



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

GEF/C.59/06
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December 7 – 11, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Agenda Item 06

**WORK PROGRAM
FOR GEF TRUST FUND**

Recommended Council Decision

The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.59/06, Work Program for GEF Trust Fund, approves the Work Program comprising 60 projects and 2 programs, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by January 11, 2021.

Total resources approved in this Work Program amounted to \$409.2 million which include GEF project financing and Agency fees. The Work Program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs), Program Framework Documents (PFDs), and Non-expedited Enabling Activity: [See Annex A]

With respect to the PIFs and Non-expedited Enabling Activity approved as part of the Work Program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs and Non-expedited Enabling Activity (i) is, or would be, consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures, and (ii) may be endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the GEF Agency, provided that the final project documents fully incorporate and address the Council's and the STAP reviewer's comments on the Work Program, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.

With respect to any PIF and Non-expedited Enabling Activity approved in this Work Program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If there are major changes to the project objectives or scope since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.

With respect to the PFDs approved as part of the Work Program, the final child project documents fully incorporating and addressing the Council's and STAP reviews shall be circulated for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement/approval.

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THE PANDEMIC AND THE GEF WORK PROGRAM

1. The Covid-19 pandemic continue to exert significant and unprecedented impacts on all aspects of life globally, with severe economic and social hardships.
2. As more information and science reveals, it is clearer than ever that the fundamental solution to the COVID-19 crisis and its prevention have to include transformational change in how natural systems and human systems interact, with a view to restore balance and ensure planetary health. The GEF has already been pursuing the goal of systems change throughout GEF-7 to help continued human prosperity within planetary boundaries. COVID-19 strengthens GEF's strategy providing much sharper focus on the need to protect and restore the integrity of ecosystems as a central requirement for sustainable economic development.
3. As governments and society strive to deal with the pandemic's massive toll, the GEF partnership has worked over the past several months to ensure that its work is not critically disrupted, and that it can adapt to the rapidly changing situation, thereby integrating responses to COVID-19 into GEF's business processes as needed.
4. Since June 2020, the GEF partnership has been investigating how the effects of the pandemic, including risks, impacts, and opportunities can be properly integrated into the business of the GEF. To support this effort, the GEF Secretariat has called on the collective expertise of a COVID-19 Response Task Force¹, promoted in-depth surveys and close dialogues with agencies, and developed a guidance framework that has helped project proponents better incorporate pandemic considerations into project design and preparation.
5. To support these efforts, an interactive discussion session was held with the GEF Agencies to share and discuss the COVID-19 response guidance well before the project submission deadline for the December Work Program. The guidance was well received, and it worked synergistically with similar frameworks being adopted by the agencies, thereby contributing to building a best practice approach tailored for the GEF on this novel issue for the entire partnership.
6. Project managers at the GEF Secretariat were instructed on how to review projects counting with the additional guidance on COVID-19, ensuring that all projects and programs submitted for consideration by the Council had taken into account the risks and opportunities of the pandemic on the project outcomes being proposed. The results of the detailed COVID-19 review of projects can be found in the individual reports for each project included in this Work Program in Annex B.
7. Among the operational considerations included in projects, it is possible to highlight the following:

¹ Task Force White Paper has been presented to council as an information document

- Most projects will be considering some form of virtual engagement for the stakeholder engagement processes and other critical meetings needed for the design and preparation of projects for CEO endorsement
- The limitation on travel is pushing many agencies to look for and use local technical expertise to adapt to difficulty of travel of consultants. In some cases, agencies are collaborating on creating a pool of available expertise and sharing this information so other agencies can have access to this local capacity
- Many agencies are re-evaluating expected project co-financing and examining the possibility of targeting public COVID relief funding as co-financing if relevant
- Many agencies are also looking to move the execution of project to local government entities that are closer to the project areas

8. On a more strategic level, agencies are also aligning project objectives to play a central role in the mitigation of the impacts of the pandemic or contributing to the prevention of future pandemics. Examples include:

- Some projects are ensuring that nature-based solutions are promoted when and where relevant as a measure to mitigate future pandemics.
- Many projects are focusing on engaging and supporting local communities in project activities to mitigate the widespread economic impact created by the pandemic.
- Projects are incorporating green recovery and resilience principles in project design and strategies to ensure that GEF investments can contribute to “building back better”.
- Some projects are testing alternative revenue generating opportunities (including Payments for Ecosystem Services) to diversify income for local communities that have lost livelihoods

9. There is a significant degree of confidence that the projects and programs submitted to this Work Program have conducted proper due diligence. In many cases, it is possible to identify innovative thinking incorporated in the proposals that will hopefully ensure that projects are not only managing the new risks created by the pandemic but also contributing to the prevention of future pandemics. Please see the complete list of COVID-19 project design considerations in Annex B.

WORK PROGRAM PREPARATION AND THE PIPELINE OF PROJECTS

10. At the deadline for project submission for the December 2020 Work Program, 74 projects and 3 programs were considered “eligible²” for review and consideration. Additionally, 12 NGI concepts were assessed as part of the 3rd Call for Proposals.

Table 1. Pipeline of Projects and Programs Considered for the December 2020 Work Program

Project Type	PIFs and PFDs in the Portal by review deadline ³	Technically cleared and included in the WP # (%)	Technically cleared and not included in the WP # (%)	Rejected # (%)	Not ready for technical clearance # (%)
PIF	74	58 (78%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	16 (22%)
PFD	3	2 (67%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	0 (0%)
NGI	12	1 (8%)	0 (0%)	10 (84%) ⁴	1 (8%)

11. The final list of 60 projects (including NGI) and 2 programs included in the Work Program was derived from this initial pipeline. More than 78% (58 projects) of the 74 projects were technically cleared by the review deadline and were included in the Work Program. Sixteen projects (22%) were not ready for clearance at the time of Work Program composition for reasons that include the need for further technical review of concepts by the agencies and missing or improper documentation. These projects will be considered in the pipeline of projects for the June 2021 council meeting or for a future Work Program, until the closure of the GEF-7 cycle.

12. Three programs were considered for the Work Program. As indicated in Tables 1 and 2, two programs were cleared and included in the Work Program (FOLUR addendum 3, and GEFID 10710 “Yangtze River Basin Biodiversity Conservation Programme”). One program (GEFID 10719) was rejected after careful review and discussion with the agency.

13. Twelve NGI concepts were submitted and reviewed as part of the call for proposals. Of these only one project was deemed competitive, and hence cleared to be included for consideration by the Council in the Work Program. One project may be considered in a future Work Program. The remaining 10 concepts were rejected as they did not meet the NGI program criteria for impact, innovation and technical soundness.

² Eligible in this case indicates projects that were submitted by agencies by the deadline, along with projects that were already in the portal from previous Work Program submissions, but that were not ready for clearance at that time. This list excludes projects that have been rejected from previous Work Program cycles.

³ This number includes new submissions as well as submissions from previous review cycles that may or may not have been updated by agencies.

⁴ This high rate of rejection is due to the high competitive nature of review process of NGI concepts and the relatively limited amount of GEF-7 resources for NGI projects.

Table 2. Distribution of Projects Not Cleared for the December Work Program

Total Number of Projects not Ready for Technical Clearance	Focal Area					
	BD	LD	CC	IW	CW	MFA
16	1	1	1	1	2	10

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE WORK PROGRAM

14. The December 2020 Work Program contains 62 projects and programs for a total request of \$376.5 million from the GEF trust fund and \$32.7 million in associated Agency fees. This total of \$409.2 million corresponds to 11% of the resources made available in the GEF-7 replenishment cycle. The Work Program is accompanied by an indicative \$2.1 billion in co-financing, meaning that each dollar provided by the GEF, \$5.6 in co-financing are expected to be provided by other sources. The Work Program presented for Council consideration includes all projects and programs that were technically cleared by the GEF Secretariat by the deadline (Table 1).

15. The December 2020 Work Program, the fifth in the GEF-7 cycle, inaugurates the second half of programming in the 7th replenishment. There has been good progress on all programming fronts, including STAR and non-STAR funding reaching 72.7% at the 62% timeline mark of this four-year cycle. This Work Program includes various strategic projects addressing important priorities of the GEF-7 Programming Directions document.

16. Three multi-trust fund (MTF) projects combining resources from the LDCF with the GEF Trust Fund are included. The MTF projects are being presented to both the GEF Council and LDCF/SCCF Council for approval of respective portions to enable coordinated project preparation and implementation.

17. The Work Program contains the 3rd Addendum to the FOLUR Impact Program, likely the final one in GEF-7.

18. The Work Program includes one project from the 3rd Call for Proposals of the Non-Grant Instrument (NGI) window for blended finance, seeking funding of \$14.2 million. As in previous Work Programs, the call for proposals resulted in a significant demand, resulting in a highly competitive batch of concepts for consideration and review.

19. The International Waters and the Chemicals and Waste focal areas are prominently figured in this Work Program with many important programs and projects. Their share of GEF-7 programming against their nominal allocations is slightly ahead of the timeline with 64% and 65% respectively at the 62% timeline mark of GEF-7.

20. The Work Program presented for Council consideration includes all projects and

programs that were technically cleared by the GEF Secretariat by the deadline (Table 1).

21. If approved, a total of \$273.0 million from the Biodiversity (BD), Climate Change (CC), and Land Degradation (LD) Focal Areas will be programmed in this Work Program. The Work Program includes a request of \$67.1 million from the International Waters (IW) and \$54.9 million from the Chemicals and Waste focal areas. Finally, the Work Program also contains \$14.2 million from the NGI allocation in GEF-7.

22. If approved, 87 recipient countries will benefit from GEF support across the globe, including 32 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and 19 Small Island Developing states (SIDS).

23. The proposed Work Program is estimated to deliver results on all 10 core indicators and benefit more than 25 million local people in project areas.

24. This cover note outlines important aspects of the proposed Work Program, including programming trends in the GEF resources relative to focal area strategies and objectives, distribution by regions and GEF Agencies, and highlights of innovative elements inherent in the programs and projects. The Council is requested to review and approve the Work Program for the total resources requested (see Annex A for the financial details of the PIFs, PFDs, and Non-expedited Enabling Activity).

KEY FEATURES OF THE GEF RESOURCES REQUESTED FOR THE WORK PROGRAM

25. The Work Program presented here is requesting a total of \$409.2million from all five focal area envelopes (Table 3) and from the NGI funding window.

Table 3. GEF Resources Requested in the June 2020 Work Program

Focal Area	Resources Requested (\$ millions)			Percentage of Total GEF Resources Requested in this Work Program
	GEF Project Financing ⁵	Agency Fees ⁶	Total GEF Resources Requested in this Work Program	
Biodiversity	172.3	14.8	187.1	45.7%
Climate Change	34.8	2.7	37.5	9.3%
Land Degradation	44.7	3.7	48.4	11.8%
International Waters	61.5	5.6	67.1	16.4%
Chemicals and Waste	50.2	4.7	54.9	13.4%
NGI	13.0	1.2	14.2	3.5%
Small Grants Program	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Total	376.5	32.7	409.2	100.0%

⁵ Project financing excludes PPG funding and PPG Agency fee.

⁶ Agency fees are calculated at 9.5% or 9% of the GEF Project Financing for projects requesting up to \$10 million or above \$10 million, respectively. Agency Fees also includes fees associated with PPG.

26. Biodiversity is the focal area with the highest proportion of resources being programmed in this Work Program (46%). Additionally, International Waters and Chemicals and Waste also have high proportions of the programmed resources, allowing them to increase their overall GEF-7 programming which was behind other focal areas (16% and 13% respectively). Finally, resources programmed for NGI represent 4% of this Work Program.

27. The 62 programs and projects in the Work Program encompass the full scope of the GEF-7 Programming Directions approved in June of 2018, contributing to the delivery of global environmental benefits through a wide range of themes.

28. The five focal areas are represented by 59 stand-alone (excluding NGI) projects as described here:

- (a) The Biodiversity focal area resources amount to \$187.1 million and are programmed in 18 single focal area projects, 14 multi-focal area projects, and one program. Examples of BD focal area projects include work to mainstream biodiversity in the agroforestry and fishery sectors in São Tomé and Príncipe, and to improve the ecosystem health and conserve the biodiversity of the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta Ramsar site in Colombia
- (b) Climate Change Mitigation is represented by six single focal area projects (including one Non-expedited Enabling Activity), five multi-focal area projects, and one program for a total of \$37.5 million of the focal area resources. Investments will focus, for example, on the promotion of cleantech innovation for climate action in Senegal and to accelerating the adoption of electric mobility in Thailand.
- (c) The Land Degradation focal area is represented by four single focal area projects and 13 multi-focal area projects for a total of \$48.4 million. Projects include combating land degradation through integrated and sustainable range and livestock management to promote resilient livelihoods in Northern Punjab, and to improving the land management of seven islands in the Bahamas in order to enhance climate resilient food production across productive agricultural landscapes.
- (d) A total of \$54.9 million has been allocated from the Chemical and Waste focal area to seven single focal area projects and two multi-focal area projects. Investments include the promotion of circular economy in the textile and garment sector through sustainable management of chemicals and waste in Ethiopia, and the phasing out of mercury measuring devices in the healthcare sector.
- (e) The International Waters focal area utilizes \$67.1 million and is represented in eight single focal area and one multi-focal area projects. The Work Program includes a project safeguarding globally significant resilient coral reefs in key areas around the world, and another that will strengthen the management of marine protected areas in critical areas in the Mediterranean Sea.

29. The Food Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program was approved by the 56th

Council in June 2019. The global program originally included 18 countries across five continents. An addendum to the Program was approved by the 57th Council in December 2019 adding five new countries, followed by a second one approved by the 58th Council in June 2020 adding four new countries. This supplemental PFD is requesting approval for one additional country, Madagascar. The addition of Madagascar represents an expansion in the coverage of globally important geographies and commodities under the IP, building upon the 27 countries already approved and contributing to both scale and sustainability. With Madagascar included, the geographic coverage of coffee production landscapes in Africa is increased by a country that holds critical crop genetic diversity and demonstrated potential for sustainable, equitable sectoral development. Notably, Madagascar is one of the 34 global biodiversity hotspots, and the forests of this large island nation harbor a high number of endemic, endangered or vulnerable plant and animal species that are of outmost importance to the world's biodiversity and to the resilience of globalized food systems. The inclusion of this new country also captures further potential for private sector engagements, which will contribute to the FOLUR IP's reach and impact. With these additions, the FOLUR IP will include 28 participating countries.

30. As part of this session's Work Program, the NGI Program is submitting one innovative NGI project that is specifically designed to address the impacts of COVID-19 on the energy access sector in Africa. The project was selected during the third competitive call for proposals in which the GEF Secretariat evaluated twelve proposals totaling US\$ 149.3 million. Through this investment the GEF aims to support the Off-Grid Recovery Platform, an innovative financial mechanism that seeks to provide fast-tracked flexible financing to energy access companies that are hard hit by the COVID-19 crisis. The project seeks to uphold the significant progress made by clean energy access companies in Africa to date, providing them with immediate access to financing to prevent a "reverse energy transition" that could jeopardize the significant climate mitigation benefits that have been delivered by the energy access industry across the African continent.

STATUS ON THE USE OF GEF-7 RESOURCES

31. The Work Program provides for a diverse programming of resources relative to GEF-7 allocations (Table 4 and Figure 1).

Table 4. Resources Programmed under GEF-7 by Focal Area

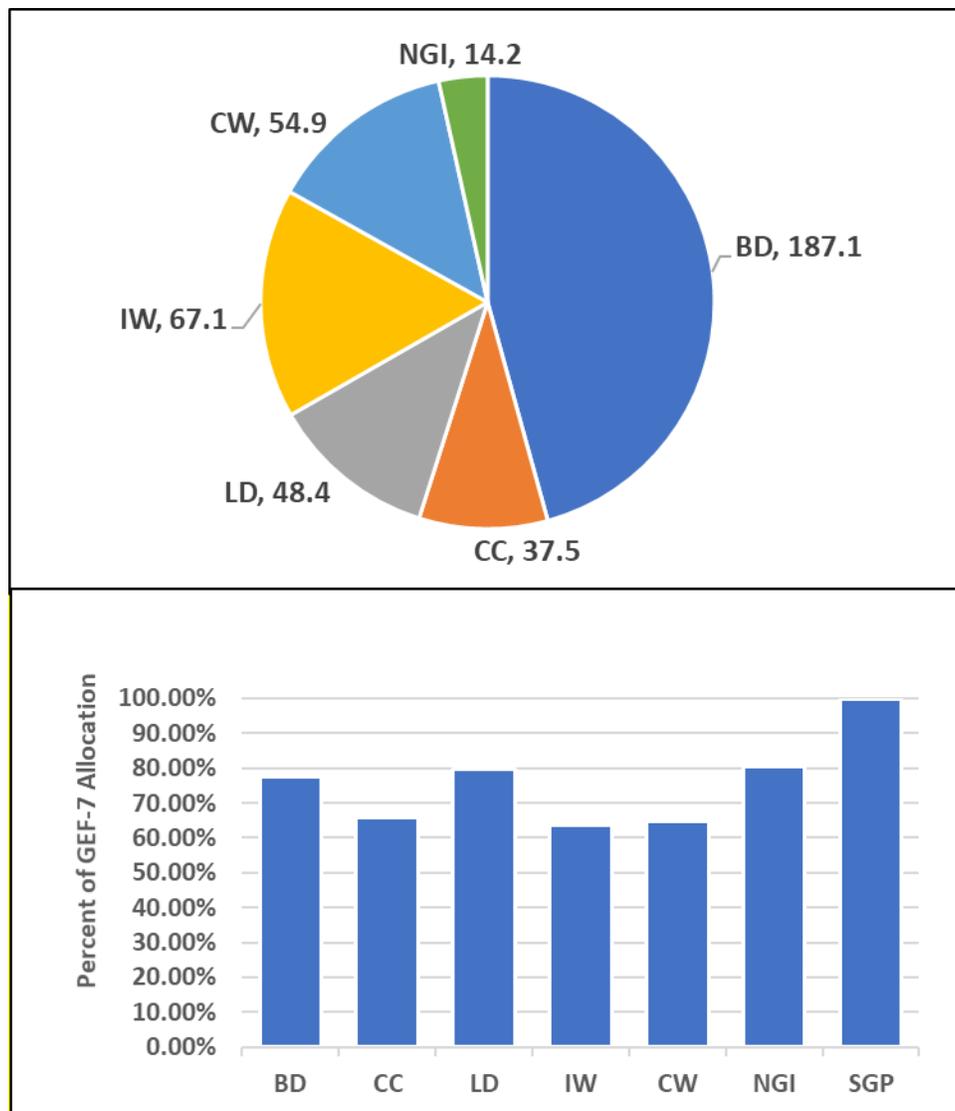
GEF-7 Focal Area/Theme	Target Allocations in GEF-7 Amount (\$ million)	Resources Requested for June 2020 Work Program Including Fees (\$ million)	Total GEF-7 Resources Programmed (including June 2020 Work Program) Including Fees (\$ million)	Percent of Original Focal Area Target Allocation in GEF-7
Biodiversity	1,292	187.1	1,001.3	77.5%
Climate Change	802	37.5	529.1	66.0%
Land Degradation	475	48.4	379.6	79.9%
Chemicals and Waste	599	54.9	388.4	64.8%
International Waters	463	67.1	295.2	63.8%
Non-Grant Instruments Program	136	14.2	109.3	80.4%
Small Grants Program	128	0.0	128.0	100.0%
Total Resources Programmed⁷	3,895	409.2	2,830.9	72.7%

32. Overall, close to 73% of GEF-7 resources have programmed at the 62% timeline mark in GEF-7 (Table 4, Figure 1). If this Work Program is approved as presented, all Focal Areas will be ahead of the timeline with programming ranging from 64% for International Waters to close to 80% for Land Degradation. Over 80% of the NGI funding allocation would also have been programmed, as well as the totality of the GEF-7 core SGP allocation.

33. Seventy-five recipient countries requested a total of \$269.2 million (inclusive of fees) from their respective country allocations for projects and programs addressing objectives of the Biodiversity, Climate Change Mitigation and Land Degradation focal areas.

⁷ The targeted allocations in GEF-7 in this table exclude the Country Support Program (\$21 million), and the Corporate Budget (\$151.9 million) which were all part of the total GEF-7 replenishment of \$4.052 billion.

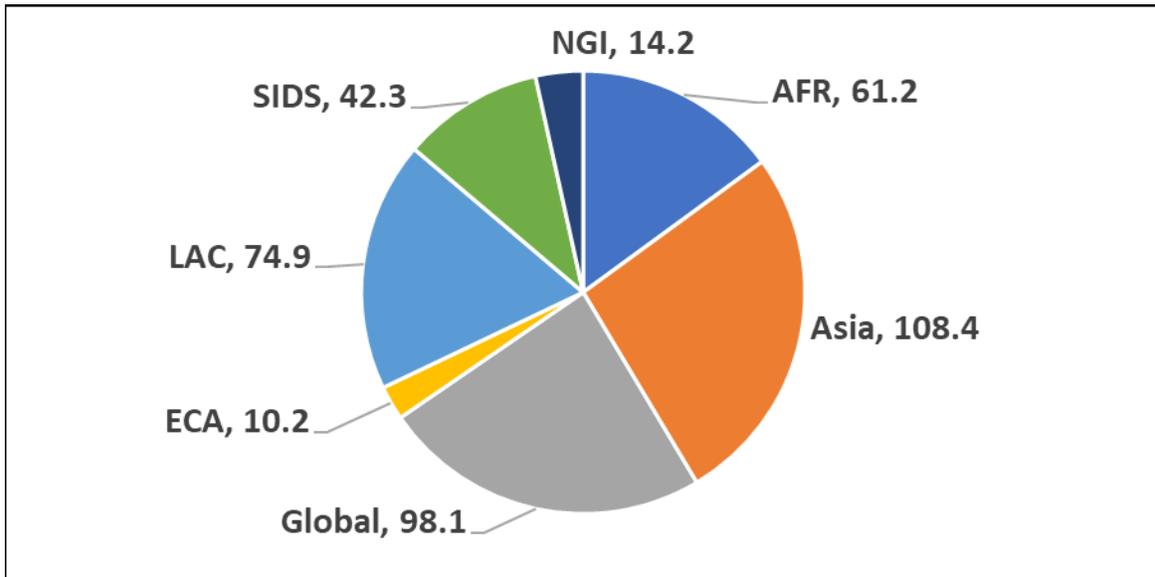
Figure 1. Top: Resources Programmed under GEF-7 by Focal Area in the December 2020 Work Program. Bottom: % of Focal Area Resources Programmed to Date Against GEF-7 Allocations including December 2020 Work Program (in million \$)



DISTRIBUTION OF GEF PROJECT FINANCING BY REGION

34. The regional distribution of GEF financing in this proposed Work Program is shown in Figure 2. In all, 87 recipient countries will benefit from this Work Program, including 32 LDCs and 19 SIDS. Asia leads in this Work Program with \$108.4 million programmed. Latin America and Africa follow with \$74.9 million and \$61.2 million, respectively. Finally, SIDS and ECA follow with smaller amounts programmed (\$42.3 million and \$10.2 million). The resources programmed for global projects and programs include a large SGP STAR-based project and the FOLUR Addendum among others.

Figure 2. Distribution of GEF Project Financing in the December 2020 Work Program by Region (\$ millions)



DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES BY AGENCY

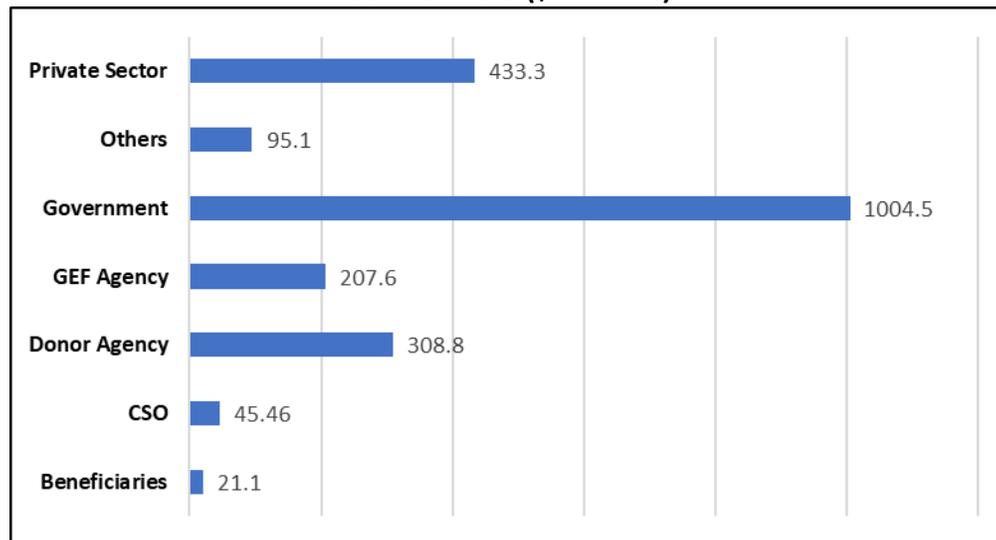
35. Twelve of the 18 GEF Agencies are represented in the December 2020 Work Program (Table 5). UNDP has the highest proportion of resources programmed (45.0%), followed by FAO (17.5%), and UNEP (9.6%). The remaining 28% was split among the remaining nine agencies with projects in this Work Program. In GEF-7 to date, 16 of the 18 agencies have received resources. UNDP, the World Bank, FAO, and UNEP have received the highest proportion of GEF-7 resources, varying from 15% to slightly over 30%.

