodiversity friendly goods, non timber forest products suggested for initial focus have traditionally been dominated by women. Socio-economic indicators will be developed to measure the impact of improved management of timber resources and ecosystem services, together with increases in income for targeted communities and replication efforts. Restoration efforts offer gender neutral opportunities by involving women in nursery operations. As part of this effort, disaggregated gendered impacts of increased income generation will be tracked as part of the M & E system. The lessons learned, marketing and innovative successes of the Components 3 will be shared at regularly inter-community venues to encourage (gender) replication, and will have a positive and sustainable impact on women.

B.4 Indicate risks, including climate change risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design:

RISK	Risk Level (L-low, M-Medium, H-High)	Risk Mitigation Strategy
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Capacity of the national executing agencies overstretched or compromised by limited personnel, resulting in inadequate support to the project	M	Required expertise will be supplemented through partnerships with non-governmental and community based organizations. Synergies will be built on similar initiatives in communities to enable the pooling and maximum use of resources. These are identified in the stakeholder table.
Environment and regulations are in place but monitoring and enforcement remain weak	M	Project will include capacity building for environmental management and monitoring at the local and national levels, including CBOs and NGOs – and specifically at sites/areas of GEF interventions. Co-management /participatory approaches will be undertaken in implementing activities
New regulations and guidelines for land use planning and enforcement thereof may meet with resistance	M	Consultative processes and citizen recourse are stipulated in a number of legislative acts including the Land Use Planning Act. Project will ensure adherence to robust consultative processes outlined in existing legislation that will work on overcoming challenges.
Intensified storms due to climate change	M	Replanting with native species, and integrating resiliency into forest and mangrove management. The proposed GEF project is concurrent with \$27 million PPCR project whose focus is to build CC resiliency and associated capacity

B.5. Identify key stakeholders involved in the project including the private sector, civil society organizations, local and indigenous communities, and their respective roles, as applicable:

Stakeholders	Role
Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Development and Environment Division Forestry Department 	Lead overall Executing Agency Co- Executing Agency for Component 2
Ministry of Physical Development, Housing and Urban Renewal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Planning Division 	Co-Executing Agency for Component 1
Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries and Rural Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisheries Department 	Co-Executing Agency for Component 2
Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Creative Industries	Cooperating Agency
Ministry for Social Transformation	Cooperating Agency
Ministry of Infrastructure, Port Services and Transport	Cooperating Agency
Ministry for Commerce, Business Development, Investment and Consumer Affairs Office of Private Sector Development(OPSR)	Cooperating Agency Cooperative Agency
St. Lucia National Trust	Partner

Durrell Wildlife Trust	Partner
IICA	Partner
Birdlife International	Partner
Fauna and Flora International	Partner
Employment initiatives	Partner
Producer Associations	Private Sector
Tourism Ventures (e.g ziplining)	Private Sector
Local communities & assoc. groups (eg. Des Barras Sea Turtle Watch Group)	Partners

B.6. Outline the coordination with other related initiatives:

A number of other initiatives are either on-going or planned for which there will need to be coordination. These include:

☒ **St Lucia Forest Restoration and Rehabilitation Project.** This < \$1M project is funded by the Government of Australia and intended to restore forest reserves damaged by Hurricane Tomas in October 2010.

☒ **St Lucia GEF Small Grants Program** is in the process of being established and will provide a particularly supportive interface for community level activities. Several meetings have taken place already to strategize a possible sub-focus on the NE Coast as a possible consideration for SGP programming prioritization.

☒ **St. Lucia Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) & DVRP:** This \$27 M program is being developed as targeted programming for different types of vulnerable groups. Elements of relevance and cooperation to the proposed GEF project include discrete targeted land use planning, enhancement and application of the St. Lucian GIS system, enhancing use of the Geonode system, slope stabilization and watershed management to increase resilience, building bridges and roads in accordance with international best practice and building codes.