Table 5. Amount of GEF Resources by Agency in the December 2020 Work Program and in GEF-7 to Date (including December 2020 Work Program)

Agency	Resources Requested in December 2020 Work Program Including Fees		Total GEF-7 Resources Inclusive of December 2020 Including Fees	
	\$ millions	% of resources	\$ millions	% of resources
ADB	8.8	2.2%	30.7	1.1%
AfDB	14.2	3.5%	45.7	1.6%
BOAD	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%
CAF	0.0	0.0%	20.5	0.7%
CI	22.8	5.6%	147.9	5.2%
DBSA	0.0	0.0%	5.1	0.2%
EBRD	0.0	0.0%	21.6	0.8%
FAO	71.6	17.5%	445.0	15.7%
FECO	0.0	0.0%	1.9	0.1%
Funbio	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%
IADB	9.0	2.2%	30.4	1.1%
IFAD	7.7	1.9%	26.8	0.9%
IUCN	16.8	4.1%	73.8	2.6%
UNDP	183.8	45.0%	914.8	32.3%
UNEP	39.2	9.6%	417.4	14.7%
UNIDO	13.4	3.3%	121.3	4.3%
World Bank	3.8	0.9%	467.2	16.5%
WWF-US	18.1	4.4%	60.7	2.1%
Totals	409.2	100.00%	2,830.9	100.0%

36. The Work Program totals \$ 2.1 billion of expected co-financing, or a ratio of 1:5.6. In terms of the type of co-financing, the “investment mobilized” co-financing category represents \$1.4 billion (64%) of the total co-financing, or an overall co-financing ratio of “investment mobilized” of 1:3.5 for the Work Program. The distribution by co-financier shows most co-financing coming from governments, the private sector, and GEF agencies (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Distribution of Co-financing in the December 2020 Work Program by Co-financiers (\$ millions)

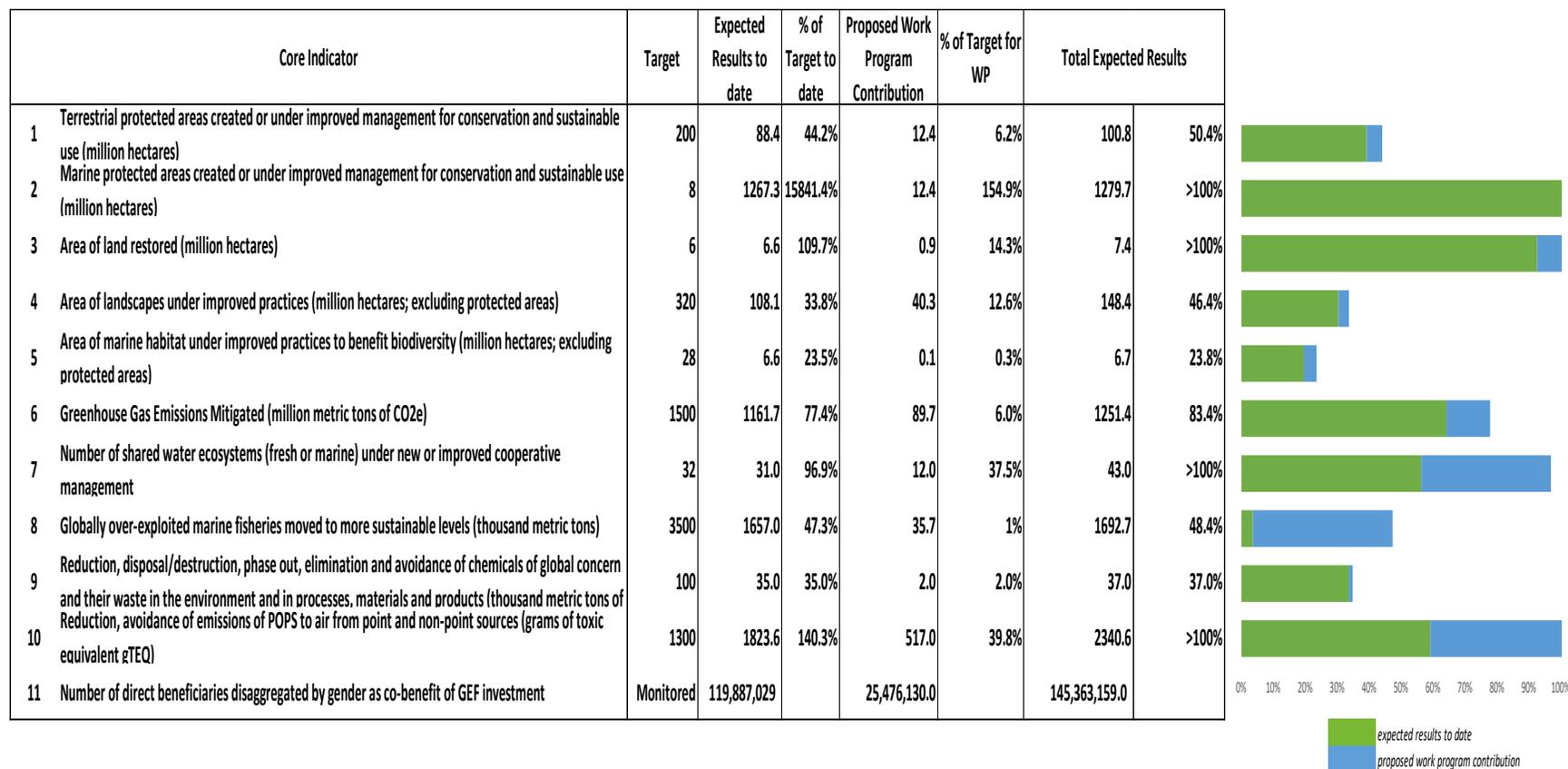


RESULTS AND IMPACT FOR THE WORK PROGRAM

37. The proposed Work Program will deliver a highly impactful set of results across all 10 core indicators and is projected to benefit a significant number of people in the countries where the GEF resources will be invested (figure 4). Overall, the Work Program will deliver significant results on indicators linked to International Waters and Chemicals and Waste, furthering their expected results closer to the GEF-7 goals. For International Waters, indicators 2 (marine protected areas), and 7 (improved management of shared water ecosystems), are benefiting significantly with this Work Program, with significant contributions to each target being expected from the proposed projects and programs. For Chemicals and Waste, close to 40% of indicator 10 (reduction and avoidance of POPs) is expected from this Work Program. Considering the timeline mark of 62% for GEF-7, the progress on delivering integrated results across all core indicators is satisfactory overall, although extra focus on the delivery against a few of the indicators will be made in the coming Work Programs. Finally, this Work Program is estimated to directly benefit close to 25 million people.

38. All full-sized projects considered gender dimensions in their initial design and included measures to mainstream gender. Most projects described strategies to ensure gender-responsive stakeholder consultations and provided information on plans to carry out gender assessments and to complete gender action plans in project development. In addition, many projects have already identified potential entry points to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment and 98 % indicate that they expect to address gender gaps such as (i) improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance; (ii) targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women; and (iii) contributing to equal access to and control of natural resources of women and men. Moreover, all projects included estimated information on the number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender, and 97 % of the projects plan to develop sex disaggregated and or gender sensitive indicators.

Figure 4. Delivery of Global Environmental Benefits against GEF-7 targets for Core Indicators in December 2020 Work Program⁸



WORK PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Programs

FOLUR Addendum 3

39. **Global.** *Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program 3rd Addendum* (GEF ID #10726) Agency: FAO; GEF Program Financing: \$9,874,117; Co-financing: \$65,000,000. This Impact Program was originally approved by the 56th Council in June 2019 with 18 countries across five continents. An addendum to the Program was approved by the 57th Council in December 2019 adding 5 new countries, followed by a second one approved by the 58th Council in June 2020 adding 4 new countries. This supplemental PFD is requesting approval for one additional country, Madagascar, with \$10,762,788 of GEF resources requested (including agency fees) and FAO as the Implementing Agency. This would bring the total number of countries to 28 (see map below) and cumulative total GEF financing for the FOLUR IP to \$345,818,514 and projected co-financing to \$2,794,077,390. The design, component structure and the objective of FOLUR IP in the addendum remains the same as that of the approved PFD.

40. The objective of the FOLUR IP is “to promote sustainable, integrated landscapes and efficient food value and supply chains at scale.” The FOLUR IP outlines how GEF-7 financing will support a system-wide approach that brings together strategies and stakeholders through both horizontal (interventions with actors within landscapes, policy reform, governance strengthening, etc.) and vertical (food value and supply chain commitments and financing) dimensions. The IP will build a global coalition that engages key stakeholders in the major food systems and supply chains, including existing platforms such as the Food and Land Use coalition (FOLU), Tropical Forest Alliance (TFA), Consumer Goods Forum, Bonn Challenge and others, to work collectively with countries toward achieving sustainability.

41. The addition of Madagascar represents an expansion in the coverage of globally important geographies and commodities under the IP, building upon the 27 countries already approved and contributing to both scale and sustainability. With Madagascar included, the geographic coverage of coffee production landscapes in Africa is increased by a country that holds critical crop genetic diversity and demonstrated potential for sustainable, equitable sectoral development. Notably, Madagascar is one of the 34 global biodiversity hotspots, and the forests of this large island nation harbor a high number of endemic, endangered or vulnerable plant and animal species that are of outmost importance to the world’s biodiversity and to the resilience of globalized food systems. The inclusion of this new country also captures further potential for private sector engagements, which will contribute to the FOLUR IP’s reach and impact.

42. The Madagascar project will foster the development of a fair and inclusive coffee value chain by improving production practices, strengthening capacities of producer organizations to link with markets through enhanced traceability and certification and leveraging funding from new sources of financing, while also sustainably intensifying agricultural practices in associated

systems (such as rice), for improved yields, income and nutrition. Madagascar's forest ecosystems are home to 61 out of the 124 existing wild coffee species in the world, 80% of which are endemic to the country. Many of these wild coffee species are threatened by extinction and preserving them is critical to the future of the coffee industry.

43. In the targeted landscapes, deforestation and degradation due to agricultural expansion are increasingly becoming evident. Rice is produced in over 1.3 million ha throughout Madagascar, with an average yield of 2.45 tons per ha (highly variable across regions), which is used mostly for self-consumption (62%). Despite being the first crop produced in terms of volume in Madagascar, national rice production is not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing population, and thus agricultural encroachment into these forest areas is becoming an emerging threat and key driver of deforestation. Coupled with the growing global demand for coffee and other cash crops produced in the area, the deforestation threat is expected to worsen. Aware of the urgency to protect these natural resources, Madagascar is committed to slow deforestation and forest and land degradation, and to implement restoration at scale. There is a demonstrated opportunity for an integrated program, like FOLUR, to address multiple pressures on the landscape and threats to biodiversity of global significance.

44. By advancing the integrated approach, the FOLUR Madagascar project will directly impact the productive capacity of large agricultural areas to reduce the risk of deforestation, while restoring degraded landscapes and ensuring a sustainable use of land and natural resources. Global environmental benefits will be generated through landscapes managed sustainably with increased biodiversity and ecosystem services. The project will strengthen capacities of producer organizations to link with markets through enhanced traceability and certification and leveraging funding from new sources of financing. It will also target degraded areas where coffee production represents an opportunity for restoration as highlighted by the National Forest Landscape Restoration Strategy and promote alternative livelihood sources in support of restoration of degraded areas. Project interventions aimed at enhancing the coffee value chain will strengthen the premium market positioning of Malagasy coffee while further improving its environmental and social value. With Madagascar's participation in the FOLUR IP, the potential to transform the coffee commodity system and to enhance potential for private sector engagements is significant both at the country-scale and regionally across Africa, given the possibility to cluster with other FOLUR IP countries for larger reach and impact.

45. The addition of Madagascar through this Addendum contributes to the original program core indicator targets and funding envelop as follows:

- **Revised Program Targets**
 - Indicator 3, Area of Land Restored: Increase by 10,000 ha to a total of 2.4 million ha
 - Indicator 4, Area of landscapes under improved practices: Increase by more than 25,000 ha to a total of over 42 million ha

and the National Forestry and Grasslands Administration who are critical sectoral agencies for biodiversity conservation in China. Child projects will safeguard biodiversity by integrating biodiversity considerations in the productive sectors and municipal development; and through sustainable protected areas networks in the development of key sites of global biodiversity significance in the YRB in Sichuan, Jiangxi and Anhui provinces within the Yangtze River Economic Belt. The program is expected to directly improve the management and financing of 1.2 million ha of protected areas as well as mitigate the impacts to biodiversity from 1.3 million ha of productive landscapes and municipal areas. The project will benefit over 9,000 beneficiaries.

Non-Grant Instruments Projects

47. **NGI- Africa.** *COVID-19 Off-Grid Recovery Platform* (GEF ID 10667). Agency: AfDB; GEF Project Financing: \$14,285,714; Co-financing: \$77,000,000. Energy access companies in Africa are facing unprecedented challenges as a result of COVID-19. The pandemic has caused supply chain disruptions mostly for off-grid systems, decreased energy access companies' ability to generate revenues, and created an overall tightening of lending conditions. This project, the COVID-19 Off Grid Recovery Platform (CRP), will establish an innovative financing mechanism aimed at quickly deploying funds for energy access companies in their off-grid operations, with a view of addressing the financial distress and short- and medium-term lack of liquidity they are facing as a result of the current pandemic. The CRP will blend and co-invest resources from donor funds and private sector investment funds operating in Africa, to offer affordable debt financing to energy access companies. To ensure a quick deployment of resources, the platform leverages on the commercial outreach and existing market knowledge of several competitively selected partner funds. The co-investment arrangements will be executed in *pari-passu* and proportional terms to best align interests between investors. This public-private partnership structure is expected to increase volume and speed in the provision of financial recovery resources, and to extend finance to at least 45 energy companies, installing an additional 47 MW of clean energy capacity, and providing new or continued energy access services to 2.5 million people. The project is expected to result in 2.5 million tCO₂e in direct GHG emission reductions.

Stand-alone Projects

Biodiversity

48. **India.** *Mainstreaming Natural Capital Values into Planning and Implementation for Sustainable Blue Economic Growth in Indian Coastal Districts* (GEFID 10385). Agency: UNEP; GEF project financing: \$3,335,750; Co-financing: \$15,385,000. The objective of the project is to enhance biodiversity conservation and environmental sustainability of critical coastal landscapes in India by integrating natural capital and ecosystem services values in District-level blue economy strategy and spatial planning processes, and coastal sector operations. The project targets blue economic growth and enhanced mainstreaming the protection of biodiversity and natural capital resources in coastal sea/landscapes and sectors at District level, through recognition by both public and private actors of the externalities to Natural Capital

(NC) of economic development. The project will support quantifying and integrating the NC dependencies, impact and benefits of protection in the planning, green investments and operations in two project sites: Aghanashini Estuary and Watershed in Karnataka State, and the Vembanad-Kol Wetlands in Kerala State. The project will produce over 566,000 ha under improved management for biodiversity and more than 360 direct beneficiaries.

49. **Philippines.** *Philippine Rise Integrated Conservation for Enduring Legacies through Ecosystem Support Services (PRICELESS)* (GEFID 10568). Agency: CI; GEF Project Financing: 3,662,844.00; Co-financing: \$10,364,000.00. This project is designed to conserve and better manage the Philippines Rise Marine Reserve (PRMR), which covers 352,390 hectares, including 49,684 hectares Strict Protection Zone and a 302,706 ha Multiple Use Zone. The project will protect the Reserve's significant global biodiversity, facilitate the sustainable use of its marine resources, and generate livelihood benefits for adjacent communities. As the first offshore MPA to complete the e-NIPAS (Expanded National Integrated Protected Area System) process, achieving increased legislative protection for the PRMR will represent a significant innovation. Experience gained by all agencies and stakeholders involved in the PRICELESS project will generate numerous lessons learned to inform scale-up of offshore and onshore marine resource conservation efforts, as well as transboundary efforts (e.g. Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction). Financial and institutional sustainability of the PRICELESS project will be a direct result of declaration as an e-NIPAS protected area. With this status, the PAMB of the PRMR will retain 75% of user fees to cover management costs (25% accrued to the government) and receive direct support for employee salary coverage from government.

50. **São Tomé and Príncipe.** *Improving Biodiversity Mainstreaming in the Agroforestry and Fishery Sectors in São Tomé and Príncipe* (GEF ID 10570). Agency: IFAD; GEF Project Financing: \$3,543,379; Co-financing \$6,700,000. The GEF project supports a transformative shift of key-production sectors in São Tomé and Príncipe with the integration of conservation concepts to protect global important biodiversity, reduce resource conflicts and maintain a continuous flow of ecosystem services. This GEF project builds on lessons from major investments on smallholder agriculture and artisanal fisheries and is designed in parallel with a new IFAD project (that also serves as co-financing) on family and commercial agriculture and the IFAD Rural Poor Stimulus Facility to face the COVID-19 situation. A biodiversity policy expenditure review (BPER) will be the starting point of policy reforms, in view of reducing harmful practices in the agroforestry and fishery sectors and re-allocating resources to Payments for Environmental Services schemes (PES). The project is designed on three components related to 1) enabling policy, institutional and fiscal frameworks, 2) value chain approaches and financing mechanisms, and 3) knowledge management. The project aims to deliver the following targets with 10,700 ha of degraded agricultural lands restored; 10,700 ha of landscapes under improved management for biodiversity; 20,000 ha of marine ha under improved management for biodiversity, and over 155,000 tCO₂e of carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector. The project will also directly benefit to 6,960 people, with a gender balance.

51. **Regional, Congo DR, Madagascar, Namibia.** *Strengthening the Implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks in Southern Africa (SINBF)* (GEF ID 10584). Agency: UNEP; GEF

Project Financing: \$ 2,858,390; Co-financing: \$ 9,000,000. The objective of the project is to strengthen institutional, human and regulatory capacities and promote cooperative measures in the implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks in Madagascar, Namibia and DRC. The project is focused on managing possible modern biotechnology threats to the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity in the participating countries. The project will support the review/ updating and/or translation of the draft biosafety laws and associated implementation frameworks to functional and operational national biosafety regimes with supportive handling, decision making and follow up measures. The project will also provide the technical and financial resources for institutional capacity building for relevant and designated stakeholders with clearly defined roles and responsibilities under the national biosafety systems. The project is designed to build on and complement existing or ongoing interventions including the Multi Country LMO Capacity Building Project on LMO testing, ensuring a cost-effective approach and a coherent intervention strategy.

52. **Colombia.** *Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta.* (GEF ID10567). Agency: IADB; GEF Project Financing: \$8,219,178; Co-financing: \$41,355,000. The objective of the project is to improve the ecosystem health and conserve the biodiversity of the Ramsar site, the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta (CGSM). The project will: i) improve the governance of the CGSM by promoting stakeholder agreements (i.e., local, national, private, and public) that result in an inclusive environmental governance model along with an action plan for its implementation; ii) improve management and monitoring of biodiversity in the CGSM, including water use efficiency, forest conservation, and landscape connectivity; iii) implement the main activities of the PAs' management plans to protect key habitat and species improving management effectiveness by 15%; iv) restore 110 km of hydrological connections and 1,650 hectares of mangroves; v) increase the area under sustainable production practices by working with the producers in the livestock, oil palm, banana, and coffee, sectors, in the Aracataca and Fundacion watersheds. The global environmental benefits that will be produced by the proposed project include 83,613 ha of protected areas (SFF CGSM, VIPIS) under improved management effectiveness, and over 509,000 ha under improved management for biodiversity in the CGSM.

53. **Nicaragua.** *Sustainable Integrated Management of Biodiversity in the Indio-Maíz Biological Reserve* (GEF ID 10674). Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$2,977,626; Co-financing: \$20,843,382. The objective of the project is to conserve globally important biodiversity and enhance ecosystem services in the Indio-Maíz Biological Reserve (RBIM) in partnership with indigenous peoples and local communities. The project will implement an integrated landscape management approach that takes in account the surrounding conservation, buffer and production systems. The project aims to: 1) Strengthen the governance and management of the Indio Maiz Biological Reserve (RBIM) through the development and implementation of a participatory management plan; and, 2) Build capacity of local and indigenous communities in landscape management to conserve biodiversity. The implementation of the management plan will include promotion of the sustainable production and organic labelling of wood and other forest products, medicinal and aromatic plants; as well as the development of community-based tourism products based on responsible tourism

principles. The project will generate the following global environmental benefits: (i) more than 316,000 ha of terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use; (ii) a reduction by 3.3 million tCO₂e (greenhouse gas emissions avoided and removed over five years).

54. **Gambia.** *Effective Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing of the Nagoya Protocol and Integration into Planned co-management Arrangements in the Nyambai Forest Park of The Gambia* (GEF ID 10677). Agency: UNEP; GEF Project Financing: \$3,517,000; Co-Financing: \$10,500,000. Build on the existing national roadmap, the project will create the enabling environment for the implementation of the Access and Benefit Sharing of the Nagoya Protocol in the Gambia. It will also pilot testing of some promising genetic resources in Nyambai Forest Park, one of the first forest reserves established in The Gambia with promising genetic resources. To achieve this, the project will focus on enhancing national policy and regulatory frameworks; supporting value addition and commercialization of genetic resources; and building capacities and partnerships. It is expected to bring more than 92,000 ha of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity as well as benefit to 110,000 stakeholders. With this project, the country will be able to build on on-going and previous interventions to consolidate their contributions and address more efficiently the biodiversity challenges and the threats on the genetic resource base that the country is facing.

55. **Haiti.** *Improving the Flow of Ecosystem Services in Biologically-Rich Watersheds of the Southern Region of Haiti* (GEFID 10684). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$5,055,479 Co-financing: \$26,320,000. This project will work with policy, farmers, and systems in areas around the PAs in southern Haiti to mainstream biodiversity. This project will achieve this goal by: governance strengthening and capacity-building to mainstream biological diversity (BD) protection into watershed management; restoration of pilot farms and establishment of resources to support improved farming practices, such as threatened tree nurseries; market-based practices for commodity-related SMEs are strengthened to further increase the demonstrated value of BD-rich ecosystems; and information on the value of restored BD-rich ecosystems is compiled and disseminated, and constitutes an evidence base for awareness-raising and funding mobilization. This project will work to both pilot approaches for restoration of diverse and productive market garden farming that includes tree crops as well as creating and strengthening the systems needed to support this approach. The project will support the development of nurseries for threatened tree species that can be included in these systems and increase and diversify the supply of trees for this and other restoration initiatives (with attention to maintaining intraspecies diversity). The project will also help scale up an initiative to track high value crops (coffee and cacao), ensure farmer compliance with improved practices, and deliver higher prices to these farmers to give returns for their improved practices. This project will result in restoration of 250 ha of diverse farmland; the improved management for biodiversity of 5,400 ha of productive lands; and reduced emissions of 23,944 metric tons of CO₂.

56. **Mexico.** *Fostering Sustainable, Legal and Traceable Use and Trade of Wild Native Species in Mexico* (GEF ID 10689). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$9,791,743; Co-

financing: \$48,700,000. The objective of the project is to promote the sustainable, legal and traceable use and trade of wild native species in order to reduce biodiversity loss and improve livelihoods in selected landscapes throughout Mexico. The project will: i) support the creation and effective operation of Management Units for Wildlife Conservation (UMA) and Management Units for Sustainable Forest Management (UMAFORES) by focusing on those that manage species located within key biodiversity areas (KBA) of global importance for conservation, ii) promote the sustainable, legal and traceable use and trade of selected species through value chains with fair and equitable sharing of benefits; particularly for IPLCs; and 3) Strengthen inspection and surveillance capacities to promote the sustainable, legal and traceable trade of native species of wild flora and fauna. generate the following global environmental benefits: (i) 100,000 ha of terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use; (ii) 500,000 ha of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity.

57. **Tanzania.** *Building the Resilience of Forest Biodiversity to the Threats of Climate Change in Tanzania's Nature Forest Reserves* (GEF ID 10690). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$4,837,010; Co-financing: \$28,886,000. The proposed project seeks to strengthen the local operational capacities of nine high biodiversity value, high-risk and low capacity Nature Forest Reserves (NFRs) to enhance the resilience of forest biodiversity to the threats of climate change. Most of Tanzania's native forests are of the dry woodland type. These forests have experienced high rates of deforestation in recent years and the status of NFR offers the highest possible level of protection in Tanzania. The proposed approach aims to 1) implement measures in response to the emerging threats to biodiversity as a result of climate change; and 2) test alternative income-generating opportunities that will help finance the continued implementation of these threat reduction measures in the targeted NFRs beyond the term of the GEF investment. The project has been specifically designed to reduce the exposure of NFRs to the risks and hazards associated with climate change, using the STAP Guidance on Climate Risk Screening. In terms of global environment benefits, the project targets nine Nature Forest Reserves under improved management effectiveness (covering 219,209 ha) and an improved management to benefit biodiversity in buffer zones (9,000 ha). These management measures will also generate 1.1 million tCO₂e of carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the agriculture, forestry, and other land use sector, and will involve 9,000 beneficiaries. Particular attention is paid to gender equality and women economic empowerment. The project is innovative in the way to use protected areas into national and local efforts to address climate change and reduce natural habitat and species loss. The project approach aims to be sustainable by reinforcing conservation management capacities of NFRs and diversifying their revenue flows. There is a strong potential for replication and scaling-up in other NFRs.

58. **Madagascar.** *Inclusive Conservation of Sea Turtles and Seagrass Habitats in the North and North-West of Madagascar* (GEF ID 10696). Agency: UNEP; GEF Project Financing: \$3,800,000; Co-Financing: \$10,946,633. Focusing on sea turtles and seagrass, this project will conserve globally significant biodiversity through effective and inclusive management of Marine Protected Areas and Locally Managed Marine Areas. It represents the first coordinated approach to enhance the effectiveness of efforts to protect sea turtles, seagrasses and their

habitats across several sites along the north-western coast of Madagascar. Targeting 6 key sites, the project approach will be the implementation of coherent policy, planning and regulatory frameworks from the national to the local level, paired with the establishment of a sea turtle and seagrass Observatory and further supported by the development of local incentives and a sustainable innovative financial mechanism. Facilitating the devolution of marine resource use rights to local communities and building the capacities of these local communities through Locally Managed Marine Areas governance models, an active involvement of local communities and key actors, including from the private sector, is expected. The project will support the improved management of over 428,000 ha of marine protected areas and assist 13,000 beneficiaries.

59. **China.** *Transformational Wildlife Conservation Management in China* (GEFID 10701). Agency: UNDP; GEF project financing: \$6,335,750; Co-financing: \$48,930,000. The objective of this project is to safeguard key threatened and iconic wildlife in China through cross-sectoral engagement, community participation and innovative management technologies across key landscapes. The project will: develop and implement supportive cross-sectoral policies and comprehensive guidelines approved by a Special Wildlife Coordination Group (SWCG) created under the National Biodiversity Commission; prioritize targeted habitat restoration and ecological corridor development at key sites; and incorporate frontier technologies and knowledge management innovations in partnership with the private sector, academia and local communities. Demonstrations will be undertaken in two key sites: Giant Panda National Park and Yunlong County, Yunnan Province both focused on increasing connectivity and habitat for wildlife within and across the landscapes. Over 2.8 million ha of terrestrial area will be directly benefited through targeted activities delivered under the program. There will be 9,300 ha under improved management through enhanced connectivity measures (7,100 ha) and nature-based restoration (2,200 ha) outside the protected area network targeting 10,000 beneficiaries.

60. **Indonesia.** *Strengthening Capacities for Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species (SMIAS) in Indonesia* (GEFID 10705). Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$4,416,210 Co-financing: \$65,946,037. This project will safeguard globally significant biodiversity and ecosystem services through improved prevention, control and management of invasive alien species (IAS) in Indonesia. The activities included in this project are: strengthened policy, regulatory, institutional and financing frameworks for IAS management; demonstrated landscape-level approach to invasive alien plant species (IAPS) management; strengthened knowledge & awareness of IAS issues among key stakeholders, and project monitoring and evaluation based on adaptive management principles. In addition to policy work and working on prevention through customs enforcement, this project will focus on two PAs that are also KBAs to pilot approaches in IAS prevention and management. There will have a specific focus on plants for some the activities and looking for potential use or value chains that will fund IAS control in the long term to provide sustainability in interventions. They will also work with customs enforcement, which will continue after project end, and assess the potential costs of inaction on IAS such as agricultural pests. The project will support the improved management of 94,026 ha of protected areas and biodiversity mainstreaming on 27,439,072 ha.

61. **Brazil.** Strengthening Participatory Natural Resource Management Processes for Sustainable Economic Development, Conservation of Biodiversity and Maintenance of Carbon Stocks in Amazon Wetlands (GEF ID 10706). Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$3,411,644; Co-financing: \$18,462,000. The objective of the project is to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and maintain carbon stocks in varzea floodplain forests and mangroves wetlands of Amazonia. The project will strengthen the enabling environment to enhance the effectiveness of natural resource management in the target sites. This includes developing and implementing resource management protocols for the target species (i.e. resource management and exploitation plans (fisheries, caiman, mangrove crab, forestry, and community-based tourism) and biodiversity monitoring tools to inform management decisions. The project will generate the following global environmental benefits: (i) improved management of more than 970,000 ha in 17 terrestrial protected areas, (ii) improved management of over 33,000 ha of production landscapes important for biodiversity covering 3 lake complexes (Jurupari Grande, Parana do Jacare, and Seringa) and the Tefe region.

62. **Panama.** *Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Development through Productive Innovation and Competitiveness of the Rural Sector* (GEF ID 10709). Agency: WB; GEF Project Financing: \$3,505,936; Co-financing: \$21,000,000. The objective of the project is to improve protected areas management and promote access to inclusive and biodiversity-friendly economic opportunities in project areas. Biodiversity-friendly inclusive economic opportunities refer to those income-generation initiatives that do not degrade biodiversity and introduce practices to enhance biodiversity management and reduce biodiversity loss. The project has two inter-related components: i) institutional strengthening for biodiversity conservation; and, ii) support to promote biodiversity-friendly investments. The proposed operation aims at building institutional capacity and leveraging the activities that drive the rural economy to ultimately improve the management of PAs containing biodiversity of global importance. As main driver of potential biodiversity losses, both agriculture and tourism and their linkages will be the main entry points for the operation's objective to contribute to a sustainable dynamization of Panama's rural economy. The global environmental benefits that will be produced by the proposed project include: i) improving the management effectiveness of more than 685,000 ha of 12 terrestrial protected area; ii) improving the management of 1,000 hectares of landscapes to benefit biodiversity.

63. **Mexico.** Green and Inclusive Recovery in Mexico (GreenMex): Making High-Value Ecosystems and Rural Livelihoods More Resilient and Sustainable in a Post COVID-19 Scenario (GEF ID 10717). Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$10,103,670; Co-financing: \$66,250,000. The GreenMex project will mainstream biodiversity conservation, integrated landscape management and ecosystem connectivity into social policies and programs in Mexico. To achieve this objective, the project will build on the Sembrando Vida Program (SV), the flagship social program that aims to reduce poverty of agricultural households living in (or adjacent to) areas with forest restoration potential. The project will be implemented in forest/agroforest landscapes within three target areas in the Durango, Huasteca, and Montes Azules landscapes as defined by the project. The GEF project will: i) strengthen stakeholders' capacities for the recognition, valuation and sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystem services; ii)

mainstream environmental criteria in the SV Program; iii) strengthen territorial governance to improve social representation in decision-making processes; iv) implement agroforestry systems that rescue ancestral practices while adopting new knowledge and practices; v) promote ecosystem connectivity through landscape restoration, reforestation and community-based forestry management; and vi) develop market-based tools to promote the inclusive participation of SV beneficiaries in the value-chain of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) and underutilized native species (with emphasis on women, youth and indigenous people). The global environmental benefits that will be produced by the project include: (i) 3.8 million ha of productive landscapes will benefit from the expected regulatory and policy changes to be achieved through the project in key sectors; (ii) 100,000 ha of terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use; (iii) more than 133,000 ha of land restored (degraded agricultural land restored: 58,115 hectares, forest land restored: 75,210 ha).

64. **Indonesia.** *Investing in the Komodo Dragon and Other Globally Threatened Species in Flores (IN-FLORES)* (GEF ID 10728). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$6,284,018.00; Co-financing: \$48,697,379.00. This project is designed to promote the conservation of the Komodo dragon and other globally threatened species. This objective will be achieved through strengthened and integrated management of multiple-use landscapes and seascapes, including improved management effectiveness of 64,000 ha terrestrial and 123,435 ha marine protected areas and 267,800 ha of landscapes under improved practices. In addition to improved management and protection, the project will also improve private sector, community engagement and diversified financing for biodiversity conservation and livelihood improvement across the Komodo dragon and threatened species landscape/seascape. This project is innovative in that it will strengthen management for globally threatened species and their habitat using a landscape approach promoted through a new category of conservation mechanism called Essential Ecosystem Areas, which aim to conserve forests that are located outside protected areas. The project can also serve as a useful pilot to test sustainable financing mechanisms at the community level through incentive mechanisms that involve tourism generated revenues and private-community partnerships. The project will achieve sustainability of project activities and impacts through training and capacity building to support the landscape planning approach, multi-stakeholder partnerships and alliances and community-based alternative livelihood strategies that are constructed to provide benefits over the long-term. Finally, this project has great potential for scaling up as knowledge sharing is a priority component of the project and includes the development and application of biodiversity-friendly guidelines in forestry, tourism, agriculture and other-related economic activities which will promote new models that can be applied in other locations as well by the private sector.

Climate Change

65. **Thailand.** *Accelerating the Adoption and Life-Cycle Solutions to Electric Mobility in Thailand* (GEF ID 10681). Agency: UNIDO; GEF Project Financing: \$2,913,465; Co-financing: \$19,684,900. This project aims to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the transportation sector by addressing barriers to the adoption and scale-up of electric mobility in

Thailand through enhancing the policy and institutional framework and carrying out technology demonstrations in Thailand's Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC). According to 2013 data, 74% of the total GHG emissions in Thailand came from the energy sector, of which energy use in the transportation sector accounted for around 26%. This project will support national priorities as identified in Thailand's NDC Roadmap on Mitigation 2021-2030, which included GHG reduction measures in the energy and transportation sector as one of three key areas of action, as well as the government's Master Plan for Sustainable Transport System and Mitigation of Climate Change Impacts. Despite its climate change mitigation potential and strong government support, significant challenges remain for the wider adoption and scale-up of electric mobility. This project will improve national policy and institutional frameworks both the demand and supply sides, and to address lifecycle issues of electric mobility and sustainable use of batteries. It will pilot demonstrations of the use of electric vehicles and charging infrastructure integrated with renewable energy systems and aim to enhance the business sector ecosystem for electric vehicle entrepreneurship within the EEC and in Thailand. The project aims to mitigate a total of 2.1 million tCO₂e of GHG emissions over 10 years.

66. **Senegal.** *Promoting Cleantech Innovation for Climate Action in Senegal* (GEF ID 10715). Agency: UNIDO; Project Financing: \$2,342,018; Co-financing: \$12,000,000. Senegal is experiencing rapid economic growth, amongst the highest in Africa with a 6% annual growth between 2014 and 2018. As a consequence, emissions of greenhouse gasses are also increasing. SMEs are the key driver of such economic growth, making up for 90% of local businesses. Innovative SMEs can also contribute to reducing harmful emissions and other environmental impacts. However, especially in the clean technology sector, SME still face barriers including limited technical and business capacity, a weak and disjointed clean technology innovation ecosystem and policy framework and limited access to finance for incubation, acceleration and scaling up. This project seek to support Senegal to strengthen and connect the cleantech entrepreneurship ecosystem by: identifying and nurturing early-stage cleantech innovations into fast-growing, scalable and investable enterprises; strengthening the capacities of national institutions and other ecosystem players and connecting them; and supporting national policy makers to strengthen the policy framework to support cleantech SMEs. In addition, through connecting with the GEF-funded Global Cleantech Innovation Program (GCIP), the project will enable Senegalese cleantech SMEs to connect with cleantech ecosystem actors, financiers and markets both regionally in the context of ECOWAS and globally. The Project is expected to result in 225,000 tCO₂e in direct emission reductions.

67. **Pakistan.** *Combating Climate Change Through the Promotion and Application of Sustainable Biomass Energy Technologies in Pakistan (PASBET)* (GEF ID 10720). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$3,439,041; Co-financing: \$24,093,300. The objective of the project is to mitigate CO₂ emissions from the rural sector in Pakistan by widely deploying sustainable biomass energy technologies. The objective will be achieved by implementing many tasks within four components: (1) Establishing Policy and Regulatory Framework for Sustainable Woody Biomass Energy Production and Utilization; (2) Promoting Biomass Energy Production and Energy Efficient Utilization Technologies; (3) Supporting Financial Requirements for Biomass Energy Technology Initiatives; and (4) Enhancing Capacity Building, Knowledge

Management and Gender Mainstreaming in Biomass Energy Utilization. More than one third of GEF resources will be used in tangible investment to display innovative business model and effective biomass energy technologies in four difference provinces of Pakistan. This project demonstrates innovation, sustainability and scalding-up in many ways including mobilizing capital investment from private and independent power producers. The project aims at mitigating 3.1 million tCO₂e in its lifetime of operation.

68. **China.** *Facilitating Cleaner and Energy Efficient Phosphate Chemicals Industry in China (PhosChemEE) Project* (GEF ID 10722). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$9,343,379; Co-financing: \$93,434,000. The objective of the project is to enable extensive application of low carbon and energy efficient technologies in the phosphate mining industry and phosphate chemicals industry in China. The objective will be achieved by delivering many outputs within three components: (1) Green and Low-carbon Development and Operation of Phosphate Mines; (2) Green and Low-Carbon Design and Operation of Phosphate Chemicals Production Facilities; and (3) Green and Low Carbon Design and Operation of Waste Management Systems in the Phosphate Chemicals Industry. The GEF will provide \$6.3 million or 67% of its total budget for three tangible investments to display energy efficient technologies and production processes in phosphate mining and phosphate chemicals industry. This project demonstrates innovation, sustainability and scalding-up in many ways including (1) mainstreaming low/zero carbon production policy in phosphate mining and production industry in line with China's 2060 zero-carbon economy goal; (2) integrating two Chinese ministries (the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology) to work together to deal with challenges while transforming China's phosphate mining and phosphate production from a high carbon system to a low or zero carbon system; and (3) mobilizing co-financing from private companies, and the national and provincial governments. The project aims at mitigating 36.0 million tCO₂e in its lifetime of operation.

Land Degradation

69. **Pakistan.** *Combating Land Degradation Through Integrated and Sustainable Range and Livestock Management to Promote Resilient Livelihoods in Northern Punjab* (GEF ID 10693). Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$2,183,105; Co-financing: \$13,102,100. The project has the objective to conserve and restore critically important rangelands and livestock production systems and strengthen the resilience and sustainability of rangeland-dependent communities in dryland area. The project will increase the government's capacity to assess and plan for effective rangeland management and assist communities to engage in sustainable livestock management to reduce land degradation. It will strengthen provincial and district policies, institutional capacities, and data resources for decision support, resulting in provincial and district sustainable land and resource management plans to conserve and restored grassland and shrub forest ecosystems and improved livelihoods opportunities based on livestock raising. Broad stakeholder participation in mechanisms for cross-sectoral collaboration and agreements among livestock grazers and landowners on community-level rangeland and livestock management plans is part of the innovative project design. The project will restore 3,000 ha of grass and shrublands with native species and bring 28,000 ha of rangelands under sustainable

management, which will result in carbon sequestration of 157,000 tCO₂e. About 20,000 local people will directly benefit from the project activities.

70. **Bahamas.** *Integrated Landscape Management for Addressing Land Degradation, Food Security and Climate Resilience Challenges in The Bahamas* (GEF ID 10694). Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$5,835,750.00; Co-financing: \$ 16,940,000.00. The project will improve the sustainable and integrated land management of 7 islands of The Bahamas Archipelago in order to enhance climate resilient food production across productive agricultural landscapes. This will be carried out by: strengthening of the enabling environment for integrated landscape management and land degradation neutrality (LDN) through improved policy governance; applying sustainable land management approaches and enhancing capacity among stakeholders to adopt SLM and regenerative climate smart agricultural practices; testing mechanisms to incentivize farmers to adopt sustainable approaches to land management (SLM and climate resilient agriculture); and enhancing monitoring and knowledge management systems for LDN assessment. The project is expected to restore 10,000 ha of degraded agricultural land; improve the management of 10,000 ha land through SLM; deliver climate co-benefits by mitigating 1.5 million tCO₂e over the project lifetime and directly benefit 1,000 people. In addition, the project will contribute toward defining the national LDN targets of the country.

71. **Azerbaijan.** *Towards a Land Degradation-Neutral Azerbaijan* (GEF ID 10708). Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$2,290,500.00; Co-financing-\$16,940,000. The project will support the national efforts to improve sustainable land management and rehabilitate degraded lands in the Absheron Peninsula and the resilience of livelihoods. The project will do this by: strengthening the enabling environment for land degradation neutrality (LDN), by integrating LDN in existing sectoral policies and strengthening coordination, monitoring and decision making frameworks; demonstrating the LDN approach in salt affected landscapes across the 7 islands; sharing knowledge on the approach among national counterparts, in order to facilitate scale up of LDN. The project expects to restore 2,700ha of degraded agricultural land and forests; improve the management of 34,000ha land through SLM; deliver climate co-benefits by mitigating over 486,000 tCO₂e over the project lifetime and directly benefit 23,000 people. In addition, Azerbaijan is one of over 124 countries that have voluntarily committed to set LDN targets under the UNCCD and this project will assist in setting these targets.

72. **Lesotho.** *Regeneration of Livelihoods and Landscapes (ROLL) Project* (GEF ID 10723). Agency: IFAD; GEF Project Financing: \$4,000,000; Co-Financing: \$28,500,000. Considered to be a 'grassland country', Lesotho is currently facing a severe environmental degradation leading to declining yields, crop failure, soil erosion and water points drying up. Growing demand for food, weak institutional capacity for integrated approach, limited access to finance and poor natural resource management practices are the main driving forces of the environmental degradation. To address these issues, the project will promote an integrated landscape approach to reduce land degradation through sustainable land and water management, land restoration at large scale, sustainable livestock management and agricultural practices, and strengthening local and institutional capacities. It will build on and be articulated with the Lesotho Regeneration of

Landscapes and Livelihoods (ROLL) project, an ambitious initiative which is currently being developed by the Government. The extended restoration activities of the project over 350,000 hectares will significantly support Lesotho's LDN strategy, contributing 58% of the country's LDN target. In addition, the project will bring 14,500 hectares under sustainable land management in production systems and benefit to 20,000 stakeholders.

Chemicals and Waste

73. **Peru.** *Environmentally Sound Management of PCBs, Mercury and Other Toxic Chemicals in Peru.* (GEF ID 10419). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$4,725,000; Co-financing: \$23,750,000. This project will minimize risks of POPs and Mercury exposure of human beings and environment through environmentally sound chemicals management in Peru. The project takes an integrated approach to establish a national system for environmentally sound management and elimination of POPs, Mercury and other toxic chemicals. To address POPs it will support safe disposal of PCBs and POPs pesticides. On pesticides the project takes an innovative approach by piloting pesticide prevention in the main Lima market of greengrocers. The project will also reduce UPOPs, mercury, and support COVID-19 recovery by applying best practice for hazardous and infectious medical waste. This project will also apply learning from UNDP's projects that addressed the Ebola outbreak. The project will result in global environmental benefits, including 700 MT of POPs and mercury and 10 gTEQ POPs emissions.

74. **China.** *Green Production and Sustainable Development in Secondary Aluminum, Lead, Zinc and Lithium Sectors in China* (GEF ID 10673). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$15,750,000; Co-Financing: \$110,350,000. The emissions of unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants result from several industrial processes and sectors including the secondary non-ferrous metal sector. China's secondary non-ferrous production is becoming increasingly important due to the high demand of metal, shrinking mine resources and a booming circular economy in China. Although secondary non-ferrous metal production is significant to circular economy, the downside of smelting, processing and re-production of those secondary metals is the risk of releasing different types of pollutants, including UP-POPs, BFRs, strong acid and heavy metals, such as lead into the environment. Secondary non-ferrous smelter were the major sources of dioxin emission in China. China is the largest recycler of some of these metals and as such has among the highest emissions in this sector globally. The direct estimated impact at the end of the project is a reduction of 16.125 g TEQ of annual releases of dioxins, with further reduction expected through sector and nation-wide replication amounting to an estimate of 354.75g TEQ. The project proposes to select two enterprises with which to work directly with to reduce emissions and use the knowledge gained to replicate to ten other enterprises. The demonstration enterprises will be selected through open and transparent calls for proposal, with one enterprise at least selected before CEO endorsement based on criteria to be developed during project preparation. The participating enterprises will have to demonstrate good environmental and social management practices. The additional level of pollution control supported by the project is not expected to lead to increased product market price but may rather increase operating costs; the project therefore is not expected to confer a direct competitive advantage to the participating enterprises. This project will benefit 1,500

beneficiaries.

75. **Paraguay.** *POPs and Mercury-Free Solutions for Environmentally Sound Waste Management in Paraguay* (GEF ID 10682). Agency: UNIDO; GEF Project Financing: \$4,000,000; Co-financing: \$27,830,000. This project will support both the Stockholm Convention and Minamata Convention and aims to transform the linear waste management sector in Paraguay into an environmentally sound and sustainable model using circular economy techniques. The project will address the entire supply chain of waste from the type of material that enters the country to the downstream waste by segregating and managing hazardous POPs and mercury-containing fractions in an environmentally sound way. The project also supports COVID-19 recovery in the health sector by applying best practices to hazardous and infectious medical waste. The project will result in global environmental benefits, including 7.2 Metric Tons of pure POPs and mercury, 453 Metric Tons of POPs and mercury containing material, and 34 gTEQ UPOPs emissions.

76. **Ethiopia.** *Promotion of Circular Economy in the Textile and Garment Sector Through the Sustainable Management of Chemicals and Waste in Ethiopia* (GEF ID 10683). Agency: UNIDO; GEF Project Financing: \$3,000,000; Co-financing: \$20,140,000. This project aims to strengthen the sound management of industrial chemicals and their wastes through better control, and reduction and/or elimination in Ethiopia to promote circular economy in the textile garment sector. The use of POPs will be prevented by promoting the environmentally sound management (ESM) of POPs and wastes. Further, BAT/BEP measures will be introduced to protect human health and the environment. The project will establish regional cooperation and network for information exchange and experience sharing as well as regional and inter-regional knowledge management. The project is structured around five Components that is expected to result in avoidance of 3,690 MT of POPS containing materials and approximately 3.5 MT of chemicals of global concern along with 3,000 direct beneficiaries, of which 2,000 are female, as co-benefit of the GEF investment.

77. **Philippines.** *Reduction of POPs and UPOPs Through Integrated Sound Management of Chemicals* (GEF ID 10686). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$6,562,500; Co-financing: \$42,500,000. The project intends to address the intentional or secondary contamination of POPs, with the objective to protect human health and the environment. The manufacturing industry, through its products, is a fundamental pillar of the well-being of the Philippines' society and its economy. However, when a proper strategy linking the economic interest of the industry with the need to protect the health and the environment is missing, the risk of externalization of the environmental costs can be high; particularly for hazardous chemicals, including POPs, as the risk associated with chemicals is often fully appreciated and prevented only years after chemicals have been used and placed on the market. Therefore, this project will aim to address several manufacturing sectors in the Philippines, that are identified as having a larger environmental impact and thus identified that the roadmap toward sustainability had to be implemented. This will be ensured through several interventions including: 1. Design and implementation of a financial scheme (to be disbursed as a loan under a competitive interest rate; FREEME: Financing the Roadmap for the Environmental

Enhancement of Manufacturing Enterprises); 2. Demonstration of green chemistry with POPs reduction; 3. Updating and enforcement of the POP downstream regulation; 4. Design of a Green Chemistry Roadmap; 5. Technical guidance and training; and, 6. NIP update. The project is structured around four Components that will result in Global Environmental Benefits of more than 190 MT of chemicals of global concern avoided along.