☒ **St Lucia Coastal Habitat Mapping Project** was undertaken in Saint Lucia under the European Union-Special Framework for Assistance Project and was guided through a participatory process involving the Cabinet-authorized Coastal Zone Management Advisory Committee (CZMAC). The outcome of efforts has been to produce a digital database of coastal habitats and resources *“to establish the basis for better informed planning, development and management decision making in respect of Saint Lucia’s coastline.”* The data have been integrated into a flexible spatial database that can adapt to changing information technology requirements. The resultant database is compliant with other GIS systems, Saint Lucia’s national GIS and/or future Spatial Database Infrastructure or information management systems on the island.

☒ **St Lucia North West Coastal Conservation Project** was undertaken by the GOSL with funding support from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Objective was to measure the impact of continued pressure from residential, commercial and industrial development on the environment of the Choc Watershed and Coastal shed and establish an environmental Management System approach to achieve environmentally sustainable development. Data were collected on aspects, impacts, objectives targets and environmental performance indicators within the Choc system. These data and indicators provide a platform on which particular methodologies for determining coastal setbacks and work related to sea level rise.

☒ **St Lucia Youth Agricultural Entrepreneurship Programme (YAEP)** is sourced from the CARICOM Development Fund and the Government of Saint Lucia. The main purpose of this project is to establish an entrepreneurship incubator programme geared at involving at least 150 young entrepreneurs in agriculture.

☒ **St Lucia Koudmen Sent Lisi** (under the National Initiative to Create Employment - NICE) Food and hygiene product assistance as well as Small Enterprise Training and Development and Joint Employment.

☒ **St Lucia Holistic Opportunities for Personal Empowerment (HOPE)**. Community based employment opportunities, training and capacity building, project management monitoring and evaluation.

☒ **St Lucia The James Belgrave Micro Enterprise Development Fund (BELFUND)** was established by the Government of St. Lucia, primarily to promote sustainable development through self-help micro enterprise projects for individuals, families and groups among the less privileged sectors, through the provision of low cost loans, enterprise training, technical assistance and other support services.

☒ **REGIONAL - The Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management Project (CRew)** is a four year project that will focus on piloting revolving financing mechanisms, appropriate waste water management technologies and related wastewater management reforms in the wider Caribbean region (WCR). The project, which is being funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), is managed and implemented by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP).

☒ **REGIONAL - Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS**. A recently approved project under preparation will focus on the implementation of an integrated approach to water, land and ecosystems services management, supported by policy, institutional and legislative reforms, and implementation of effective appropriate technologies to accelerate contribution to global targets on access to safe and reliable water supplies and improved sanitation, and contributing to improved ecosystem functioning in the Caribbean. In St. Lucia, will focus on the Soufriere watershed. The project, which is being funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), is managed and implemented by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

☒ **REGIONAL - Sustainable Financing and Management of Eastern Caribbean Marine Ecosystems**. This regional project which includes St. Lucia, is funded by the GEF and implemented by the World Bank through The Nature Conservancy. Its purpose is to improve the management of existing and expanded marine protected area networks through the establishment of sustainable financing mechanisms. It is largely focused on setting up the financing mechanism and piloting in one MPA only in Saint Lucia, Soufriere.

☒ **REGIONAL - USAID/OECS Climate Variability, Change and Mitigation Project**: The USAID climate change support for the countries in the Eastern Caribbean will complement overlapping initiatives it previously supported under its biodiversity support to the region. Based on analysis gathered from two broad stakeholder workshops held in St. Lucia and Barbados, two critical areas were identified as requiring special attention. These are coastal zone management and resilience and freshwater resources management.

☒ **REGIONAL - GIZ Project 1 - Improving the Management of Coastal Resources and the Conservation of the Marine Biodiversity in the Caribbean Region**: This is one of two initiatives the German Agency for

International Cooperation (GIZ) is preparing for the region to address terrestrial and marine resources management. At the regional and national level, the project focuses on strengthening the capacity of stakeholders through a common institutional framework for integrated coastal management and the strengthening of management of marine protected areas (MPA) in the Caribbean Region.

☒ REGIONAL GIZ Project 2 - Enhancing the adaptive capacity of rural economies and natural resources to climate change in selected Caribbean small island and low lying coastal developing states:

Additional resources have been committed for a complementary project on the management and protection of land based natural resources and agricultural production systems of the Caribbean small island and low lying coastal states.