78. **Global, Burkina Faso, India, Montenegro, Uganda, Albania.** *Phasing Out Mercury Measuring Devices in Healthcare* (GEF ID 10716). Agency: UNEP; GEF Project Financing: \$7,980,000; Co-Financing: \$56,280,000. Mercury is used in the production of medical devices including thermometers and sphygmomanometers. The manufacture import and export of sphygmomanometers and thermometers have a specified phase-out date of 2020. Parties may request exemptions. India, which is included in the project, has requested such an exemption for the manufacture of Hg-added sphygmomanometers and thermometers among other devices until 2025. While there is significant progress in some countries to phase out these devices, several challenges remain. Mercury-added devices have been wedded to medicine for centuries, resulting in firmly rooted perspectives and processes across the supply chain. The project therefore proposes to address these barriers through increasing the manufacturing capacity in India of non-mercury devices so that there are available alternatives and work in import and export countries included in this project to deploy these alternatives. The project estimates it will phase out the use of 23.96 tons of mercury per year which will result in approximately 98.36 tons of devices containing mercury per year entering the global market. This project will benefit 3.6M beneficiaries.

79. **Panama.** *Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes Containing POPs and Mercury* (GEF ID 10721). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$2,730,000; Co-financing: \$19,000,000. This project aims to prevent, reduce and eliminate the presence and emission of POPs and Mercury in Panama to protect public health and the environment. It will strengthen legal and institutional capacities for sound management of POPs and Mercury. The project will take an integrated approach and will address UPOPs by decrease incidence of waste burning of dump sites/landfills and proper handling of hospital waste, combined with plastics waste minimization in touristic areas. The project will also eliminate PCB equipment and waste from sensitive sites and reduce the use of Expanded Polysterene building material for reduction of HBCD. This project will result in global environmental benefits, including reduction of 202 MT of POPs and mercury, 530 MT of POPs and mercury containing materials, 6 gTEQ of UPOPs, and climate co-benefits of close to 7,000 tCO₂e.

International Waters

80. **Regional, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau.** *Integrated Transboundary Water Resources Management in the Corubal Basin Between Guinée and Guinée-Bissau* (GEF ID 10508). GEF Agency: IUCN; GEF Financing: \$6,300,000; Co-financing: \$26,149,000. The project will support Guinea and Guinea-Bissau in the development and establishment of institutional and regulatory frameworks for sustainable management of the Corubal river basin. This process will be facilitated through the development of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and the

formulation of a ministerial endorsed Strategic Action Programme. The West African river of Corubal is shared between Guinea and Guinea Bissau. Its watershed covers 24,000 km² and is crossed by several climate-ecological zones. Its vegetation cover is diverse and largely constituted of rare and endangered species and diversified fauna. The Corubal watershed is an important reserve of freshwater for human consumption, agriculture, fisheries and hydroelectricity development. Economic activities in the basin are steered by the sectors of agriculture, fisheries, forestry, livestock farming and various ecosystem services. The establishment of enhanced transboundary institutional and regulatory frameworks will lead to transforming the practices in a sustainable manner and deliver 517,000 ha terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness, 50,000 ha of land restored and 150,000 ha of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity.

81. **Regional, Angola, Namibia.** *Enhanced Water Security and Community Resilience in the Adjacent Cuvelai and Kunene Transboundary River Basins* (GEF ID 10565). GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF Financing \$ 11,167,890; Co-financing: \$70,742,180. The project will promote effective Integrated Water Resource Management at the transboundary, national and local levels. It will ensure the inclusion of the improved knowledge of the Cuvelai/Ohangwena Aquifer and climate information, produced by the co-financing activities, into the TDAs, which will support the promotion of the conjunctive management of surface and groundwater resources as well as climate-resilient basin planning in the basin. Taking its source in the Angolan water tower, that also supports the Cubango-Okavango River, the Kunene River is one of the few perennial rivers in the region, while the Cuvelai is ephemeral throughout almost of its length. GEF support will enhance the institutional, operational and technical capacity to manage the transboundary basins, formulation of a set of long-term strategic IWRM plans, which will guide future investments so that they will be aligned with strategic priorities in the basins. Moreover, the project will deliver 19,800 ha of degraded agricultural land restored.

82. **Regional, Philippines, Viet Nam.** *Blue Horizon: Ocean Relief through Seaweed Aquaculture* (GEF ID 10573). GEF agency: WWF; GEF Financing: \$6,000,000; Co-financing: \$37,660,000. The project will work at the global, regional, and national level to strengthen and develop seaweed value chains, while directly delivering towards the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea LME. More specifically, the project will work in the coastal and marine ecosystems of Viet Nam and Philippines, where the potential for the expansion of seaweed aquaculture and seaweed aquaculture value chains exists. Seaweeds can be grown with no external inputs, removing eutrophying nutrients from the water and turning them into valuable protein, oils, green chemical feedstock and a range of industrial products. Producing large volumes of seaweeds for human food, animal feed and additives, pharma & medical, fertilizer and food additives could represent a transformational change in the global food security equation. Furthermore, the proposed investment will be delivering 20,000 ha Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity in the South China Sea and 66,000 tCO₂e emissions reductions.

83. **Global, Fiji, Indonesia, Madagascar, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Tanzania.** *Coral Reef Rescue: Resilient Coral Reefs, Resilient Communities* (GEF ID 10575). Agency: WWF; GEF Project Financing: \$7,000,000; Co-financing: \$97,819,700. This investment will build capacity and solutions to ensure the long-term survival of climate resilient coral reef ecosystems, thereby supporting the blue economies and communities dependent on these reefs. Coral reefs are critically important ecosystems which support the livelihoods of coastal communities globally. They provide essential habitat for fisheries and tourism along with protection for coastal infrastructure and assets against sea level rise and increasing storm surge, making the socio-economic welfare of coastal communities closely linked with reef health. A global analysis has revealed that some reefs have a substantially lower exposure to climate change stress due to local oceanographic conditions such as currents and upwelling. Approximately 70% of the regeneration potential for the world's reefs are represented in Indonesia, Philippines, Cuba, Fiji, Tanzania, Solomon Islands and Madagascar. The project will be demonstrating scalable solutions to safeguarding globally significant climate resilient coral reefs. This will among others ensure replication of successful local scale innovations through diffusion of ideas through facilitated cross learning between these communities and the global knowledge networks.

84. **Regional, Indonesia, Timor Leste.** *Management of Indonesian and Timor-Leste Transboundary Watersheds (MITLTW)* (GEF ID 10679). GEF Agency: CI; GEF Financing: \$4,999,541; Co-financing: \$12,322,134. The project will enhance joint watershed management as well as food, water and livelihood security for communities in the Loes/Mota Masin drainage system, one of the two major drainage systems crossing the border between the two countries. The Loes/Motamasin drainage system, is the largest of two major transboundary drainage systems shared between Timor-Leste and Indonesia on the Island of Timor. It contains five basins that flow directly into the marine ecosystems of Timor-Leste and Indonesia. The Talau/Loes and Mota Masin basins straddle the greatest portion of lands along the border between Indonesia and Timor-Leste. The investment will be delivering a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), and a ministerial endorsed Strategic Action Program (SAP), two sub-basin plans, and working with communities to field test SAP sub-plan recommendations. The project will share lessons learned and put in place conditions required to scale up and benefit the larger Loes/Mota Masin ecosystem and drainage system.

85. **Regional, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, Montenegro.** *Build Back a Blue and Stronger Mediterranean* (GEF ID 10685). GEF Agency: CI; GEF Financing: \$5,000,000; Co-financing: \$34,310,275. The project will secure the long-term effective management of existing MPAs in non-EU countries in the Mediterranean Sea, providing a global and integrated support to the management of Mediterranean MPAs. This integrated support will strengthen the management effectiveness of Mediterranean MPAs by securing access to sustainable financing solutions for MPA core management costs while providing technical, strategic, organizational and institutional support. The Mediterranean Sea has a rich biodiversity and is a vital breeding area for many charismatic, endangered and commercially important pelagic species. Unfortunately, an overall intensification of the degradation of marine and coastal environments in the Mediterranean has been observed over the past decades. On top of securing long-term financing this investment will be delivering 612,600 ha Marine protected areas created or under

improved management for conservation and sustainable use and moving 35,685 tons over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels.

86. **Regional, Ecuador, Peru.** Implementation of the Strategic Action Programmes and the National Strategic Action Plans for the Integrated Water Resources Management in the Puyango-Tumbes, Catamayo-Chira and Zarumilla Transboundary Aquifers and River Basins (GEF ID 10700). GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$8,000,000; Co-Financing: \$40,000,002. This project will be implementing the prioritized investments and activities under the SAP and NSAPs for strengthened Integrated Transboundary Water Resources Management in the Puyango-Tumbes, Catamayo-Chira and Zarumilla transboundary aquifers and river basins between Ecuador and Peru. The three transboundary basins, shared by Ecuador and Peru, experience pressures from a range of economic activities, such as agriculture, aquaculture, livestock, local and international trade. To address these issues, the two countries have been undertaking a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and formulated a Strategic Action Programme, that has been endorsed at ministerial level. The project will be assisting the countries with the implementation of the ministerial endorsed Strategic Action Programme for the three transboundary basins of Zarumilla, Puyango-Tumbes, and Catamayo-Chira. Further the project will deliver 4,000 ha Terrestrial Protected Areas Under Improved Management effectiveness, 1,200 ha Area of Forest and Forest Land restored and 10,700 ha Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems.

Multi-focal Area Projects

87. **Madagascar:** Evaluation of Natural Capital to Support Land Use Planning, Improved Management Effectiveness of Terrestrial Protected Areas, Deployment of SLM Practices and Creation of Eco-Villages in Central Madagascar (GEF ID 10389); GEF Agency: UNEP; GEF project financing: \$5,653,425; Co-financing: \$24,978,115. Madagascar is both a mega-biodiversity and a low-income country with a national economy depending essentially on natural resource-based sectors. The project approach is based on the use of principles of Natural Capital Accounting to promote Land-Use Planning, strengthen protected area management, scale up locally responsible sustainable land management practices, and operationalize pilot Ecovillages in Central Highlands of Madagascar. More specifically, the regions of Amoron'i Mania and Haute Matsiatra are targeted, including the Key Biodiversity Areas covering the Itremo Massif Protected Area (24,788 ha) and the Ambositra-Vondrozo Forest Corridor (36,000 ha in the considered region). The project is designed on four main components in view of 1) Strengthening policy and institutional frameworks for Natural Capital Accounting, 2) Enabling Policy (Land Use Plans) and tools in support of management of natural resources and biodiversity conservation in the Central Highlands, 3) Piloting EcoVillages to reduce rates of deforestation, protect habitat, improve landscape productivity and enhanced livelihoods, and 4) Managing Knowledge, project monitoring, and evaluation. The Ecovillages approach is explored by the government of Madagascar to restore the quality of ecosystems and at the same time encourage the creation of green jobs. In terms of Global Environment Benefits, the project targets 250,000 ha of terrestrial landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity, 300,000 ha of agricultural landscapes under sustainable management, 50,331 ha

of protected area under improved management effectiveness. The project will target 150,000 beneficiaries with a gender balance.

88. **Sri Lanka.** *Natural Capital Values of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in Sri Lanka Integrated into Sustainable Development Planning* (GEFID 10552) Agency: IUCN; GEF Project Financing: \$ 2,656,194 Co-financing: \$ 16,750,000. This project will strengthen biodiversity mainstreaming in planning with Natural Capital Assessment and Accounting and inclusive land use planning in partnership with Government, Non-Government, Private and Community stakeholders. This objective will be achieved by: strengthening a capacity and enabling environment for evidence-based biodiversity mainstreaming into planning, investments and implementation; and supporting multi-stakeholder implementation of biodiversity mainstreaming, investments and promotion of lessons to national scale. This project will work to bring NCAA into decision-making processes in support of approaches such as PES and land use planning. Effectively mainstreaming biodiversity in government decision-making remains an elusive but crucial need for biodiversity protection. Leveraging the GCF project in this area is innovative and will contribute to the opportunities for scaling-up. Integration into government activities will provide for sustainability. Also, by working directly with the fisher organizations and the private sector the project is building support and piloting approaches that will continue after the end of funding. This project will result in: the improved protection of 222,228 ha of protected areas (terrestrial: 168,891 ha; marine: 53,337 ha); restoration of 325 ha of mangroves; the improved management for biodiversity of 103,224 ha of productive lands; and reduced emissions of 1,652,000 metric tons of CO₂.

89. **Global.** *GEF SGP 7th Operational Phase - Strategic Implementation using STAR Resources Mainly in LDCs and SIDs - Part 3* (GEF ID10655). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$43,235,008 Co-financing: \$44,964,408. The objective of the project is to promote and support innovative and scalable initiatives, and foster multistakeholder partnerships at the local level to tackle global environmental issues in priority landscapes and seascapes. This will be achieved through small grants to CSOs and CBOs in 54 countries, amongst which 24 countries are Least Developing Countries (LDCs) and 14 countries are Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The STAR funds included in the project will supplement the core grant allocation of GEF SGP (\$128 million) in 128 country programmes. Moreover, at least 4 countries that allocated STAR resources are new countries (countries that are newly going to be part of the SGP) supporting the path towards “universal access” to the Program by eligible countries. Small grants will be targeted primarily towards local communities and civil society organizations, the poor and vulnerable, to access appropriate level of funding as they develop their capacity, take measured risks in testing new methods and technologies, and to innovate at the local level. SGP will also support projects that would serve as “incubators” of innovation, with the potential for broader replication of successful approaches through larger projects supported by the GEF and/or other partners. The SGP grantees and partners will act as effective and important force to mobilize bottom up, civil society movements for systemic change in promoting environmentally sound sustainable development at the national, regional, and global levels.

90. **Cuba.** *Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation in Sustainable Tourism Development in Cuba* (GEFID 10670) Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$ 3,598,630 Co-financing: \$ 30,873,740. This project will contribute to the sustainability of tourism in Cuba through the mainstreaming of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and mitigation of climate change with emphasis on vulnerable coastal-marine areas through the design and implementation of innovative models with strengthened capacities and financial mechanisms. This project will achieve this goal by: Strengthened institutional, regulatory and financial- economic framework for environmental sustainability of the tourism sector; demonstrations of mainstreaming biodiversity in the tourism sector; and low emission standards, procedures and technology demonstration of CCM in the tourism sector. While COVID makes engaging with the tourism industry challenging as revenues are dramatically down, it also presents an opportunity to build back better and reconsider fundamental principles, approaches, and policies. This project will work directly with the “sun and sand” tourism sector including many private sector operators to adopt more efficient and renewable energy practices, which will save them money in the long-term promoting sustainability. In addition, by incorporating ecosystem service values into decision making and demonstrating how biodiversity friendly practices also benefit businesses, this project will increase the groups working for environmental sustainability. It could serve as an important model for the Caribbean broadly on working to improve the sustainability of the tourism industry. This project will result in the improved management for biodiversity of 20,727 ha of productive lands and 21,210 ha of seascapes and reduced emissions of 25,212 direct and 63,960 metric tons of CO₂.

91. **Iraq.** *Promotion of Integrated Biodiversity Conservation and Land Degradation Neutrality in Highly Degraded Landscapes of Iraq* (GEF ID 10672). Agency: UNEP; GEF Project Financing: \$4,538,128; Co-financing: \$25,500,000. The project has the objective to strengthen governmental and non-governmental capacities to achieve biodiversity conservation and land degradation neutrality in the Middle Euphrates landscape through integrated landscape management. Based on strengthened policy, legal and regulatory frameworks, the project will expand the network of Protected Areas (PA) by establishing four new protected areas and develop and implement the management plans. The Project will also support Iraq’s national Land Degradation Neutrality targets by assessing and surveying key land degradation drivers and developing decision support tools for locally adaptive LDN measures. In addition, the project will demonstrate local measures to enhance water conservation and preventing loss of soil and its fertility. The project will result in improved institutional and technical capacities at the ministerial and governorate level, and increased awareness among stakeholders at all levels on the importance of establishment and management of protected areas, sustainable land use and soil conservation measures. The project will improve management in 182,000 ha of protected areas, improve the management on 20,000 ha of agricultural area, and benefit 300,000 people.

92. **Fiji.** *Safeguarding Marine & Terrestrial Biodiversity in Fiji (SAMBIO)* (GEFID 10675) Agency: CI; GEF Project Financing: \$ 4,416,210 Co-financing: \$ 65,946,037. This project will result in indigenous species and ecosystems at reduced risk from invasive alien species, land degradation and unsustainable resource use as a result of effective government enabling and

capacity, community participation and resilient blue/green livelihoods. It will be achieved by: strengthened inter-sectoral governance, capacity and strategies to mainstream biodiversity and LDN and support a nature-based economic pathway; comprehensive IAS framework for early detection, control and management identifies and prioritizes highest-risk invasion pathways to safeguard natural and production systems from IAS; and community participation and improved livelihoods from a nature-based economic pathway that supports biodiversity conservation and reduces threats from IAS and land degradation. This project will work to bring innovation at the high level in promoting integrated thinking and approaches to sustainable development across government and different government bodies. At the same time, the project will work to develop and implement citizen science as an approach to overcome the challenges of monitoring in remote places. This project has a strong focus on working through and building upon existing programs, entities and capacity. This will help promote sustainability and scaling-up particularly in the areas of livelihoods. This project will result in: the improved protection of 48,128 ha of protected areas (terrestrial: 22,000 ha; marine: 26,128 ha); the improved management for biodiversity of 34,000 ha of productive lands; and reduced emissions of 667,729 metric tons of CO₂.

93. **Venezuela.** *Integrated Management of Multiple Use Landscapes and High Conservation Value Forest for Sustainable Development of the Venezuelan Andean Region* (GEF ID 10678). Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$6,000,000; Co-Financing: \$45,681,355. The Andean region forests are very rich in terms of biodiversity, but they are put under constant pressure due to the ever-increasing demand for agricultural products and low productivity. Addressing a high-level deforestation in this region, the project will create the conditions to develop a sustainable production of coffee and cocoa, with an emphasis on agroforestry systems. To do so, the project will implement a two-fold approach: (i) strengthening the institutional capacities to implement an integrated and multiple-use landscape approach at different government levels and (ii) improving the sustainable production and productivity of coffee and cocoa producers through improved practices, the establishment of deforestation-free supply chains, biodiversity conservation and restoring landscapes. The project is expected bring under improved management 537,000 hectares, including 300,000 hectares to benefit biodiversity, restore over 5,000 ha including 1,246 hectares of forests and contribute to climate change mitigating almost 2 million tCO_{2e} of GHG emission. The project will benefit to around 47,000 stakeholders.

94. **Kyrgyz Republic.** *Integrated Community-Based Management of High Value Mountain Ecosystems in Southern Kyrgyzstan for Multiple Benefits* (GEF ID 10692). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$2,639,726; Co-financing: \$14,500,000. The project has the objective to safeguard globally significant biodiversity of high value Pamir-Alai mountain ecosystems in, restore degraded lands, and ensure maintenance of critical ecosystem services for sustainable livelihoods in the Kyrgyz Republic. Sustainably managing land, especially pastures and forests, while conserving biodiversity of the Pamir-Alai requires an integrated landscape-level approach that reconciles the livestock-based local livelihoods in the Pamir-Alai with the needs of wildlife, and the conservation of their critical habitats. The core strategy of the proposed project works to holistically improve conservation areas by taking wildlife from being a problem for local communities and making it an asset that can attract investments and deliver environmental

benefits. The project strategy also recognizes that local and multi-stakeholder engagement is critical for establishing the ownership of resource users in securing wildlife populations. This will be achieved in the Pamir-Alai landscape, which is part of the “Mountains of Central Asia” biodiversity hotspot, specifically in 6 Key Biodiversity Areas, 7 existing and 3 newly established Protected Areas, and the sustainable use landscapes that interlink them. The project will establish and improve management in 504,000 ha of protected areas, restore 20,000 ha of land, and improve the management on 235,000 ha in the targeted landscape, with direct benefits for 18,000 local people.

95. **Solomon Islands.** Safeguarding Solomon Islands Endemic and Globally Threatened Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services from Key Threats, Particularly Invasive Alien Species and Unsustainable Land Use Practices (SAFE project) (GEFID 10698) Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$ 7,845,662 Co-financing: \$ 19,700,000. This project will result in indigenous species and ecosystems at reduced risk from invasive alien species, land degradation and unsustainable resource use as a result of effective government enabling and capacity, community participation and resilient blue/green livelihoods. It will be achieved by: strengthened inter-sectoral governance, capacity and strategies to mainstream biodiversity and LDN and support a nature-based economic pathway; comprehensive IAS framework for early detection, control and management identifies and prioritizes highest-risk invasion pathways to safeguard natural and production systems from IAS; and community participation and improved livelihoods from a nature-based economic pathway that supports biodiversity conservation and reduces threats from IAS and land degradation. This project will work to bring innovation at the high level in promoting integrated thinking and approaches to sustainable development across government and different government bodies. At the same time, the project will work to develop and implement citizen science as an approach to overcome the challenges of monitoring in remote places. This project has a strong focus on working through and building upon existing programs, entities and capacity. This will help promote sustainability and scaling-up particularly in the areas of livelihoods. This project will result in the improved protection of 48,128 ha of protected areas (terrestrial: 22,000 ha; marine: 26,128 ha); the improved management for biodiversity of 34,000 ha of productive lands; and reduced emissions of 667,729 metric tons of CO₂.

96. **Myanmar.** *Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Improving Forest Landscape Planning in Bago Region, Myanmar* (GEFID 10699). Agency: WWF/UNDP; GEF project financing: \$7,781,500; Co-financing: \$29,130,000. The objective of this project is to improve landscape-level land-use planning and promote community land management for conservation of globally significant biodiversity, including Asian elephants, in the Bago region of central Myanmar. The Bago Region lies within the globally important, and endangered, Indo-Myanmar (Burma) Biodiversity Hotspot and is an important rural area for wildlife, forestry, and agriculture and is known as the “Home of Teak”. This region has had some of the highest deforestation rates in the world resulting in loss of habitat, biodiversity and ecosystem services. The project will draw together multiple components (planning, zoning, PA management, SFM, enforcement, livelihood options), based on new mapping and participatory planning, to improve landscape connectivity, habitat conditions, and wildlife protection to achieve global benefits for a suite of

globally endangered wildlife, and using the North Zamari Wildlife Sanctuary (NZWS) as a refugium and anchor for broader landscape level conservation effort. The project is expected to result in 465,000 ha under improved management, mitigate 6.8 million tCO₂e in GHG emissions and benefit at least 5200 beneficiaries.

97. **Bangladesh.** *Community-Based Management of Tanguar Haor Wetland in Bangladesh* (GEF ID10702). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$4,050,913; Co-financing: \$17,200,000. The project aims to promote sustainable use of wetland resources by local communities to conserve globally significant biodiversity, improve ecosystem services and secure local livelihoods in Tanguar Haor, Bangladesh. The project will further strengthen an integrated ecosystem co-management approach for the Tanguar Haor through appropriate institutional and financial resource arrangements. This will be done through empowering local resource users to manage the wetland resources through co-management arrangements. GEF financing will support technical assistance, training and best practices to enable specific actions towards effective freshwater evergreen swamp forest conservation and ecological and species restoration, effective conservation and monitoring of threatened species and wetland resource harvest, and the implementation of biodiversity-friendly wetland resource use and livelihood practices as part of a strategy for the conversion and substitution of existing resource use and polluting activities that threaten the biodiversity and ecology of the Tanguar Haor. GEBs resulting from the project include over 13,000 ha of terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use; 400 ha of land restored; more than 1,900 ha of landscapes under improved practices, and more than 570,000 tCO₂e mitigated. The project will directly benefit 3,000 people.

98. **Philippines.** *Sustainable Management of Natural Resources Towards Rehabilitation and Preservation of the Key Biodiversity Area along Bataan Province to Manila Bay* (GEF ID 10704). Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$2,731,050.00; Co-financing: \$15,500,000.00. This project is designed to mainstream biodiversity and sustainable land management in key biodiversity areas along Bataan province to Manila Bay. The project will result in over 176,000ha of restored land, over 46,000ha of landscape under improved practices, 19,000ha of terrestrial and nearly 600ha of marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness while also pursuing alternative, sustainable livelihoods for communities. The project is innovative by engaging multiple stakeholders at local to national scales in a “ridge-to-reef” approach to mainstream biodiversity into what has been traditional landscape planning. The key elements for sustainability found in this project are: a) the strong support, participation, and commitment of public and private sector stakeholders; b) the existence of organizations with relevant mandates at sub-provincial to national levels; c) the presence of an integrated ridge-to-reef management plan and implementation mechanisms; and, d) the improved technical capacity of the provincial governments with support from national agencies. The project has great potential for scaling-up lessons and best practices through several key partnerships, particularly the 2017-2022 Operational Plan for the Manila Bay Coastal Strategy, which will be a means to promote the lessons and tools from this project throughout its extensive regional coverage, as well as nationally through the capacity building of the mandated government agencies.

99. **China.** *Innovating Eco-Compensation Mechanisms in Yangtze River Basin* (GEFID 10711). Agency: ADB; GEF project financing: \$8,800,000; Co-financing: \$111,000,000. This project aims to achieve an ecologically healthy Yangtze River Basin (YRB) through promotion of innovative, next generation, eco-compensation mechanisms in the biodiversity conservation and agricultural waste sectors to improve the terrestrial and freshwater ecosystem health in the upper and mid-Yangtze River Basin with project sites in: Guizhou, Sichuan, Yunnan, Hubei, Hunan and the municipality of Chongqing. It will advance two demonstration eco-compensation models that focus on protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems services, and sound management of plastic wastes, notably agricultural field plastic films resulting in: 80,000 ha of newly created terrestrial protected areas; 480,834 ha of terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness; 2,000 hectares of forest and forest land restored; 443 g/TEQ reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products; and 2.5 MT of agricultural field plastics diverted from landfill and combustion. The project will benefit close to 1,780,000 beneficiaries.

100. **Regional, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu.** *Enhancing Water-Food Security and Climate Resilience in Volcanic Island Countries of the Pacific* (GEF ID 10712). GEF Agency: FAO; GEF Financing: \$6,000,000; Co-financing: \$23,400,000. This project will enhance water and food security and climate resilience, sustain ecosystem services, and relieve pressure on over-exploited coastal aquifers by expanding and assessing the role of volcanic aquifers and by introducing sound groundwater governance frameworks in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. With a long-term view to ensuring water and food security this project will support land use planning and sustainable management of groundwater resources in areas with multiple competing users from different sectors. The proposed “hard investments” will demonstrate new approaches and de-risk innovations to groundwater management, integrated catchment management, and sustainable land management with the goal of enhancing water and food security. The project will deliver over 2.7 million ha of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems.

101. **Regional, Afghanistan, Tajikistan.** *Institutionalizing Transboundary Water Management Between Tajikistan and Afghanistan for the Panj River Sub Basin* (GEF ID 10714). GEF Agency: FAO; GEF Financing: \$7,991,781; Co-financing: \$54,300,000. The project will integrate existing national basin development plans towards transboundary water management between Tajikistan and Afghanistan based on the formulation of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis – Strategic Action Program (TDA-SAP) process. This science-based planning process aims at creating mutual trust among riparian countries by joint fact finding, facilitating the consensus on long-term basin vision, and assisting governments and stakeholders as they agree on the strategies and actions needed to meet mounting water management challenges from a transboundary perspective. The proposed project will improve the capacity of both countries to implement IWRM principles and develop effective transboundary water management between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. Moreover, the project will deliver more than 3.7 million ha of terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness, 1,100 ha of degraded agricultural land restored, 25,000 ha of landscapes under improved management to benefit

biodiversity, and the removal or disposal of 875 tons of solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).

102. **Chile.** Restoration of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services at the Landscape Scale on Productive Agroforestry Areas and their Natural Environment (GEF ID 10718). Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$6,377,315; Co-Financing: \$32,000,000. The Mediterranean ecoregion of Chile has a rich biodiversity but is being degraded by human pressure and climate change. Addressing deforestation and ecosystem degradation, the project will initiate restoration processes of environmentally vulnerable landscapes in six regions. The objective is to enhance biodiversity conservation and increase the provision of ecosystem services by forests and other ecosystems, through the improvement of the agroforestry production systems and natural environments with the support of a better integrated and coordinated planning capacity, concrete economic incentives for restoration and the development of business models and sustainable value chains. The project represents a relevant initiative to trigger the implementation of Chile's National Plan for Landscape Restoration. It is expected to bring 69,000 ha of landscapes under improved management (including 41,100 ha to improve the biodiversity), restore 9,200 ha of lands and benefit to close to 10,000 people.

Multi-Trust Fund Projects

103. **Benin.** Strengthening Human and Natural Systems Resilience to Climate Change Through Mangrove Ecosystems Conservation and Sustainable Use in Southern Benin (GEF ID 10166). Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$2,945,250 (LD) \$4,890,500 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$35,000,000. This project will increase the resilience of mangrove ecosystems and their dependent agricultural, forestry, and fishery communities in southern Benin. The project will achieve its objective through the implementation of three components with complementary financing from the BD allocation of the GEFTF and the LDCF. The LDCF activities will be executed through (i) Increased adaptive capacity of the natural systems; (ii) Increased adaptive capacity of human systems resulting to livelihood diversification and development; (iii) Enabling environment for sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems in a context of climate change. The project will place 120,000 ha of land under more climate resilient management, including 70,000 ha within Ramsar sites and 50,000 ha of surrounding smallholder production land, directly benefitting 350,000 people (of which 50% are women). Project activities will result in the strengthening of national institutional and policy frameworks for more sustainable mangrove ecosystem management, integrating both conservation and adaptation principles. The project leverages a GCF investment of USD \$30,000,000, which was designed in tandem with the proposed intervention while tackling more upstream lands adjacent to the mangrove ecosystems targeted by this intervention. The proposed intervention will also complement the West Africa Coastal Areas Resilience Investment Project. By funding the additional costs of interventions necessary to integrate the expected impacts of climate change on conservation and restoration of mangrove ecosystems, the project will contribute to ensure that the risks related to climate change, including variability, are integrated into biodiversity restoration and conservation management plans in mangrove areas. The project will further generate adaptation benefits by facilitating the integration of climate risk into existing legal instruments

and institutional arrangements related to mangroves management while mainstreaming climate resilience into a number of policies, plans or development frameworks.

104. **Mali.** *Climate Security and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Central Regions of Mali for Peacebuilding* (GEF ID 10687). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$2,639,726 (LD) \$4,872,831 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$28,804,454. This project aims to ensure the long-term sustainability of vulnerable productive landscapes in Mali's central region of Mopti through nature-based solutions that reverse land degradation, strengthen communities' resilience to climate change, and promote environment-based conflict resolution. The project will achieve this through four components: (i) Enhancing coordination and monitoring for land degradation neutrality and climate security; (ii) Enhancing resilience of degraded production landscapes with communities vulnerable to climate change; (iii) Supporting family farms, youth and women to innovate and adopt resilience and sustainable livelihoods; (iv) Monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management for upscaling. The proposed project is innovative in several ways – first in its integrated approach toward assisting Mali in achieving LDN through bundled actions that incorporate climate adaptation and land degradation considerations. The project positions two key research institutes (the Mali Geographic Institute (IGM) and the Institute of Rural Economy (IER)) in supporting a first of its kind multi-stakeholder and intragovernmental coordination. The IGM will bring together a number of different streams of government, supported by development partners, to develop an action plan for achieving LDN targets and the IER will lead a process for refining a methodology for conflict-sensitive climate vulnerability assessments and mapping. The project also takes an innovative approach to building climate-resilient livelihoods, by creating opportunities for local youth to receive entrepreneurship training in existing incubator programs in Mopti city, specifically in agro-processing and climate-smart technologies. The project will directly benefit 80,000 people, while ensuring a total of 15,000 ha of land under communal lands has ecosystem functioning restored and brought under effective community management and able to deliver ecosystem services; while another 21,000 ha of family farms is brought under improved practices through the usage of agro-ecological techniques that restore land productive, reverse desertification and enhance resilience to disasters. An estimate 1.1 million tCO₂e will be avoided as a result, directly contributing to Mali's NDC ambition for reducing GHGs from the AFOLU sector.

105. **Benin.** *Restoring and Enhancing the Value of Degraded Lands and Forest Ecosystems for Enhanced Climate Resilience in Benin* (PIRVaTEFoD-Benin) (GEF ID 10688); Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$5,000,500 (LD), \$4,890,500 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$37,292,500. This project aims to support the achievement of Benin's LDN targets through sustainable land and forest management practices, while also strengthening the climate resilience of vulnerable populations in the Niger Valley, Alibori Sud-Borgou, Nord-2KP, and Zou-Couffo Agricultural Development Areas. The project will achieve its objective through activities financed under four components: (i) Political, financial, institutional, and regulatory frameworks to achieve climate risk informed LDN and advance integration of vulnerability assessment and adaptation options within land use decisions; (ii) Restoration of land and forest ecosystems for improved agricultural productivity, prevention of deforestation, and enhanced climate resilience of vulnerable communities; (iii) Building diversified income-generating activities and value chains

to strengthen community resilience; (iv) Gender empowerment, KM, and M&E. The project will directly benefit 36,000 people and restore 15,000 hectares of degraded land, while also placing this land under more sustainable management. The project will integrate adaptation considering while working to achieve land degradation neutrality in the intervention zones, through the adoption of a multi-pronged approach integrating climate-smart agriculture, SLM, SFM, with alternative livelihoods and other income-generating climate adaptation measures. This project is innovative in addressing agricultural input supply, while establishment innovative partnerships at the district level, with the aim of deploying a toolkit of various management tools to implement an integrated land use planning framework. Benin is not formally part of the Great Green Wall Initiative, this project will contribute significantly to the objective of the partnership to restore 100 million hectares of currently degraded land, sequester 250 million tonnes of carbon and create 10 million jobs in rural areas by 2030.

Enabling Activity

106. **China.** *Enabling China to Prepare Its Fourth National Communication, and Biennial Update Reports on Climate Change* (GEF ID 10707). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$4,566,210; Co-financing: \$1,466,000. This enabling activity will support China to prepare its Fourth National Communication (4NC) and Third Biennial Update Report (BUR 3) to be submitted by December 2022, and prepare and submit its last BUR jointly with its first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) by December 2024 to avoid duplication. This project will build on findings and recommendations from previous NC and BUR work as well as recommendations resulting from the International Consultation and Analysis process. The main outputs include national GHG inventories for 2017, 2018, and 2020; renewed assessments of climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation; refined policies and actions for climate change mitigation; updated information about financial, technology and capacity-building support needed and received; and enhanced public awareness, as well as the finalized 4NC and BUR 3, and BUR 4. It will enhance China's capability to prepare and deliver time-series consistent national GHG inventories every two years, apply 2006 IPCC guidelines with higher transparency, and increase completeness, accuracy and stronger comparability. It will also enhance China's understanding of the appropriate policies to enable the proper planning and implementation of prioritized and feasible climate change mitigation actions for China's low GHG development. The project will coordinate with the CBIT support, which will be executed by FECO.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN THE DECEMBER 2020 WORK PROGRAM

Impact Program

1. **Global (Madagascar):** Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program- Addendum III, FAO, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 9,874,117] [GEF ID 10726]

Other Programs

2. **China:** Yangtze River Basin Biodiversity Conservation Programme, IUCN, [GEF Program Financing: \$6,422,018] [GEF ID 10710]

Stand-Alone Full-sized Projects

Non-Grant Instrument

3. **Regional (Africa):** COVID-19 Off-Grid Recovery Platform, AfDB, [GEF Project Financing: \$13,000,000] [GEF ID 10667]

Biodiversity

4. **Regional (Congo DR, Madagascar, Namibia):** Strengthening the Implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks in Southern Africa (SINBF), UNEP, [GEF Project Financing: \$2,858,390] [GEF ID 10584]
5. **Brazil: Strengthening** Participatory Natural Resource Management Processes for Sustainable Economic Development, Conservation of Biodiversity and Maintenance of Carbon Stocks in Amazon Wetlands, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$3,411,644] [GEF ID 10706]
6. **China:** Transformational Wildlife Conservation Management in China, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$5,786,073] [GEF ID 10701]
7. **Colombia:** Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta, IADB, [GEF Project Financing: \$8,219,178] [GEF ID 10567]
8. **Fiji: Safeguarding** Marine & Terrestrial Biodiversity in Fiji (SAMBIO), CI, [GEF Project Financing: \$7,255,491] [GEF ID 10675]
9. **Gambia: Effective** Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing of the Nagoya Protocol and Integration into Planned Co-management Arrangements in the Nyambai Forest Park of The Gambia, UNEP, [GEF Project Financing: \$3,074,886] [GEF ID 10677]
10. **Haiti: Improving** the Flow of Ecosystem Services in Biologically rich Watersheds of the Southern Region of Haiti, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$5,055,479] [GEF ID 10684]
11. **India:** Mainstreaming Natural Capital Values into Planning and Implementation for Sustainable Blue **Economic** Growth in Indian Coastal Districts, UNEP, [GEP Project Financing: \$3,046,347] [GEF ID 10385]
12. **Indonesia:** Investing in the Komodo Dragon and other Globally Threatened Species in Flores (IN-FLORES), **UNDP**, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 6,284,018] [GEF ID 10728]
13. **Indonesia:** Strengthening Capacities for Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species (**SMIAS**) in Indonesia, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$4,416,210] [GEF ID 10705]

14. **Madagascar:** Inclusive Conservation of Sea Turtles and Seagrass Habitats in the North and North-west of Madagascar, UNEP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 3,370,320] [GEF ID 10696]
15. **Mexico:** Fostering Sustainable, Legal and Traceable Use and Trade of Wild Native Species in Mexico, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$9,791,743] [GEF ID 10689]
16. **Mexico: Green** and Inclusive Recovery in Mexico (GreenMex): Making High-value Ecosystems and Rural Livelihoods More Resilient and Sustainable in a Post COVID-19 Scenario, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$10,103,670] [GEF ID 10717]
17. **Nicaragua:** Sustainable Integrated Management of Biodiversity in the Indio-Maiz Biological Reserve, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$2,977,626] [GEF ID 10674]
18. **Panama: Conservation** of Biodiversity and Sustainable Development through Productive Innovation and Competitiveness of the Rural Sector, World Bank, [GEF Project Financing: \$3,505,936] [GEF ID 10709]
19. **Philippines: Philippine** Rise Integrated Conservation for Enduring Legacies through Ecosystem Support Services (PRICELESS), CI, [GEF Project Financing: \$3,662,844] [GEF ID 10568]
20. **Sao Tome and Principe:** Improving Biodiversity Mainstreaming in the Agro-forestry and Fishery Sectors in São Tomé and Príncipe, IFAD, [GEF Project Financing: \$3,543,379] [GEF ID 10570]
21. **Tanzania:** Building the resilience of forest biodiversity to the threats of climate change in Tanzania's **Nature** Forest Reserves, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$4,837,010] [GEF ID 10690]

Climate Change Mitigation

22. **China:** Facilitating Cleaner and Energy Efficient Phosphate Chemicals Industry in China (**PhosChemEE**) Project, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 9,845,662] [GEF ID 10722]
23. **Pakistan:** Combating Climate Change through the Promotion and Application of Sustainable Biomass **Energy** Technologies in Pakistan (PASBET), UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$3,439,041] [GEF ID 10720]
24. **Senegal: Promoting** cleantech innovation for climate action in Senegal, UNIDO, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 2,342,018] [GEF ID 10715]
25. **Thailand: Accelerating** the Adoption and Life-cycle Solutions to Electric Mobility in Thailand, UNIDO, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 2,913,465] [GEF ID 10681]

Land Degradation

26. **Azerbaijan:** Towards a Land Degradation-Neutral Azerbaijan, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 2,091,781] [GEF ID 10708]
27. **Bahamas:** Integrated Landscape Management for Addressing Land Degradation, Food Security and **Climate** Resilience Challenges in The Bahamas, UNEP, [GEF Project Financing: \$5,329,452] [GEF ID 10694]
28. **Lesotho:** Regeneration of Livelihoods and Landscapes (ROLL) Project, IFAD, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 3,515,982] [GEF ID 10723]

29. **Pakistan:** Combating Land Degradation through Integrated and Sustainable Range and Livestock **Management** to Promote Resilient Livelihoods in Northern Punjab, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$2,183,105] [GEF ID 10693]

Chemicals and Waste

30. **Global (Albania, Burkina Faso, India, Montenegro, Uganda):** Phasing Out Mercury Measuring Devices in Healthcare, UNEP, [GEF Project Financing: \$7,980,000] [GEF ID 10716]
31. **China:** Green Production and Sustainable Development in Secondary Aluminum, Lead, Zinc and Lithium Sectors in China, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$15,750,000] [GEF ID 10673] [
32. **Ethiopia: Promotion** of Circular Economy in the Textile and Garment Sector through the Sustainable Management of Chemicals and Waste in Ethiopia, UNIDO, [GEF Project Financing: \$3,000,000] [GEF ID 10683]
33. **Panama: Environmentally** Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes Containing POPs and Mercury, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 2,730,000] [GEF ID 10721]
34. **Paraguay:** POPs and Mercury-free Solutions for Environmentally Sound Waste Management in Paraguay, **UNIDO**, [GEF Project Financing: \$4,000,000] [GEF ID 10682]
35. **Peru: Environmentally** Sound Management of PCBs, Mercury and Other Toxic Chemicals in Peru, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 4,725,000] [GEF ID 10419]
36. **Philippines:** Reduction of POPs and UPOPs through Integrated Sound Management of Chemicals, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 6,562,500] [GEF ID 10686]

International Waters

37. **Regional (Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco, Montenegro, Tunisia):** Build a Blue and Stronger Mediterranean, through the Mediterranean Network of Effective and Sustainable MPAs, CI, [GEF Project Financing: \$5,000,000] [GEF ID 10685]
38. **Regional (Angola, Namibia):** Enhanced Water Security and Community Resilience in the Adjacent Cuvelai and Kunene Transboundary River Basins, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 11,167,890][GEF ID 10565]
39. **Regional (Ecuador, Peru):** Implementation of the Strategic Action Programmes and the National Strategic **Action** Plans for the Integrated Water Resources Management in the Puyango-Tumbes, Catamayo-Chira and Zarumilla Transboundary Aquifers and River Basins, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$8,000,000] [GEF ID 10700]
40. **Regional (Fiji, Indonesia, Madagascar, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Tanzania):** Reefs, Resilient Communities, WWF-US, [GEF Project Financing: \$7,000,000] [GEF ID 10575]
41. **Regional (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu):** Enhancing Water-Food Security and Climate Resilience in Volcanic Island Countries of the Pacific, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$6,000,000] [GEF ID 10712]
42. **Regional (Guinea, Guinea-Bissau):** Integrated Natural and Water Resources Management Project in the Corubal River Basin, IUCN, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 6,300,000] [GEF ID 10508]

43. **Regional (Indonesia, Timor Leste):** Management of Indonesian and Timor-Leste Transboundary Watersheds (MITLTW), CI, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 4,999,541] [GEF ID 10679]
44. **Regional (Philippines, Viet Nam):** Blue Horizon: Ocean Relief through Seaweed Aquaculture, WWF-US, [GEF Project Financing: \$6,000,000] [GEF ID 10573]

Multi-focal Area

45. **Regional (Afghanistan, Tajikistan):** Institutionalising Transboundary Water Management between **Tajikistan** and Afghanistan for the Panj River Sub Basin, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 7,991,781] [GEF ID 10714]
46. **Bangladesh:** Community-based Management of Tanguar Haor Wetland in Bangladesh, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$4,050,913] [GEF ID 10702]
47. **Chile: Restoration** of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services at the Landscape Scale on Productive Agroforestry Areas and their Natural Environment, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$5,674,032] [GEF ID 10718]
48. **China:** Innovating Eco-Compensation Mechanisms in Yangtze River Basin (YRB), ADB, [GEF Project Financing: \$8,073,396] [GEF ID 10711]
49. **Cuba: Mainstreaming** Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation in Sustainable Tourism Development in Cuba, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 35,98,630] [GEF ID 10670]
50. **Iraq:** Promotion of Integrated Biodiversity Conservation and Land Degradation Neutrality in Highly **Degraded** Landscapes of Iraq, UNEP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 4,538,128] [GEF ID 10672]
51. **Kyrgyz Republic:** Integrated Community-based Management of High Value Mountain **Ecosystems** in Southern Kyrgyzstan for Multiple Benefits, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 2,639,726] [GEF ID 10692]
52. **Madagascar:** Evaluation of Natural Capital to Support Land Use Planning, Improved Management Effectiveness of Terrestrial Protected Areas, Deployment of SLM Practices and Creation of Eco-Villages in Central Madagascar, UNEP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 5,653,425] [GEF ID 10389]
53. **Myanmar:** Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Restoring Forest Landscape Connectivity in Bago Region, Myanmar, UNDP/WWF-US, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 7,122,693] [GEF ID 10699]
54. **Philippines:** Sustainable Management of Natural Resources towards Rehabilitation and **Preservation** of the Key Biodiversity Area along Bataan Province to Manila Bay, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 2,731,050] [GEF ID 10704]
55. **Solomon Islands:** Safeguarding Solomon Islands Endemic and Globally Threatened Biodiversity and **Ecosystem** Services from Key Threats, particularly Invasive Alien Species and Unsustainable Land Use Practices (SAFE project), UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 7,845,662] [GEF ID 10698]

56. **Sri Lanka: Natural Capital Values of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in Sri Lanka** Integrated into Sustainable Development Planning, IUCN, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 2,656,194] [GEF ID 10552]
57. **Venezuela: Integrated Management of Multiple Use Landscapes and High Conservation Value Forest for Sustainable Development of the Venezuelan Andean Region**, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$5,329,452] [GEF ID 10678]

Multi-Trust Fund⁹

58. **Benin: Strengthening Human and Natural Systems Resilience to Climate Change through Mangrove Ecosystems Conservation and Sustainable Use in Southern Benin**, FAO, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 2,689,726] [GEF ID 10166]
59. **Benin: Achieving Land Degradation Neutrality and Securing Climate Resilience in the Niger Valley, Alibori Sud-Borgou Nord-2KP and Zou-Couffo Agricultural Development Areas of Benin**, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$4,566,667] [GEF ID 10688]
60. **Mali: Climate Security and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Central Regions of Mali for Peacebuilding**, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$2,639,726] [GEF ID 10687]

Small Grants Programme

61. **Global (Afghanistan, Argentina, Bahamas, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Colombia, Congo DR, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Jamaica, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Tanzania, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Venezuela, Togo, Tonga, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zimbabwe, China, Palau, Nepal):** GEF SGP 7th Operational Phase - Strategic Implementation using STAR Resources Mainly in LDCs and SIDs (Part 3), UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ \$43,235,008][GEF ID 10655]

Non-Expedited Enabling Activity

62. **China: Enabling China to Prepare Its Fourth National Communication, and Biennial Update Reports on Climate Change**, UNDP, [GEF Project Financing: \$ 4,566,210] [GEF ID 10707]

⁹ These are multi-trust fund projects. Only the GEF Trust Fund component is presented in this Work Program. The LDCF components are presented separately in the LDCF/SCCF Work Program.