☒ REGIONAL - Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) project on Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Land Management in the Eastern Caribbean: This 3-phase project is to be funded by the European Commission and will run parallel to the GEF proposal. During phase one, a comprehensive gap analysis will be carried out to assess the institutional preparedness and the technical and human capacity level in the land management domain of the OECS Secretariat and each member state. During phase two, the gaps and the weaknesses identified in phase one will be addressed and dealt with. During phase three, the project will support the implementation of those segments of National Land Management Policies dealing with climate change adaptation measures. Within this phase, the project also intends to identify a set of SLM physical investment best practices in relevant sectors and replicate them through pilot or demonstration projects possibly in each Member State.

☒ REGIONAL – Supporting the Eastern Caribbean States to Improve Land Policies and Management:

This project AusAid funded, to be executed by Habitat is under preparation and will run concurrently. The project will: build capacity for regional institutions on inclusive and consultative; adopt and operationalize OECS Land Policy guidelines; develop National Land Policies and implementation tools based on the OECS Land Policy guidelines and adapted to national conditions (inc. St. Lucia); improve Land Records, and enhance understanding of sustainable land management in regard to climate change and climate variability

☒ REGIONAL - The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspots as implemented by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) is a US\$6.9 million grant fund to support civil society's contribution to biodiversity conservation in eleven Caribbean islands for 2010-2015. The CEPF is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and the World Bank. The goal of the CEPF is to support the work of civil society in developing and implementing conservation strategies, as well as in raising public awareness on the implications of loss of biodiversity. St. Lucian civil society organisations are eligible to receive CEPF.

Key project staff have been consulted and made aware of the development of the GEF-5 priority project for St. Lucia. Updates will be regularly provided through reporting to the St. Lucian GEF Operational Focal Point, UNEP/CAR RCU communications, and the Bi-annual Regional Donor round table organized by the European Commission in Barbados.

C. DESCRIBE THE GEF AGENCY'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT:

UNEP's comparative advantage derives from its mandate to coordinate UN activities with regard to the environment, including its convening power, its ability to engage with different stakeholders to develop innovative solutions and its capacity to transform these into policy- and implementation-relevant tools. UNEP's comparative advantages in the GEF are aligned with its mandate, functions and Medium Term Strategy and its biennial Programme of Work (2012- 2103). The proposed project is consistent with the

Ecosystem management thematic priorities outlined in UNEP's Medium-term Strategy. This proposed project is in line with UNEP's role in the GEF to catalyze the development of scientific and technical analysis and advancing environmental management in GEF-financed activities. In particular, the project further complements UNEP's aim to promote specific methodologies and tools that could be replicated on a larger scale by other partners.

Based on the experience of working with social and environmental enterprises, SEED - Supporting Entrepreneurs for Environmental Development Initiative -- has developed specific tools. One of these allows an initiative to assess what is needed to make its social and environmental business successful; another covers effective building and maintenance of partnerships. A wiki (www.entrepreneurstoolkit.org) is designed for social and environmental entrepreneurs to share their knowledge and experience with others. SEED is a global partnership for action on sustainable development and the green economy. Founded by UNEP, UNDP and IUCN at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, SEED supports innovative small-scale and locally driven entrepreneurships around the globe which integrate social and environmental benefits into their business model. The goal of SEED is to support the ability of such entrepreneurs to scale up or replicate their activities. UNEP's implementation of the GEF supported Andean Region Biotrade project is also generating experiences upon which to build.

UNEP's programmatic efforts build capacity of stakeholders to generate scientifically credible information required for integrating an ecosystem service approach into national economic and development frameworks. UNEP's Ecosystem services and economics (ESE) work is geared towards developing a knowledge base and, promoting understanding on how ecosystems relate to human well-being and development along three main areas: Economic valuation and natural wealth; Payments for ecosystem services (PES) and equity; and institutional approaches for the sustainable use of and access to ecosystem services.

The project will also benefit from the recognized expertise of the **Caribbean Environment Programme Regional Coordinating Unit/Secretariat** to the Cartagena Convention in matters related to the marine and coastal environment and in working in a multi-lingual environment, as well as its expertise in implementing the Cartagena Convention and particularly its SPAW Protocols. CAR RCU's specialized **Regional Activity Centre** for the Implementation of the Protocols on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife is located in Guadeloupe and supported by the Government of France. The project will include this specialized technical RAC in its networking and coordination activities, in any stakeholder and partnership arrangements.