ANNEX I: PROJECT AND PROGRAM PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR GEF COUNCIL APPROVAL UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND

ANNEX A
PROJECT AND PROGRAM PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR GEF COUNCIL APPROVAL
Under the GEF Trust Fund
December 11, 2020

1	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	14	15
No.	GEF ID	Project Title	Focal Area	Country	Agency	PPG Amount	PPG Fee	GEF Project Financing	Agency Fee	Co-financing	Total Project Cost
in US \$											
Impact Programs											
1	10726	Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program- Addendum III	Multi Focal Area	Madagascar	FAO	-	-	9,874,117	888,671	65,000,000	75,762,788
IP -Sub-Total						-	-	9,874,117	888,671	65,000,000	75,762,788
Other Programs											
2	10710	Yangtze River Basin Biodiversity Conservation Programme	Biodiversity	China	IUCN	-	-	6,422,018	577,982	51,305,000	58,305,000
OP - Sub-Total						-	-	6,422,018	577,982	51,305,000	58,305,000

ANNEX A
PROJECT AND PROGRAM PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR GEF COUNCIL APPROVAL
Under the GEF Trust Fund
December 11, 2020

1	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	14	15
No.	GEF ID	Project Title	Focal Area	Country	Agency	PPG Amount	PPG Fee	GEF Project Financing	Agency Fee	Co-financing	Total Project Cost
in US \$											
Non-Grant Instrument											
3	10667	COVID-19 Off-Grid Recovery Platform	Climate Change	Regional	AfDB	200,000	18,000	13,000,000	1,170,000	77,000,000	91,388,000
NGI-Sub-total						200,000	18,000	13,000,000	1,170,000	77,000,000	91,388,000
Stand-Alone Full-sized Projects											
Biodiversity											
4	10584	Strengthening the Implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks in Southern Africa (SINBF)	Biodiversity	Regional (Congo DR, Madagascar, Namibia)	UNEP	93,490	8,882	2,858,390	271,547	9,000,000	12,232,309
5	10706	Strengthening participatory natural resource management processes for sustainable economic development, conservation of biodiversity and maintenance of carbon stocks in Amazon Wetlands.	Biodiversity	Brazil	FAO	150,000	14,250	3,411,644	324,106	18,462,000	22,362,000
6	10701	Transformational wildlife conservation management in China	Biodiversity	China	UNDP	150,000	14,250	5,786,073	549,677	48,930,000	55,430,000
7	10567	Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta	Biodiversity	Colombia	IADB	-	-	8,219,178	780,822	41,355,000	50,355,000
8	10675	Safeguarding Marine & Terrestrial Biodiversity in Fiji (SAMBIO)	Biodiversity	Fiji	CI	200,000	18,000	7,255,491	652,994	32,000,000	40,126,485
9	10677	Effective Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing of the Nagoya Protocol and Integration into Planned co-management Arrangements in the Nyambai Forest Park of The Gambia	Biodiversity	Gambia	UNEP	136,986	13,014	3,074,886	292,114	10,500,000	14,017,000
10	10684	Improving the flow of ecosystem services in biologically-rich watersheds of the Southern region of Haiti	Biodiversity	Haiti	UNDP	150,000	14,250	5,055,479	480,271	26,320,000	32,020,000
11	10385	Mainstreaming Natural Capital Values into Planning and Implementation for Sustainable Blue Economic Growth in Indian Coastal Districts	Biodiversity	India	UNEP	150,000	14,250	3,046,347	289,403	15,385,000	18,885,000
12	10728	Investing in the Komodo Dragon and other globally threatened species in Flores (IN-FLORES)	Biodiversity	Indonesia	UNDP	200,000	19,000	6,284,018	596,982	48,697,379	55,797,379
13	10705	Strengthening Capacities for Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species (SMIAS) in Indonesia	Biodiversity	Indonesia	FAO	150,000	14,250	4,416,210	419,540	65,946,037	70,946,037
14	10696	Inclusive conservation of sea turtles and seagrass habitats in the north and north-west of Madagascar	Biodiversity	Madagascar	UNEP	100,000	9,500	3,370,320	320,180	10,946,633	14,746,633
15	10717	Green and Inclusive Recovery in Mexico (GreenMex): Making high-value ecosystems and rural livelihoods more resilient and sustainable in a post COVID-19 scenario.	Biodiversity	Mexico	FAO	300,000	27,000	10,103,670	909,330	66,250,000	77,590,000
16	10689	Fostering sustainable, legal and traceable use and trade of wild native species in Mexico	Biodiversity	Mexico	UNDP	300,000	27,000	9,791,743	881,257	48,700,000	59,700,000
17	10674	Sustainable Integrated Management of Biodiversity in the Indio-Maiz Biological Reserve	Biodiversity	Nicaragua	FAO	100,000	9,500	2,977,626	282,874	20,843,382	24,213,382
18	10709	Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Development through Productive Innovation and Competitiveness of the Rural Sector	Biodiversity	Panama	World Bank	-	-	3,505,936	333,064	21,000,000	24,839,000
19	10568	Philippine Rise Integrated Conservation for Enduring Legacies through Ecosystem Support Services (PRICELESS)	Biodiversity	Philippines	CI	150,000	13,500	3,662,844	329,656	10,364,000	14,520,000
20	10570	Improving biodiversity mainstreaming in the agro-forestry and fishery sectors in São Tomé and Príncipe	Biodiversity	Sao Tome and Principe	IFAD	109,589	10,411	3,543,379	336,621	6,700,000	10,700,000
21	10690	Building the resilience of forest biodiversity to the threats of climate change in Tanzania's Nature Forest Reserves	Biodiversity	Tanzania	UNDP	150,000	14,250	4,837,010	459,516	28,886,000	34,346,776
BD-Sub-Total						2,590,065	241,307	91,200,244	8,509,954	530,285,431	632,827,001
Climate Change Mitigation											
22	10722	Facilitating Cleaner and Energy Efficient Phosphate Chemicals Industry in China (PhosChemEE) Project	Climate Change	China	UNDP	200,000	19,000	9,343,379	887,621	93,434,000	103,884,000
23	10720	Combating Climate Change through the Promotion and Application of Sustainable Biomass Energy Technologies in Pakistan (PASBET)	Climate Change	Pakistan	UNDP	150,000	14,250	3,439,041	326,709	24,093,300	28,023,300
24	10715	Promoting cleantech innovation for climate action in Senegal	Climate Change	Senegal	UNIDO	80,000	7,200	2,342,018	210,782	12,000,000	14,640,000
25	10681	Accelerating the adoption and life-cycle solutions to electric mobility in Thailand	Climate Change	Thailand	UNIDO	100,000	9,500	2,913,465	276,779	19,684,900	22,984,644
CCM-Sub-Total						530,000	49,950	18,037,903	1,701,891	149,212,200	169,531,944

Land Degradation

26	10708	Towards a Land Degradation-Neutral Azerbaijan	Land Degradation	Azerbaijan	FAO	100,000	9,500	2,091,781	198,719	16,940,000	19,340,000
27	10694	Integrated Landscape Management for Addressing Land Degradation, Food Security and Climate Resilience Challenges in The Bahamas	Land Degradation	Bahamas	UNEP	150,000	14,250	5,329,452	506,298	17,300,000	23,300,000
28	10723	Regeneration of Livelihoods and Landscapes (ROLL) Project	Land Degradation	Lesotho	IFAD	150,000	14,250	3,502,968	332,782	28,500,000	32,500,000
29	10693	Combating land degradation through integrated and sustainable range and livestock management to promote resilient livelihoods in Northern Punjab	Land Degradation	Pakistan	FAO	100,000	9,500	2,183,105	207,395	13,102,100	15,602,100

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No.	GEF ID	Project Title	Focal Area	Country	Agency	PPG Amount	PPG Fee	GEF Project Financing	Agency Fee	Co-financing	Total Project Cost
				LD - Sub-Total		500,000	47,500	13,107,306	1,245,194	75,842,100	90,742,100
in US \$											
Chemicals and Waste											
30	10716	Phasing out mercury measuring devices in healthcare	Chemicals and Waste	Global (Burkina Faso, India, Montenegro, Uganda, Albania)	UNEP	200,000	19,000	7,980,000	758,100	56,280,000	65,237,100
31	10673	Green Production and Sustainable Development in Secondary Aluminum, Lead, Zinc and Lithium Sectors in China	Chemicals and Waste	China	UNDP	300,000	27,000	15,750,000	1,417,500	110,350,000	127,844,500
32	10683	Promotion of circular economy in the textile and garment sector through the sustainable management of chemicals and waste in Ethiopia	Chemicals and Waste	Ethiopia	UNIDO	100,000	9,500	3,000,000	285,000	20,140,000	23,534,500
33	10721	Environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes containing POPs and Mercury	Chemicals and Waste	Panama	UNDP	100,000	9,500	2,730,000	259,350	19,000,000	22,098,850
34	10682	POPs and mercury-free solutions for environmentally sound waste management in Paraguay	Chemicals and Waste	Paraguay	UNIDO	120,000	11,400	4,000,000	380,000	27,830,000	32,341,400
35	10419	Environmentally sound management of PCBs, Mercury and other toxic chemicals in Peru	Chemicals and Waste	Peru	UNDP	150,000	14,250	4,725,000	448,875	23,750,000	29,088,125
36	10686	Reduction of POPs and UPOPs through integrated sound management of chemicals	Chemicals and Waste	Philippines	UNDP	150,000	14,250	6,562,500	623,437	42,500,000	49,850,187
				CW - Sub-Total		1,120,000	104,900	44,747,500	4,172,262	299,850,000	349,994,662
International Waters											
37	10575	Coral Reef Rescue: Resilient Coral Reefs, Resilient Communities	International Waters	Global (Fiji, Indonesia, Madagascar, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Tanzania)	WWF-US	200,000	18,000	7,000,000	630,000	97,819,700	105,667,700
38	10565	Enhanced Water Security and Community Resilience in the Adjacent Cuvelai and Kunene Transboundary River Basins	International Waters	Regional (Angola, Namibia)	UNDP	300,000	27,000	11,167,890	1,005,110	70,742,180	83,242,180
39	10700	Implementation of the Strategic Action Programmes and the National Strategic Action Plans for the Integrated Water Resources Management in the Puyango-Tumbes, Catamayo-Chira and Zarumilla Transboundary Aquifers and River Basins	International Waters	Regional (Ecuador, Peru)	UNDP	200,000	19,000	8,000,000	760,000	40,000,002	48,979,002
40	10712	Enhancing water-food security and climate resilience in volcanic island countries of the Pacific	International Waters	Regional (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu)	FAO	150,000	14,250	6,000,000	570,000	23,400,000	30,134,250
41	10508	Integrated transboundary water resources management in the Corubal basin between Guinée and Guinée-Bissau	International Waters	Regional (Guinea, Guinea-Bissau)	IUCN	200,000	18,000	6,300,000	567,000	26,149,000	33,234,000
42	10679	Management of Indonesian and Timor-Leste Transboundary Watersheds (MITLW)	International Waters	Regional (Indonesia, Timor Leste)	CI	150,000	13,500	4,999,541	449,959	12,322,134	17,935,134
43	10685	Build back a blue and stronger Mediterranean	International Waters	Regional (Lebanon, Montenegro, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia)	CI	150,000	13,500	5,000,000	450,000	34,310,275	39,923,775
44	10573	Blue Horizon: Ocean Relief through Seaweed Aquaculture	International Waters	Regional (Philippines, Viet Nam)	WWF-US	150,000	13,500	6,000,000	540,000	37,660,000	44,363,500
				IW - Sub-Total		1,500,000	136,750	54,467,431	4,972,069	342,403,291	403,479,541

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No.	GEF ID	Project Title	Focal Area	Country	Agency	PPG Amount	PPG Fee	GEF Project Financing	Agency Fee	Co-financing	Total Project Cost
in US \$											
Multi-focal Area											
45	10714	Institutionalising transboundary water management between Tajikistan and Afghanistan for the Panj River Sub Basin	Multi Focal Area	Regional (Afghanistan,Tajikistan)	FAO	200,000	19,000	7,991,781	759,219	54,300,000	63,270,000
46	10702	Community-based Management of Tanguar Haor Wetland in Bangladesh	Multi Focal Area	Bangladesh	UNDP	150,000	14,250	4,050,913	384,837	17,200,000	21,800,000
47	10718	Restoration of biodiversity and ecosystem services at the landscape scale on productive agroforestry areas and their natural environment	Multi Focal Area	Chile	FAO	150,000	14,250	5,674,032	539,033	32,000,000	38,377,315
48	10711	Innovating Eco-Compensation Mechanisms in Yangtze River Basin (YRB)	Multi Focal Area	China	ADB	183,488	16,512	8,073,396	726,604	111,000,000	120,000,000
49	10670	Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation in sustainable tourism development in Cuba	Multi Focal Area	Cuba	UNDP	100,000	9,500	3,598,630	341,870	30,873,740	34,923,740
50	10672	Promotion of Integrated Biodiversity Conservation and Land Degradation Neutrality in Highly Degraded Landscapes of Iraq	Multi Focal Area	Iraq	UNEP	150,000	14,249	4,538,128	431,121	25,500,000	30,633,498
51	10692	Integrated Community-based Management of High Value Mountain Ecosystems in Southern Kyrgyzstan for Multiple Benefits	Multi Focal Area	Kyrgyz Republic	UNDP	100,000	9,500	2,639,726	250,774	14,500,000	17,500,000
52	10389	Evaluation of Natural Capital to Support Land Use Planning, Improved management effectiveness of Terrestrial Protected Areas, deployment of SLM practices and Creation of Eco-Villages in Central Madagascar	Multi Focal Area	Madagascar	UNEP	100,000	9,500	5,653,425	537,075	24,978,115	31,278,115
53	10699	Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and restoring forest landscape connectivity in Bago Region, Myanmar	Multi Focal Area	Myanmar	UNDP, WWF-US	200,000	18,500	7,122,693	658,807	29,130,000	37,130,000
54	10704	Sustainable Management of Natural Resources towards Rehabilitation and Preservation of the Key Biodiversity Area along Bataan Province to Manila Bay	Multi Focal Area	Philippines	FAO	100,000	9,500	2,731,050	259,450	15,500,000	18,600,000
55	10698	Safeguarding Solomon Islands endemic and globally threatened biodiversity and ecosystem services from key threats, particularly invasive alien species and unsustainable land use practices (SAFE project)	Multi Focal Area	Solomon Islands	UNDP	200,000	19,000	7,845,662	745,338	19,700,000	28,510,000
56	10552	Natural Capital Values of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in Sri Lanka Integrated into Sustainable Development Planning	Multi Focal Area	Sri Lanka	IUCN	100,000	9,000	2,656,194	238,706	16,750,000	19,753,900
57	10678	Integrated management of multiple use landscapes and high conservation value forest for sustainable development of the Venezuelan Andean Region	Multi Focal Area	Venezuela	FAO	150,000	14,250	5,329,452	506,298	45,681,355	51,681,355
MFA - Sub-Total						1,883,488	177,011	67,905,082	6,379,132	437,113,210	513,457,923

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1	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	14	15
No.	GEF ID	Project Title	Focal Area	Country	Agency	PPG Amount	PPG Fee	GEF Project Financing	Agency Fee	Co-financing	Total Project Cost
Multi-Trust Fund											
58	10688	Restoring and Enhancing the Value of Degraded Lands and Forest Ecosystems for Enhanced Climate Resilience in Benin (PIRVaTEFoD-Benin)	Multi Focal Area	Benin	UNDP	100,000	9,500	4,566,667	433,833	19,487,300	24,597,300
59	10166	Strengthening human and natural systems resilience to climate change through mangrove ecosystems conservation and sustainable use in southern Benin	Multi Focal Area	Benin	FAO	50,000	4,750	2,689,726	255,524	9,250,000	12,250,000
60	10687	Climate security and sustainable management of natural resources in the central regions of Mali for peacebuilding	Multi Focal Area	Mali	UNDP	100,000	9,500	2,639,726	250,774	12,137,075	15,137,075
MTF - Sub-Total						250,000	23,750	9,896,119	940,131	40,874,375	51,984,375
Small Grants Programme											
61	10655	GEF SGP 7th Operational Phase - Strategic Implementation using STAR Resources mainly in LDCs and SIDs (Part 3)	Multi Focal Area	Global (Afghanistan, Argentina, Bahamas, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Colombia, Congo DR, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Jamaica, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Tanzania, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Venezuela, Togo, Tonga, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zimbabwe, China, Palau, Nepal)	UNDP	-	-	43,235,008	1,729,400	44,964,000	89,928,408
SGP - Sub-Total						-	-	43,235,008	1,729,400	44,964,000	89,928,408
Non-expedited Enabling Activity											
62	10707	Enabling China to Prepare Its Fourth National Communication, and Biennial Update Reports on Climate Change	Climate Change	China	UNDP	-	-	4,566,210	433,790	1,466,000	6,466,000
EA - Sub-Total						-	-	4,566,210	433,790	1,466,000	6,466,000
GRAND TOTAL						8,573,553	799,168	376,458,938	32,720,476	2,115,315,607	2,533,867,742
										(60,222,579)	-

* Program 10726 is an addendum to program 10201 which was approved by Council in its June 2019 meeting. Therefore, program addendum 10726 in its entirety will be merged into program 10201 upon Council approval of the December 2020 Work Program

ANNEX II. COVID-19 SCREENS FOR PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE WORK PROGRAM

Project ID 10166

Project Title: Strengthening human and natural systems resilience to climate change through mangrove ecosystems conservation and sustainable use in southern Benin

Agency: FAO

Country: Benin

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project includes a brief analysis on the pandemic and how it has been integrated into the project design. As of 30 September 2020, Benin reported 2,340 cases of COVID-19, including 40 deaths. The negative impact of the pandemic on the agriculture sector includes: limited access to international markets (37% decrease in pineapple exports alone), and negative repercussions on animal production and health. This can be expected to have lasting impacts on poverty and food/nutrition insecurity in the country.

Several medium to long term objectives to build back better in the agriculture sectors include: (i) Improving production and productivity along food value chains; (ii) Facilitating commercialization of agricultural and agro-food products; and (iii) improving living conditions of vulnerable agricultural households. Immediate priority actions which support these longer term aims include: (i) facilitation of access to production factors and markets; (ii) promotion of digital solutions in the agricultural sectors; and (iii) improvement of social security networks to combat COVID-19 and M&E. The proposed LDCF-GEFTF project is equipped to support some of these priority actions, and also complements them by addressing environmental degradation and conservation of protected areas, which can help mitigate future pandemics.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Pandemics and COVID-19 specifically are listed as a risk in the risk matrix. Resilience in the project intervention logic is interpreted in a rather comprehensive fashion, and therefore includes building less vulnerable communities to pandemics, putting in place the infrastructure to build back better, such as short value chains for local markets, extension services that easily and promptly address health related concerns so they do not become social, economic and environmental crises, etc. The project intervention logic has the potential to addresses critical issues around human-wildlife interaction (including increased exposure to viruses), and the landscape management plans will explicitly integrate this concern. To overcome concerns in mobilizing the technical expertise to support project design and implementation, the project will work as much as possible with locally rooted (CSOs, NGOs, government institutes, extension services, ...) organizations and realities in order to minimize the impacts of limitations on mobility at the national and international level. Technological alternatives to face-to-face consultations will be deployed, securing proper participation and engagement of all relevant stakeholder groups, including women and youth. As government priorities potentially shift to address crises (health or other), the project will deliver evidence and increase its sensitization and awareness raising and capacity development efforts in order to advocate for continued support to green and resilient recovery.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project aims to increase the resilience of mangrove ecosystems and the communities that depend on them, through a package of targeted activities focusing on the improved management of critical mangrove ecosystems for their livelihoods. Increased resilience will allow mangrove dependent communities to derive maximum value from the natural infrastructure. The Covid-19 pandemic dramatically exposed the impact of ecosystem degradation on and the vulnerabilities of societies. The planning and management component of the project offers an opportunity to carefully consider the human-wildlife interactions and how to limit these along efforts to strengthen ecosystem's health and limit fragmentation. The project may help identify high-risk areas and consider appropriate mitigation measures. Short-term responses can also be delivered through some project approaches, including the Farmer Field Schools, which have continued to operate during the pandemic (and therefore deliver important extension services), and have successfully integrated modules on hygiene and social distancing measures to contain propagation of viruses. The project will also address market access issues, and can integrate lessons from the recent past into its activities. During the PPG phase, opportunities to build back better will be explored further and continue to be integrated into the project design.

Project ID 10385

Project Title: Mainstreaming Natural Capital Values into Planning and Implementation for Sustainable Blue Economic Growth in Indian Coastal Districts

Agency: UNEP

Country: India

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The objective of this project is to enhance biodiversity conservation and environmental sustainability of critical coastal landscapes in India by integrating natural capital and ecosystem services values in District-level blue economy strategy and spatial planning processes, and coastal sector operations. Given that, it is well suited to ensuring that COVID recovery, in the infrastructure development sector, takes a greener path through the incorporation of natural capital and ecosystem service values into economic development and spatial planning. The project team is also adaptively managing given COVID impacts on field work to be undertaken during PPG including challenges regarding field work, though by the end of 2021 it is expected that the situation would be much improved in time for project implementation.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The project addresses the risk of the COVID pandemic to both the operational and logistics aspects of the project preparation and implementation, but also to the potential GEB generation given the scope of the project-to include tourism. The project will take several approaches to address potential logistics/operations risks including use of local project consultants from project sites to ease travel issues. The project targets application of NCA to the tourism sector, among others, especially with regards building the case to realize both the opportunities as well as the impacts and costs to NC of unsustainable tourism practices-but it does not depend directly on tour operators, hotels and related services as it focuses on high-level planning and approaches.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The objective of this project, the integration of natural capital assessment and accounting in sector planning, investments and operations, can contribute to green recovery approach in the project landscapes. The project would closely work together in target initiatives and sites with planners and financing institutions to identify ways that natural capital objectives can be built in their decision making, investments and operations, including related to COVID green recovery. In addition, the possibility of delays in implementation of the focal government investment programs, may be an unexpected opportunity for the GEF project to seek increased collaboration, and especially to highlight the need and collaborate on a green recovery approach in the targeted investment sites and project river basins.

Project ID 10389

Project Title: Evaluation of Natural Capital to Support Land Use Planning, Improved management effectiveness of Terrestrial Protected Areas, deployment of SLM practices and Creation of Eco-Villages in Central Madagascar

Agency: UNEP

Country: Madagascar

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

- 1. General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

COVID 19 and Climate Resilience: The current socioeconomic context due to the influence by the COVID 19 outbreak is an important risk to be considered for this project due to the remoteness of the project area and the poverty situation in the country affected also by a long term political crisis. Like most countries in the world, Madagascar is still experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the World Health Organization (WHO)¹⁰, as of 3rd November 2020, Madagascar experienced 17,111 cases of COVID 19 with 244 deaths.

Right from the beginning of the pandemic disease, the information related to economic and financial chocs were assessed since last quarter of 2019 and it is established that Madagascar dependency to foreign trade put the country in the high risk. In December 2019, in line with the country Emergence Plan, the Parliament adopted a national budget which did not consider the treat caused by the COVID 19 despite the alarming signs. This indicated the country self-confidence on its capacity to adapt particularly with the discovering by the country of COVID Organic which they considered to be a possible response to the disease. The first case was announced in the country on March 20th, 2020 and immediately the following day, the country declared a Sanitary Emergency. With nine cases registered on March 22nd, 2020, the country decided on the lockdown of the capital, the entire region of Analamanga and the coastal city of Toamasina. In April 2020, the pandemic affected 6 regions: Analamanga (where the capital is), Haute Matsiatra, Diana, Antsiranana, Menabe et Toamasina. According to Michael Taube, Journalist, Opinion International, the management of COVID 19 crisis in Madagascar is globally satisfactory. The early response has enabled the country to experience less deaths (0.77/100,000 people) when compared to some African countries with higher GDP, as Senegal (1.94/100,000 people). Furthermore, the COVID 19 is being seen as an opportunity for Madagascar as the country gains confidence of several donors including the International Monetary Fund, IMF, and the World Bank who are now providing additional loans to the country. The COVID 19 has affected the PIF development to some extent: With the lockdown, it was not possible during times of the review process to meet with local population and partners

¹⁰ <https://covid19.who.int/table>

for close discussion. However, the partnership and collaboration with renowned international and national NGOs (Conservation International, Kew Madagascar, GRET) who have a long history of working in the project area and are currently having teams on ground, facilitated the data gathering and engagement with local stakeholders.

The possible consequences on fragile economy and the precarious livelihoods of populations require anticipation in the choice of resilience strategies and measures to face this new global threat. Even if it disappears, the consequences of this pandemic will have a lasting impact on communities and the various production systems.

The potential for future outbreaks cannot also be ruled out. In this context, the project will identify relevant support to enable the country to cope with the consequences of this pandemic, its implications on food security, transhumant livestock farming, pressure on natural resources and different value chains. The project will therefore promote the adoption of an approach where communities in general, and women and youth (who are the majority in rural areas and who are essential in the production and processing of agricultural, forestry and pastoral products) in particular, will be central to the process of creating goods and services and generating wealth. This will ensure the improvement of the productivity of the land and its water resources, the possibility of creating jobs and wealth around specific sectors without forgetting the plants used by rural populations to fight against diseases (e.g. malaria,), through the promotion of the local pharmacopoeia, particularly the cultivation of appropriate medicinal plants which is common in Madagascar.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Madagascar has a long history of pandemic disease management. The country is regularly affected by plague. The country was able to establish a strong disease control mechanism and with COVID 19 that mechanism has been strengthened with the support of partners. As the project will be establishing ecovillages and conduct Natural Capital Assessment the capacity to handle disease in the project context will be assessed and considered in the design of the ecovillage's models.

The stakeholder's engagement is at the heart of ecovillage model development. The project will ensure that this engagement gives due consideration to women and marginalized groups in the context of COVID 19.

The role of decentralized administrations and non-state partners (NGO, etc.) is very strong in Madagascar. The project will ensure that the natural capital assessment, the land use plans, and the ecovillages reinforce the general enabling environment for the project development and implementation in the context of COVID 19.

The ecovillages to be established will serve as a mechanism for resources mobilization for sustainable and resilient investment

Ecovillages establishment in the context of COVID 19 will provide opportunities for long-term mechanism for pandemic management as part of ecovillage health component.

- 3. Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

UNEP, as the GEF Implementing Agency of this project, will consider the project in the current dynamic of "Rebuilding the post-pandemic world, better". This will be through the Re-examining, retool, accelerating UNEP work on: i) Green Jobs: Towards decent work in a sustainable, low-carbon world (UNEP, ILO, IOE, ITUC, 2008); ii) Global Green New Deal (2009); iii) Green Economy and iv) Sustainable Consumption and Production.

Project ID 10419

Project Title: Environmentally sound management of PCBs, Mercury and other toxic chemicals in Peru

Agency: UNDP

Country: Peru

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

This project will support the GEF's COVID-19 response and mitigation of Future Pandemics through the promotion of activities that minimize human health risks while reducing pollution. Specifically, through Component 3, the project will support Peru on the establishment of Best Practices for the management of Healthcare Waste management, including COVID-19 pathological wastes. Through the Project's Pilots, demand and supply channels of Healthcare facilities will be strengthened, fostering the decisionmakers' capability to understand the challenges of waste management and its implications for human health and the environment. Component 3 will incorporate COVID-19 and healthcare waste management considerations into all activities developed throughout the implementation of the project. These activities assess opportunities where the Project's initiatives and Pilots can help reduce the risk of emerging infectious diseases such as COVID-19. In this regard, it is worth mentioning that Peru, through Supreme Decree No. 008-2020-SA, published on March 11, 2020, declared a national health emergency that is still currently in force. The current context led to the issuance of differentiated protocols on solid waste management, reason why the execution of the activities proposed in Component 3 of this project is of great interest regarding the improvement of the management of hospital waste and its contribution to the best response to the COVID-19 context. Furthermore, the project will also benefit from UNDP's extensive experience with Pandemic responses. In the past, UNDP has been key in the management of the Ebola pandemic, helping countries to promote and adopt actions that assure sustainable mechanisms to avoid future outbreaks.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Management of Risk:

- a) Develop innovative virtual and remote methods for working and implementation
- b) since the World has not yet found a vaccine for this virus, for the implementation of those activities that require social gathering, the Project will assume COVID-19 as a public health crisis, implementing the solutions for which are social distancing, careful sanitization, widespread testing, access to safety equipment, and immediate competent medical care, if needed.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

This project will support the GEF's COVID-19 response and mitigation of Future Pandemics through the promotion of activities that minimize human health risks while reducing pollution. Specifically, through Component 3, the project will support Peru on the establishment of Best Practices for the management of Healthcare Waste management, including COVID-19 pathological wastes. Through the Project's Pilots, demand and supply channels of Healthcare facilities will be strengthened, fostering the decisionmakers' capability to understand the challenges of waste management and its implications for human health and the environment. Component 3 will incorporate COVID-19 and healthcare waste management considerations into all activities developed throughout the implementation of the project. These activities assess opportunities where the Project's initiatives and Pilots can help reduce the risk of emerging infectious diseases such as COVID-19.

Project ID 10508

Project Title: Integrated transboundary water resources management in the Corubal basin between Guinée and Guinée-Bissau.

Agency: UNDP

Countries: Regional, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

COVID 19 has been briefly touched upon in the risk section of the project description. It has been noted during the review that it is firmly expected that the risks and opportunities presented by COVID will be further elaborated on during the PPG phase.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Given the situation caused by the epidemic of COVID 19 in 2019 and 2020 around the world, the probability that an epidemic threatens project advancement is not unlikely. The project will ensure that all staff can respect hygiene and mitigation measures in the case of such an epidemic. The project will also be designed in a manner that components can be implemented independently so delays are not too high, should the case happen. In the short term, the risks are significant in case the epidemic continues and will mainly impact on the finalization of the project document and the effective start of the project. In the medium and long term, and always in the hypothesis of a prolonged epidemic, the risks become serious and may even result in the non-achievement of the objectives assigned to the project. On another level, they will increase the impoverishment of the rural population, which in return may intensify the pressure on natural resources and thus degrade ecosystems

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

n/a

Project ID 10552

**Project Title: Natural Capital Values of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in Sri Lanka
Integrated into Sustainable Development Planning**

Agency: IUCN

Country: Sri Lanka

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project will need to consider the post-COVID-19 recovery environment where there is a high premium placed on decarbonization and tourism and production experiences that are least damaging to ecosystems. In the case of Sri Lanka, the strategy is to aim for niche tourism and agriculture productivity approaches and greening and biodiversity principles would be attractive in terms of promoting the tourism, fishery and agriculture products in local and global market place, and therefore, will play a key role in BD mainstream advocacy. These new developments may require more exchanges or experience sharing and partnership opportunities for investments (Output 2.2.3). Based on the project experience, the project and partners/stakeholders will work towards generating/designing innovative applications of NCAA, METT, EEA tools in biodiversity mainstreaming, which will combine public, private and community strengths and will be reflected in the proposed port-folio of impact investments.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Risk: Lack of interest of private sector and stakeholders due to the complexity of the project approach in a post-conflict area after potential economic downturn due to COVID-19. The project related community engagement, PPPs, capacity building, joint planning, communications and networking would be attractive to Private Sector. BD mainstreamed exports in post-COVID environment have a niche in the global market.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Post-COVID-19 era is also highlighting the importance of biodiversity conservation and the role that NCAA approach and biodiversity mainstreaming tools may capitalize on the new trends.

Project ID 10565

Project Title: Enhanced Water Security and Community Resilience in the Adjacent Cuvelai and Kunene Transboundary River Basins

Agency: UNDP

Countries: Regional, Angola, Namibia

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

It is now becoming apparent that the social and economic impacts of the present health emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic will have negative effects on jobs and livelihoods in many sectors, including those related to freshwater resources. Current and potential future impacts will be considered during the TDA and IWRM compilation. Short-term constraints on travel and group gatherings are being considered and on-line or remote learning and communication options will be used where necessary, adjusting some of the equipment related costs to ensure equal opportunity to all beneficiaries. In the case where field campaigns are required and direct technical assistance of international experts is required but it is not possible due to the limitation in movement as a result of temporary measures due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a combination of remote guidance by the international experts and utilization of national experts will be used to ensure the implementation of the activities.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

COVID-19 pandemic may impose restrictions on working arrangements, movements, procurement, supply chains, local market, etc., which will all impact operational efficiency of the project. It may have impacts on security stability in rural areas or in fragile states where there existed limited resilience to absorb such unpredicted and unprecedented external shocks. The level and type of risks will change as the COVID-19 pandemic situations change in particular locations in the basin as well as in two countries. The project will regularly screen for COVID-19 risks through available tools and mechanisms (e.g. Social and Environmental Safeguards, Stakeholder Engagement and M&E Plans implementation) and update the Atlas Project Risk Register to develop and adjust mitigation actions to deal with changing risks.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

n/a

Project ID 10567

Project Title: Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta

Agency: IADB

Country: Colombia

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

Stimulus post-crisis may be an opportunity to make the business case for conservation/restoration activities, sustainable livelihoods, and to include the project approach in any relief/stimulus package and the project will explore that during the PPG phase. Finally, the Colombian Government maintained biodiversity as an essential issue of its Green recovery Strategy for the COVID-19 crisis.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The objective of this project is to improve the ecosystem health of the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta –CGSM- to promote the conservation of biodiversity. Given that the project is focused on improving watershed management, environmental governance, restoration, and productive activities COVID-19 does not pose either a great risk or opportunity. Climate change is likely to exert a much stronger impact in the medium term as far as risk factors are considered and the project design has addressed this risk adequately.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The COVID-19 crisis is currently restricting travel, meetings, and economic activity. This could delay project design and implementation. Remote meetings will be used as much as possible for project design. In execution, the project will enforce and implement the safety protocols established by each local government.

Project ID 10568

Project Title: Philippine Rise Integrated Conservation for Enduring Legacies through Ecosystem Support Services (PRICELESS)

Agency: CI

Country: Philippines

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

Economic shocks caused by the pandemic may have a severe impact on communities whose livelihoods and food security already are already precarious as a consequence of baseline conditions. While this impact may present challenges for the project (i.e. people working hard to survive may have limited time and attention to respond to engagement efforts), it also reinforces the urgency of project activities relating to livelihood diversification and increased fishing productivity. This also reinforces the importance of community involvement in MPA planning and management processes.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.
3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

DENR-BMB is strongly committed to this project, and the interim PAMB also has a strong interest in seeing this project come to fruition. During consultations with various government agencies during the last several months of COVID, contact points signaled that this project remains a strong priority. Combined with the wider policy commitments of the government to which this project offers direct and significant contributions, these signals leave the project partners confident that the enabling environment in terms of government support and participation remains highly favorable. The CI-Philippines Country Program is committed to supporting DENR-BMB on several fronts to ensure continued delivery during the PPG and Project Implementation stages. CI-Philippines has technical staff in country, and benefits from support from regional and global CI expertise, particularly in key areas such as management planning, stakeholder engagement, and gender mainstreaming. CI has developed COVID-19 response strategies and protocols to protect staff as well as counterparts in communities, local civil society organizations, and government agencies.

Local fishing associations are anticipated to play a particularly important role in community engagement and deploying sustainable fishing practices. Engagement with these associations in the COVID-19 context will require particular attention to precautions. However, the partners view this as an opportunity to support the associations and their members in strengthening their response to COVID and embracing safety practices. Thus the project will help the civil society sector adjust to the pandemic.

In terms of financing, overall government budgets have increased to emphasize COVID-19 recovery. However, for the Department of Natural Resources, the proposed 2021 budget is consistent with 2020 numbers demonstrating continued commitment. Co-financing for this project will be detailed and confirmed during the PPG phase, as COVID-19 has diverted the attention of decision-makers within key government agencies during initial project concept development. Based on discussions with technical agency staff in DENR and BFAR, a minimum of USD 10 million as co-financing is anticipated. Once allocations for enforcement efforts, fisheries infrastructure/production support, and marine research efforts are fully captured, this figure may substantially increase. Further, the project itself will lead to increased access to government funds for MPA management after securing full protected status for the PRMRR under e-NIPAS providing further financial security.

The project will be designed to support recovery from COVID-19 and create opportunities to build back better. There are several features of the project that will particularly help mitigate the future risk of similar crises: Development of organizational capacity with respect to crisis response (among fishing associations as well as government agencies); Enhanced sustainability of fishing activities, which will mitigate the risk of shocks to food supplies and income for communities linked to resource declines; Livelihood diversification, which will reinforce household resilience against shocks and enable local people to better address health needs in general.

Project ID 10570

Project Title: Improving biodiversity mainstreaming in the agroforestry and fishery sectors in São Tomé and Príncipe

Agency: IFAD

Country: São Tomé and Príncipe

- 1. General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The community health in São Tomé and Príncipe is weak and there is no third-party health care at country level. The country has four intensive care beds and all complicated diseases are evacuated to Portugal. In this context, the extreme fragility of the socio-economic situation São Tomé and Príncipe is facing due to the pandemic outbreak is very high. As of 10 August, São Tomé and Príncipe has registered 932 cases of COVID-19, with 800 recoveries and 15 deaths (WHO, 2020). This shows how the transmission has been significant on this small island and the risks to the health system. The COVID-19 pandemic has therefore imposed limitation of movement of people and goods within and across countries, which has been hindering food-related logistic services and disrupting entire food supply chains. Impacts on movement of agricultural labor and on the supply of inputs will soon pose critical challenges to food production, thus jeopardizing food security and hitting especially hard people living in vulnerable conditions.

Against this situation, key measures were put in place by the government to contain the impact of the COVID. The government moved from a state of emergency to a state of alert in October following these measures, in the final phase of reopening the economy. The country has reopened hotels, restaurants, commercial flights, and extended the operation of commerce and public service to normal hours.

National COVID response programs have been developed to address the potential impact of COVID 19.

The Agency has developed new approaches and processes in country for the remote design of the PIF, including online interactions as well as limited remote data and information access. Specific guidelines for PIF design and implementation were also developed. At the implementation stage, specific measures to safeguards the portfolio will include: trainings on safe labor practices, access to more protective equipment such as masks and gloves, use of drones and other digital extension tools for labor, among others.

- 2. Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The COVID -19 limitation of movement of people and goods within and across countries, has been hindering food-related logistic services and disrupting entire food supply chains. Impacts on movement of agricultural labor and on the supply of inputs could soon pose critical challenges to food production, thus jeopardizing food security and hitting especially hard people living in vulnerable condition. To address these risks, IFAD has developed specific guidelines to support the design of all IFAD projects, including GEF PIF, PPG and at implementation.

Regarding mobility and stakeholder engagement, the guidelines recommend virtual consultations wherever the risk of COVID contamination is high. For areas where the risk is high, remote design is prioritized. IFAD provides digital connection to all stakeholders including indigenous people. Extension agents and local partners provide support during the consultation. Additionally, IFAD and governments partners provide mobile phones and airtime to connect during the design of the PIF, PPG and implementation of the project when consultations are needed, and mobility is not permitted. Specific agreements will be signed with local NGOs to provide support.

Enabling Environment : key measures put by the government which support all projects including the GEF project are : (i) Implementation of the health contingency plan prepared in coordination with the WHO and increased health spending (on medicine, equipment, staffing, and treatment centres) to protect against COVID-19; (ii) Expansion of social assistance to the most vulnerable, including expansion of the WB-supported cash-transfer program, and increased support to the disadvantaged (the elderly, disabled and abandoned children); (iii) Protecting small businesses and employment, in particular through salary contributions; (iv) Financial assistance to workers who lost their jobs in both the formal and informal sectors; (v) Implementation of automatic stabilizers; (vi) Where supply chains are disrupted, the state will procure seeds, feedstock, and other essential inputs to be sold to farmers at market price; (vii) Introduction of a solidarity tax on workers, including public servants, whose salaries are relatively unaffected by the shock. The Central Bank of Sao Tome (BCSTP) has reduced the policy rate and minimum cash reserve requirement, and temporarily eased some prudential ratios for three months to ensure adequate provision of liquidity in the market.

The project co-financing is on tax exemption from the government and beneficiaries' contributions in assets and work. Hence debt and narrow fiscal space due to impact of COVID will not affect the project

With regards to future similar crisis, Ebola pandemic has been reported in neighboring countries like DRC the last past years. Specific measures have been put in place by IFAD and the government to safeguards all investments. These sanitary measures and restrictions have been taken against all people from the neighboring countries to prevent Ebola. Country capacity is being reinforced to maintain the livelihood at the same level and pressure on ecosystems is contained with all COVID-19 responses at country level.

- 3. Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project itself is a response to the COVID -19 crisis and indirectly to future similar diseases as it focuses mainly on specific interventions that support the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy through biodiversity conservation in the agroforestry and fishery sectors. This project will mainstream biodiversity conservation into the agroforestry and fishery production and management to minimize the negative impacts on biodiversity of the agroforestry and fishery sector development while enhancing the contribution of ecosystem services to livelihoods in São Tomé and Príncipe. Through the project components, the GEF project will contribute to protect and restore natural systems (land, forest, marine biodiversity) and their ecological functionality and integrity particularly in areas where biodiversity of global importance is under threats.

Ultimately, the project will contribute to healthy environment and communities particularly in a COVID-19 context. Through the various interventions planned, the project will contribute through the management of forest, land and fisheries to protect and conserve the biodiversity but also build the resilience to climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Key opportunities that COVID brings to countries:

- Adoption of remote and tele-supervision
- Knowledge and skills on safe labour practices, and transports
- Better access and use of more protective equipment such as masks and gloves,
- Use of drones and other digital extension tools for labour and input saving practices, shared mechanization.
- Discussion of risk sharing mechanism such as insurance including pandemic insurance,
- Opportunities to develop digital marketing platforms and logistics, sanitary and phyto-sanitary controls as proposed in the project

Project ID 10573

Project Title: Blue Horizon: Ocean Relief through Seaweed Aquaculture

Agency: WWF

Countries: Regional, Philippines, Viet Nam

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

- 1. General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities.

The project has identified COVID as a risk in its risk matrix and on top of that uploaded a detailed risk and opportunity analysis as can be seen below.

- 2. Risk analysis and mitigation plans:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design.

The project development work plan and team will access experts in each country and recruit national consultants. National consultants and partners will undertake consultations and/or technology will be used to connect virtually. At the start of project development the design team will discuss a plan with SEAFDEC, BFAR and D-FISH on how best to carry forward the work (eg through consultants and partners) while ensuring government and project partner ownership (eg at agreed decision points with government and partners, such as a mid-point project design review and validation workshop held virtually). Project design will rely on national rather than international consultants and the national WWF and government offices to collect, analyze and present such data. At the start of project development, the design team will discuss a strategy for effective, timely but also policy-compliant project development. Timelines may need to be flexible to allow for quality and compliance. Local level consultation will only be undertaken if it complies to national and local government guidelines, as well as WWF national office guidelines and COVID-19 safe protocols. As much as possible, remote connections will be used, for example via local government offices for community consultations. Development of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and any safeguards mitigation plans will also address such restrictions and mitigations. The project could undertake a supply chain mapping exercise during project development or early implementation phase to see if and where COVID-19 risks are and identify specific mitigations based on that.

- 3. Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts

Seaweed farms have a positive correlation with biodiversity. As they reduce pollutants, support marine habitat, and contribute to community livelihoods, the project is already restoring marine ecosystems and ecological functioning. A central part of the project ToC is to increase seaweed production to capture pollutants (nitrogen and phosphorus) and CO₂. The project will promote innovative engagement with private sector to stimulate the seaweed value chain, and thereby further reduce pollutants and capture CO₂.

Project ID 10575

Project Title: Coral Reef Rescue: Resilient Coral Reefs, Resilient Communities

Agency: WWF

Countries: Global, Fiji, Indonesia, Madagascar, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Tanzania

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities.

The project has identified risks and opportunities as described below.

2. **Risk analysis and mitigation plans:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design.

The project development work plan and team will access experts in each country and not recruit a consultant to travel to all of the countries. Project development will be coordinated from one central expert consultant and the WWF GEF team who will use remote technology to connect to in-country consultants and partners to design and consult the project. At the start of project development the design team will discuss a plan with each of the key ministries on how best to carry forward the work (eg through consultants and partners) while ensuring government ownership (eg through meetings as possible and via agreed decision points with government). At the start of project development, the design team will discuss a strategy to ensure the right mechanisms are in place for the effective and timely engagement of the 7 countries. In this effort, the project design team will have additional support from in country WWF focal points, who will facilitate virtual and face to face (when possible) government and other national key stakeholders' engagement. The project design team will regularly update the GEF Secretariat Project Manager on any potential risks, and jointly, will define mitigation measures towards the timely delivery of the project document and project start up. Local level consultation will only be undertaken if it complies to national to local government guidelines and WWF national office guidelines. For example, it is likely that the consulting team will be smaller (1-2 people), national staff, and may have to be across design, gender, social and environmental issues, and they will likely consult with small group sizes (under 10 people or per local guidelines) and will have PPE for themselves and for people they talk to in person. Additionally, COVID protocol will be developed and followed, such as testing, and supply of sanitizer and masks. In any case where either party is not comfortable to engage in discussions; it will not proceed. As much as possible, remote connections will be sought, for example via local government offices visiting communities.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

At the core of the project ToC is the strategy to reduce land, coastal and ocean-based threats to resilient coral reefs. This might include land use plans for more sustainable cattle farming and agriculture production in the resilient reef catchment, which will protect land and ocean ecosystems.

With a reef to ridge approach, the project will assess the most important human pressures to resilient reefs in each country. This assessment will inform the participatory design of national action plans that will help address those pressures. The national action plans will also inform the rest of the project activities, including those aimed at increasing sustainable financial flow to reduce threats to resilient coral reefs.

In project development, assessment will be made on how this can be further enhanced, with focus on pollutants such as nutrients and disposables, and attention will be given to any resilient reef sites where increased pollution has been noted due to COVID-19 (e.g. medical sector). Additionally, the project will scope for existing and potential sustainable business in the resilient coral reefs that can reduce environmental degradation, will provide technical assistance to national teams to develop an investment portfolio to reduce unsustainable resource extraction and will include demonstrative sustainable livelihood projects in priority reefs.

One of the key project outcomes is to increase sustainable financial flow to relevant seascapes and landscapes to reduce threats to resilient coral reefs. This will be done through a scoping exercise, in which the project will identify innovative sustainable business in the resilient coral reefs that can reduce environmental degradation. The project will then provide technical assistance to national teams to develop an investment portfolio, to ensure the needed financial flows and incentives for private sector engagement in innovative sustainable and resilient reef friendly business.

Project ID 10584

Project Title: Strengthening the Implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks in Southern Africa (SINBF)

Agency: UNEP

Country: Regional: Congo DR, Madagascar, Namibia

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The objective of the project is to strengthen institutional, human and regulatory capacities and promote cooperative measures in the implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks in Madagascar, Namibia and DRC. The project is focused on managing possible modern biotechnology threats to the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity in participating countries. As such, COVID-19 is mainly seen as an implementation risk from a strictly operational point of view.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Although the three countries seemingly escaped the full impact of the pandemic as compared to total and active cases of other countries, the global economic slowdown will have an economic impact on the three countries. For example, tourism is a major contributor (14.5%) to Namibia's GDP, and created 18.2% of all employment pre-COVID. This will have a major impact on the economy of the country. Potential impacts on the commitment of co-financiers and partners will be assessed in detail during the PPG phase to develop adequate risk mitigation actions. The outbreak of Covid-19 has already affected work nationally and regionally. Travel restrictions have been in place. Should the situation continue, or should similar situations take place, the risk will be mitigated by trying to carry out relevant activities via alternative working methods (e.g. videoconferences, telecommuting, recourse to national human resources in the countries, etc.). Any mitigation measure will have to be discussed between the implementing and the executing partners/agencies. Biosecurity considerations which is at the base of Biosafety capacity building and implementation will be fully triggered in a phased approach both to ensure human and environmental safety to project implementation measures and execution of activities guided by the technical principles of ensuring genetic and material confinement and management measures in project delivery. Standard Project Operational Procedures will be developed as applicable.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Under current conditions, governments are expected to focus public resources on rebuilding the economies of the participating countries. This might affect the co-financing of the project and the ability of the project to deliver on the GEBs. However, biosafety and the set-up of stringent biosecurity conditions will also be priorities post-COVID and could perhaps help mitigate the recurrence of such pandemic and diseases. During PPG and project implementation the importance of having a strong biosafety regime will be communicated as part of the green recovery programme of country and building back better.

Project ID 10655

Project Title: GEF SGP 7th Operational Phase - Strategic Implementation using STAR
Resources mainly in LDCs and SIDs (Part 3)

Agency: UNDP

Country: Global

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

While the COVID-19 pandemic upended lives and disrupted the world as we know it presenting unprecedented health, economic and social challenges, local communities and indigenous peoples (SGP's primary clients) were hit the hardest, laying bare their vulnerabilities exacerbated by poverty and adverse impacts of climate change. Given this and owing to SGP's innovative, flexible, agile and community-oriented nature, it was natural for SGP to be among the earliest to provide concrete on the ground support to local communities to deal with the pandemic.

As a result, SGP rolled out a COVID-19 response strategy that, among others, required SGP country programmes to: (a) undertake assessment of impacts of COVID-19 on grant projects and identify options for adaptive management based on community needs and implementation issues; (b) implement appropriate adaptive management measures within the existing grant project framework; (c) identify entry points for integrating green recovery strategies and actions in country and grant projects, in line with the GEF-7 directions and SGP's strategic initiatives. This guidance has been reflected in the UNDP Project Document for the SGP's 7th Operational Phase including as part of the UNDP social and environmental screening process.

Moreover, all SGP Country Program Strategy (CPS) documents – a key programming document that guides implementation of SGP global strategies at the country level – identified and integrated initial COVID-19 risks and strategies to both mitigate COVID-19 related risks and implement early green recovery strategies. Thus, SGP grant-making operations under this project will be informed of the risks and impacts from COVID-19 while contributing positively towards building resilience, green recovery and strategies to build back greener and better at the local level.

Considering the COVID-19 impacts, SGP will support community-led actions that will contribute to achieving global environmental benefits while mitigating the current and emerging risks related to COVID-19 and similar future pandemics. These will be documented in the SGP guidelines for COVID response and also integrated into the SGP Project Document. For details please see response to question 3.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Risk analysis for COVID-19 impacts for SGP has been undertaken at two levels. At the global level, the UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) has been applied to identify relevant COVID-19 related risks and impacts. In tandem, at the local level, the SGP COVID impact assessment guidelines were applied to all SGP programme countries to assess both existing grant projects and ascertain risks and impacts to future grant-making operations.

Thus, at the global level, the Project Document lists the growing threat and risks of the COVID-19 as a significant risk and recommends the following mitigation strategy. In the short term, the SGP will respect all national guidance and international best practices so that SGP activities do not inadvertently contribute to spreading the virus. In the medium term, the SGP support while remaining fully aligned to the programming directions as set forth under the SGP Implementation Arrangements for GEF-7, where appropriate, will seek to join national and local initiatives to build back green and better. SGP Country Programmes with guidance from the NSC will develop and employ review criteria to screen any potential specific COVID –related risks at individual project level and as required will bring in additional expertise to guide the process.

At the local level, several risks including delays with implementation of grant projects, changes in overall project relevance and sustainability due to the delay and changed economic and social situation, requirements to meet the immediate needs of affected communities particularly remote and vulnerable communities including indigenous peoples and women were identified. Country programs also reported significant opportunities to support vulnerable remote communities to protect themselves better through dissemination of scientific and reliable medical information related to COVID-19 (in local languages if possible) as part of the SGP training and capacity-building initiatives. In summary, Country programs also identified operational impacts of the pandemic such as: different working arrangements of SGP staff, NSC members and grantees due to travel and other restrictions; reduced stakeholder interaction including with NSC members and other stakeholders; limited opportunities for field visits for validation, hand-holding support.