C.1 Indicate the co-financing amount the GEF agency is bringing to the project: Cofinancing amount the GEF agency is bringing to the project/ The rationale on why such amount is in line with the Agency's role.

As Saint Lucia is a signatory of the Cartagena Convention and its SPAW Protocol, the project will benefit year round through training opportunities offered on a regional basis. Training is typically provided to build technical and managerial capacity for marine protected areas. St. Lucian marine reserves could be included under the list of protected areas of the SPAW Protocol thereby benefiting from cooperation programs in the future. UNEP's overall Regional Seas Programme has substantive experience in the mangroves sector, the publication "Pacific Island Mangroves in a Changing Climate and Rising Sea" providing a wealth of best practice to draw from in the design of this project. Furthermore, lessons can be drawn from the Spanish funded, UNEP implemented project 1) "Integrated Coastal Management with special Emphasis on the Sustainable Management of Mangrove Forests in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua" and (ii) EU & Spain funded Mau Forest ecosystem programme in Kenya, where institutional capacity, governance and community livelihood approaches are piloted. Opportunities for

synergies with UNEP’s recently approved GEF project entitled “Standardized Methodologies for Carbon Accounting and Ecosystem Services Valuation of Blue Forests” will also be explored. Support will be provided by UNEP’s Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI) Terrestrial Unit & Biodiversity Unit, in design of participatory forest management, ecosystem restoration, supervision of overall project implementation, strengthening of outreach and communications, developing and adapting forest management tools/governance structures e.g. inter- ministerial/NGO/community working group for forest governance, etc. DEPI has forestry expertise to coordinate these efforts. UNEP’s relevant baseline of work to implement such a project includes production of the 2010 World Atlas of Mangroves and Billion Tree Campaign, both of which featured St. Lucia and the UNEP publications of SIDS & Green Economy, REDD+ “Forests in a Green Economy”. The UN-REDD Programme offers opportunities for dialogue between governments, civil society organizations and technical experts, ensuring that REDD+ efforts are based on science and take into account the views and needs of all stakeholders. The project can benefit by accessing methodologies, common approaches, analyses, methodologies, tools, data and guidelines that facilitate REDD+ readiness work supporting country actions on REDD+ and linking forestry (including mangroves) activities with the carbon market and the global REDD process.

C.2 How does the project fit into the GEF agency’s program (reflected in documents such as UNDAF, CAS, etc.) and staff capacity in the country to follow up project implementation:

The project fits well within the UNDAF priority for OECS countries entitled “Environment, Energy, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction” which includes the aim of enhancing capacity to effectively manage natural resources.

The proposed activities and outputs directly address several of the UNEP Programme of Work Priorities including: Output: 321 - National-level capacity for assessing biodiversity critical to ecosystem functioning and resilience is developed. Output 323 - Integrated marine management mechanisms are developed and networks of Marine Protected Areas are promoted to increase the sustainability of fishing and the stability of coastal and marine habitats. Output 331 - Tools and methodologies for valuing ecosystem services are developed, pilot tested and incorporated into national systems for accounting, planning, and management (six countries).


UNEP supervision of the project is to be carried out by UNEP/DEPI-GEF staff posted in UNEP’s Regional Office for North America (UNEP/RONA) in Washington DC. UNEP supervision will be further enhanced by technical staff located in UNEP’s Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNEP/ROLAC) in Panama City, Panama, and UNEP’s Caribbean Environment Programme (UNEP/CEP) in Kingston, Jamaica, and in UNEP’s headquarter staff in Nairobi, Kenya.

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

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

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Caroline Eugene	GEF Focal Point	Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology – St Lucia	07/25/2012

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

<p>This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF criteria for project identification and preparation.</p>					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	DATE (MM/dd/yy yy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Maryam Niamir-Fuller, Director, GEF Coordination Office, UNEP		September 3, 2012	Kristin Mclaughlin	202-974-1312	Kristin.mclaughlin@unep.org