In response, UNDP prepared detailed guidance on responding to COVID related needs, alignment with recovery efforts and long-term prevention related measures, including increased and improved use of digital means and small group activities. In addition, as condition continue to change in relation to the impacts of COVID-19, further information will be provided at the time of CEO endorsement.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Consultations with the SGP Country Programmes staff, National Steering Committee members and other stakeholders identified several possible actions that SGP could support through its grantmaking and policy dialogue initiatives that will address / mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic while contributing to delivering the global environmental benefits, enhance resilience and support local efforts to build back greener and better.

In **the short term**, the following provides examples of what SGP support may consist of:

- facilitate and encourage CSOs and local communities' involvement in relevant strategy and policy development related to COVID-19 at the local and national levels. This includes participation in relevant committees and working groups, and having the local communities' needs and solutions reflected in the green recovery plan.
- support generation of green jobs through biodiversity projects (protection of water sources, forest management, eradication of invasive species etc.) with twin objective to secure critical ecosystem services while also improving livelihoods; improving food security (e.g. agroforestry, urban gardening, support for cooperatives, sustainable agriculture) for the communities losing their livelihood (e.g. market access, fishing rights, etc.) or employment (e.g. tourism, service industries) because of the epidemic;
- support food supply chain including improved storage, drying, and other technologies by using renewable energy and traditional methods; support delivery services through low carbon transport (i.e. bicycle, solar powered boat, etc.);
- provide support to develop virtual marketplace and other digital technologies to disseminate market information for organic and sustainable produce harvested by the project; support community health centers and related facilities under renewable energy, food security and waste management projects;
- support medical waste management at community and household levels, including waste reduction and awareness raising through waste management project;
- support to environmental education and awareness programs including school activities on renewable energy, promotion of school/home gardens and sustainable practices.
- support production of biodiversity friendly and nature-based products, including artisanal production of soaps, masks, sanitizers and other hygiene supplies by following national and international guideline/standards;

In addition, as a predominantly community-oriented programme, SGP will also adopt flexible and appropriate approaches and technologies for local operations and grant procedures including use of digital technologies and platforms for training, outreach and capacity building.

Likewise, in the **medium term** during the OP7 period, in line with the GEF-7 Implementation Guidelines for SGP and aligned with the UNDP Project Document, SGP aims to promote green recovery and build back greener and better strategies at the community level. Examples of project under Landscape and Seascape Management and Climate Smart Agroecology may include:

- Support to small and medium entrepreneurship development linked to sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources, focusing on vulnerable groups, such as women, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, at risk youth (e.g. training, seed funding, including bio-enterprises, energy access for productive use);

- Support and incentivize sustainable agricultural production and supply chain to improve food security, provide targeted support to small farmers, water supply and irrigation support, including with renewable energy and water harvesting (e.g. agroforestry, agrobiodiversity, home and urban gardens, agroecology, information dissemination on healthy eating, water use and harvesting);
- Support conservation initiatives safeguarding key protected area, including forest protection and provision of critical ecosystem services, particularly associated with preservation of water sources and water supply;
- Promote indigenous crops and traditional practices and sustainable land management, growing of medicinal plants and gathering ancestral knowledge related to health and epidemic response;
- Support sustainable community management of marine resources including local sustainable fisheries focusing on food security and improved storage;
- Community-based wildlife management, including expanding work on curbing poaching and illegal wildlife trade (i.e. as the source/vector of zoonotic pathogens);
- Recover and support sustainable nature-based tourism activities, in light of the COVID-19 impacts, for both job creation and promote wildlife/natural resource management.

Examples of projects under Low Carbon Energy Access and Chemical and Waste Management may include:

- Deployment of renewables and energy-efficient technologies for productive use, especially in rural and marginalized communities, including production, processing and storage of agricultural products.
- Renewable energy access for health facilities, medical waste management, etc.
- Renewable energy access to promote community radio, mobile and internet technology in combination with energy access for education, information dissemination, market access and other purposes;
- Improve medical and hazardous waste management (including plastic wastes); support dissemination of information to reduce health and environmental risks associated with improper handling of waste.
- Sound waste management (including reduction of waste burning) and adopting clean cooking technologies to reduce GHG emissions, including pollution for health benefit.

Under CSO-Government Dialogue, SGP support may include:

- Support local communities' participation in multi-stakeholder dialogues at the landscape, local and national levels (including through remote and digital dialogues) in providing inputs to post-crisis recovery policies and measures, particularly related to environment, energy and natural resources management;
- Collaborate and partner with e-learning/distant educational platforms for awareness raising and training of SGP partners on effective epidemic prevention measures, particularly focusing on vulnerable groups (children, youth, women, indigenous peoples, and persons with disabilities); and provide training on virtual tools and their use in communities with limited access or inexperience in the use of technologies;
- Facilitate community access to social and technological innovation and entrepreneur networks at local, regional and national levels;
- Support establishment of community crisis or emergency funds, with revenues generated from SGP supported nature-based enterprises, cooperatives and other productive activities;
- Facilitate access to funding for communities, small enterprises and CSOs to relief funds available through assistance and economic stimulus programs.

Project ID 10667

Project Title: COVID-19 Off-Grid Recovery Platform

Agency: AfDB

Country: Regional

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The primary purpose of the project is to provide fast and flexible financing to energy access companies that are hard hit by COVID-19 crisis. These companies are focusing on commercializing small scale renewable energy solutions to households, microenterprises and other end-consumers in underserved communities in Africa to mitigate the negative impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on the energy access industry.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The Agency designed this project based on market research and the results of several surveys on the impact of COVID -19 in the energy access sector. For example, as noted in the PIF, the most recent industry survey conducted by EnDev in a strategic cooperation with several industry associations and including 465 EA companies across Africa, confirms that over 70% of energy access companies are experiencing significant disruption of operations, with almost 30% having to cease operations. Sales volumes are substantially down and 85% of surveyed companies have only a few months of operating cost coverage remaining. The financing needs of companies range widely: more advanced companies seeking loans in the range of USD 100,000 to >5 million. The estimated need for concessional relief and recovery financing in the energy access sector is approximately USD 200 million.

The project is specifically designed to address the risk posed by the COVID-19 crisis by addressing the lack of access to finance by the energy access companies in Africa.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project is in itself the opportunity to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 since its sole purpose is to provide financing to energy access companies that would otherwise go bankrupt. The impacts of COVID-19 on energy access companies will be addressed by establishing a financing platform that will support the commercial viability of energy access companies, the progress of the energy access industry, and the significant sustainable energy progress to date.

Project ID 10670

Project Title: Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation in sustainable tourism development in Cuba

Agency: UNDP

Country: Cuba

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project will identify and summarize the pre Covid-19 macro and micro contexts regarding the tourism sector and industry in Cuba, considering the pre-pandemic financial, economic, social, cultural, and governance contexts. The assessment must identify and highlight the pre Covid-19 tourism and nature-based related policies, strategies and institutional action plans. The socio-economic impacts assessment will be evaluated in terms of loss of revenue, business closure, income and employment, and where relevant, livelihoods of the most vulnerable groups amongst others. This will include an assessment of the impacts on nature-based tourism and enterprises and categorization of the source of the tourism/nature-based value chains being considered in the analysis. With the assessments and findings, recommendations for socio-economic recovery measures for addressing the sectoral needs to rebuild the tourism sector and industry in a sustainable manner will be presented, approaching: Identification and prioritization of recovery needs, including a projection of three possible/likely future scenarios; Differentiated strategies and options for rebuilding nature-based tourism; Issues of local vulnerable groups, and interventions carried out by local communities, particularly women and indigenous group; Current Covid-19 economic and social relief measures, social protection measures, and their associated benefits or impacts on the tourism sector recovery, if any. Consideration of different trades (accommodation & hospitality, travel, tourism operators, arts crafts, cultural performances).

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Project start-up and implementation activities may be modified or delayed due to COVID limitations. The participation in project activities is considered a low risk due to strong national policies to protect worker health and safety and a national strategy to guide the reopening of the tourism sector post-pandemic. Cuba is preparing to gradually restart its tourist services, for which it has designed and implements rigorous sanitary and hygienic protocols. This allows the gradual recovery of the tourism sector, contributing to the economic recovery of the country, without compromising national health security. The design of the project interventions will take into account the specific measures necessary to mitigate any potential risk of exposure during implementation. In accordance with current health restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, project preparation and implementation will employ videoconferencing equipment for virtual meetings and workshops, when necessary; adjust the workplan so that some activities in the field or related to consultations take place later, as necessary; and/or provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to prevent exposure among project stakeholders and participants. During the PPG, Budget will be included for IT support and PPE.

- 3. Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project will help the Technical Advisory Council of the Ministry of Tourism to apply those for the recovery of the sector from COVID-19 with a focus on Green Recovery and resilience to climate change. The project will promote exchange between this body and experts from key national institutions on biodiversity and climate change issues (research centers, universities, and business groups), and will promote feedback on national and international experiences.

Project ID 10672

Project Title: Promotion of Integrated Biodiversity Conservation and Land Degradation Neutrality in Highly Degraded Landscapes of Iraq

Agency: UNEP

Country: Iraq

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project has addressed the risks and opportunities throughout the PIF, in the baseline scenario, the co-financing considerations, the sustainability section, and the risk section. Risks are identified and mitigation measures considered adequate. While there are no concrete opportunities identified, the awareness for its potential is clearly expressed.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The current COVID-19 pandemic poses risks on various aspects of the Project, such as availability of technical expertise for capacity building activities and for stakeholder engagement. This has been / will be taken into account in the timing of activities and the workplan.

The COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant 'global risk' on sustainability of the project, especially because it is aggravated by the general context. Iraq's capacity to sustain project outcomes is limited due to the prevailing security situations, limited number of skilled human resources and generally complex institutions. However, experience in the ongoing Protected Area Network project demonstrates that there is strong interest and willingness to develop the capacity as well as ameliorate its environmental institutions. The project emphasizes multi-stakeholder processes, supporting the involvement and motivation of stakeholders. As summarized in the stakeholders' section, the Ministry of Health and Environment and UNEP organized an intensive discussion with various stakeholders to identify the local needs, including the ones related to the pandemic.

Furthermore, the project's work on the legal and policy framework can be executed even during a potential lockdown period. Meetings and activities that can be done remotely and may be prioritized in the initial project phase. Analytical work, capacity development and production of knowledge management materials will be conducted as deskwork, in virtually connected teams or in small groups to reduce COVID 19 infection risks.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

It is noteworthy that the project will be executed by the Iraqi Ministry of Health and Environment. It is probably unique and a clear advantage that health and environment are housed in the same ministry in view of the pandemic. This will enable the government to address risks, seek synergies in implementation and identify potential opportunities.

Project ID 10673

Project Title: *Green Production and Sustainable Development in Secondary Aluminum, Lead, Zinc and Lithium Sectors in China*

Agency: UNDP

Country: China

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.
2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.
3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

However, the project still plans to carry out continuous monitoring and assessment of the impacts of COVID-19 on the progress of the project and promote the implementation of the project according to the plan through various means, such as online meeting, telephone, etc if required. UNDP will consider, during the PPG Phase, the principles of the UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19, as well UNDP's Guidelines on UNDP's integrated response to COVID-19 potential linked and or parallel actions that could help decision-makers look and design beyond recovery, towards 2030, making choices and managing complexity and uncertainty in the green economy area to support the recovery from COVID-19 impacts.

The project estimates that China will have developed and deployed a viable vaccine in 2021, however the project will pay attention to the impact of the COVID-19 on the implementation of the project. When necessary, the project will carry out the socio-economic impact assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on the progress of the project, and promote the implementation of the project according to the plan through various means, such as online meeting, telephone, etc.

Project ID 10674

Project Title: Sustainable Integrated Management of Biodiversity in the Indio-Maíz Biological Reserve

Agency: FAO

Country: Nicaragua

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project will continuously monitor implementation of the PPG and subsequent implementation of the project. The project works in distinct industrial sites so the risk to low achievement if GEB's is low since technological upgrades etc. are required for the GEB's to be achieved. The risks of industrial shutdowns would be the only factor that will prevent work occurring.

The objective of the project is to conserve globally important biodiversity and enhance ecosystem services in the Indio-Maíz Biological Reserve (RBIM) through improved protected area and buffer zone management. The pandemic is mainly addressed as a risk to be mitigated as detailed below.

Identification of alternatives to face-to-face meetings and consultations, raised awareness about the situation on the field among the stakeholders and identification of green recovery measures. The evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic will be closely monitored to allow enough time for mitigation plans were needed.

Regarding COVID-19, during project preparation, several assessments at the field level will be carried out with local stakeholders. Given current conditions, we have noticed that preparation costs have increased, particularly those related to travel and face-to-face meetings. The project will make sure any meetings follow national guidance to prevent transmission and will monitor any impacts that may delay project preparation.

The project will start implementation in 2021, when the COVID-19 is expected to be under control. Nonetheless, during the preparation phase, the project will prepare a risk mitigation plan in case the situation is still dire.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

- 3. Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

n/a

Project ID 10675

Project Title: Safeguarding Marine & Terrestrial Biodiversity in Fiji (SAMBIO)

Agency: CI

Country: Fiji

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

This project confronts what is likely the largest challenge of COVID for Fiji, which is the loss of a substantial portion of GDP. Tourism helps fund and support conservation while people now shift to more fishing and natural resource use to sustain themselves without the income from tourism. It also makes it harder to engage the private sector and understand what it can and will do as part of the project.

These impacts make LMMA work even more important. People are able to benefit through secure long-term fisheries.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The project recognizes that women have been particularly badly hit by the economic downturn. It's worth noting that, like many other Pacific countries, Fiji does not currently have active COVID cases so they can operate and move internally like normal.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

n/a

Project ID 10677

Project Title: Effective Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing of the Nagoya Protocol and Integration into Planned co-management Arrangements in the Nyambai Forest Park of The Gambia

Agency: UNEP

Country: Gambia

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The current socioeconomic context due to the influence by the COVID 19 outbreak is an important risk considered for this project due to the poverty situation in the country. Like the vast majority of countries in the world, The Gambia is still experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic. The possible consequences on fragile economy and the precarious livelihoods of populations require anticipation in the choice of resilience strategies and measures to face this new global threat. Even if it disappears, the consequences of this pandemic will have a lasting impact on communities and the various production systems.

In this context, the project will identify relevant support to enable the country to cope with the consequences of this pandemic, in particular its implications on food security, transhumant livestock farming, pressure on natural resources and different value chains. The project will therefore promote the adoption of an approach where communities in general, and women and youth (who are the majority in rural areas and who are essential in the production and processing of agricultural, forestry and pastoral products) in particular, will be central to the process of creating goods and services and generating wealth. This approach should contribute to alleviate the potentially increased pressure on biodiversity caused by the pandemic.

- 2. Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Several risks have been analyzed for the project design and implementation:

Availability of Technical Expertise: The Gambia has a long history of pandemic disease management. The country is regularly affected by Malaria and Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI). The country was able to establish a strong disease control mechanism and with COVID 19 that mechanism has been strengthened with the support of partners. The project will take advantage of the existing country medical infrastructure to incorporate the population resilience.

Stakeholder Engagement Process: The stakeholder's engagement is at the heart of the ABS regime. The project will ensure that this engagement gives due consideration to women and marginalized group in the context of COVID 19.

Enabling Environment: The role of decentralized administration and non-state partners (NGO, etc.) is very strong in the country. The project will ensure that the ABS framework development support an inclusive approach in a more enabling environment for the project development and implementation in the context of COVID 19.

Financing: The ABS framework to be established will serve as a mechanism for resources mobilization for sustainable and resilient investment.

- 3. Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and build

The potential for future outbreaks cannot be ruled out. To cope with this risk, the project will ensure the improvement of the access to benefit from genetic resources, the possibility of creating jobs and wealth around specific genetic resources value chains without forgetting the plants used by rural populations to fight against diseases (e.g malaria,), through the promotion of the local pharmacopoeia, particularly the cultivation of appropriate medicinal plants which is common in The Gambia. UNEP, as the Implementing Agency of this project, will consider the project in the current dynamic of "Rebuilding the post-pandemic world, better". This will be through the Re-examining, retool, accelerating UNEP work on: i) Green Jobs: Towards decent work in a sustainable, low - carbon world (UNEP, ILO, IOE, ITUC, 2008); ii) Global Green New Deal (2009); iii) Green Economy and iv) Sustainable Consumption and Production. The ABS framework developed in the context of COVID 19 will provide opportunities for the establishment of a long-term mechanism for pandemic management.

Project ID 10678

Project Title: Integrated management of multiple use landscapes and high conservation value forest for sustainable development of the Venezuelan Andean Region.

Agency: FAO

Country: Venezuela

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

During project design, the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic may affect travel, meetings and consultations. Nevertheless, as it was done with the initial stakeholder consultations, alternative remote tools and methodologies to develop meetings will be used to mitigate these risks. The alternatives include communication via emails, WhatsApp messages, social networks and video calls. Travel will be limited to and virtual meetings will be held whenever possible. Face-to-face meetings will be held following national biosecurity guidance. During the entire duration of project preparation, the evolution of the pandemic will be monitored to include mitigation measures in the design of the project.

Regarding the impacts caused by the COVID-19 crisis on project preparation, the project will deal with them developing an adaptation of the security protocol described in the Human Resources Guidelines for Offices during the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic by the FAO (online available at <https://bit.ly/2Hoj2Qz>) taking into account the particular characteristics of inhabitants and environmental conditions in the target municipalities. We have also noticed during project preparation that transport and face-to-face meeting costs have increased, so this will be considered in the preparation budget. During project implementation, FAO will use both FAO and WHO's guidance on how to implement farmer field schools (<http://www.fao.org/3/ca9938es/CA9938ES.pdf>) and food safety, respectively.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The project will start implementation in 2022, when the COVID-19 pandemic is expected to be under control. Nevertheless, the following risks (and corresponding mitigation strategies) imposed by the on-going COVID-19 pandemic or other possible similar are recognized:

Restricted of mobility measures can cause delays in the development of activities and may affect agricultural production. In order to mitigate this risk, Training and outreach programs, especially training at the local level, will include biosecurity protocols for the prevention of this disease as well as the steps to follow for confirmed cases. Actions in the territory will have the support of health institutions and will extend beyond the end of the Covid 19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic can also affect different social and economic sectors in the Andean region. Mitigation strategies for this risk may include the creation of alliances and synergies between the institutions and communities of the selected municipalities to develop an early warning system based on geospatial tools supported with funds of the project. These tools also provide useful information to the adoption of preventative or risk-reducing measures and strategies that will mitigate the impacts of future events. In addition, the project plans to develop a training program and implementation of home gardens with the aim of producing different nutritious foods to meet household needs, and whose surpluses can be sold in local markets.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Beyond the immediate and necessary focus on health and humanitarian responses to the current coronavirus pandemic, the world is also starting to consider ways to confront the profound societal impact of the COVID-19 crisis that will be with us in the months and years to come, along with setting in motion proper recovery actions. The science-based evidence suggests that this pandemic was triggered by the direct collision between natural systems and human systems¹. The root cause is the weakening of the services ecosystems that have provided for humanity over thousands of years. Therefore, the only lasting solution to COVID-19 and other such similar diseases is to promote transformational change to the human systems, so that a balance between natural systems and human systems be restored within planetary boundaries. In this context, the project should be seen as a unique opportunity where a set of actions will be implemented in the immediate, medium and longer term to help address this crisis in target municipalities in the Andean region. These actions include:

- Creation of new jobs by investing in a green recovery program consistent with sustainable and nature-based development, which will strengthen the regional economy, biodiversity, reversion of degraded lands to sustainable uses, and resilience against new outbreaks of the disease in the communities of the selected municipalities. In particular, the production of coffee and cocoa under an agro-ecological approach leads to the generation of green jobs and income. The latter is linked both to the sale of these products and the ones derived from the agro-ecological system (e.g., products of apiculture).
- The increase in the variety, quantity and quality of the agro-ecological products will strengthen regional and national food security of coffee and cocoa producers, increasing their resilience to the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak in the Venezuelan Andean region.
- The preparation of bio-supplies from coffee waste, coffee nurseries (seedlings) and grafted cocoa plants are potential sources of employment for younger producers and women. Each of these contributions will contribute to the gradual strengthening of the economy in local communities under a Covid19 post-pandemic scenario.
- All the project actions will derive in the generation of global environmental benefits in line with national development priorities, and sustained in the long term by the local and regional benefits it will generate in terms of environmental sustainability and improved livelihoods the restoration of degraded areas, the improvement of management and the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions as explained above in the core indicators and global environmental benefits.

Project ID 10679

Project Title: Management of Indonesian and Timor-Leste Transboundary Watersheds (MITLTW)

Agency: CI

Countries: Regional, Indonesia, Timor Leste

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

In the short term, a risk consideration with respect to COVID-19 is the potential delay in PPG activities intended in 2021. However, the project area has seen only a limited number of cases, such that the project partners believe field engagement will not be impeded, and experience during the PIF preparation indicates that institutional engagement (e.g. with key government agencies) is feasible without undue difficulty.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

With respect to availability of technical expertise and capacity, the CI-Indonesia and CI-Timor-Leste Country Programs are committed to supporting MOEF and MAF on several fronts to ensure continued delivery during the PPG and Project Implementation stages. These Country Programs have technical staff in country, and benefit from support from regional and global CI expertise, particularly in key areas such as land- and resource-use assessment and planning, stakeholder engagement, and gender mainstreaming. The project further benefits from participation of CSDA member-universities, who likewise will continue to serve technical roles. Both of these groups (CI Country Programs and universities) have developed COVID-19 response strategies and protocols to protect staff as well as counterparts in communities, local civil society organizations, and government agencies. The project is unlikely to suffer from redirection of government capacity, as the baseline scenario involves a very low level of government capacity to begin with. The emphasis of the project on building the requisite capacity therefore will complement other capacity-related processes, including those relating to government responses to COVID-19. Although pandemic-related priorities may dominate the attention of some government agencies, during the development of this PIF key government counterparts have assured CI Country Program representatives that this project will be a priority.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

As described above, the project area is relatively buffered from direct pandemic impacts and risk of community spread, owing principally to geographic marginalization. Nevertheless, several features of the project will help mitigate the future risk of similar crises:

- Protection of freshwater supplies will help maintain and improve human wellbeing and ecosystem maintenance, increasing socioeconomic and ecological resilience.
- Improved spatial planning will rationalize land use, identify areas for restoration, and prevent uncontrolled conversion or degradation of natural habitat. Doing so enables explicit attention to manage the interface between human populations and wildlife.
- Livelihood strengthening will reinforce household resilience against shocks and enable local people to better address health needs in general.

Stronger ecosystem health through improved watershed management will contribute to socioeconomic and ecological resilience against climate change.

First, general trends in people's transportation preferences in response to COVID-19 could pose challenges to the project's objectives of increasing adoption rates of electric mobility. The demonstration and awareness raising linked to the adoption of electric public transportation could be hindered due to less interest in public transportation from the public, in turn creating challenges for the viability of the business model. Additionally, if people are nudged by the pandemic towards private transport, the high upfront purchase costs for electric vehicles for private use could push people towards purchasing vehicles with internal combustion engines. In addition, the reduction in car sales could lower interest in private sector investment for EVs – indeed, an assessment by Deloitte of the Thai industry recovery timeframes anticipates the automotive sector is not expected to rebound in Thailand until 2022. To mitigate this risk, the project will create linkages with international and national green recovery packages to build back the market towards electric mobility. During PPG, the agency will collaborate with stakeholders in order to seek additional opportunities in order to align the project with recovery measures.

The project will likely also face practical challenges in terms of delays due to potential restrictions in the movement of people and goods. Stakeholder consultations and site screening for technology demonstrations could be delayed as well as any needs for addressing maintenance or service issues after installation due to movement restrictions. To address these challenges, the project will build into its work plan a certain amount of consideration for potential delays as well as flexibility in terms of planning the potential need to conduct capacity building and stakeholder engagement through online approaches.

Project ID 10681

Project Title: Accelerating the adoption and life-cycle solutions to electric mobility in Thailand

Agency: UNIDO

Country: Thailand

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

Overall, the pandemic has had a large impact on Thailand's automotive sector, with significant drops in manufacturing production. While global value chain firms are expected to recover relatively quickly, Thailand's automotive sector recovery will depend on trading partners and government recovery measures. Since April, the Government has announced several key government schemes to support struggling enterprises, including soft loans of THB 500 billion to SMEs through commercial banks and 6-months loan payment holidays. As in other countries, the pandemic is likely to impact the widespread use of public transport due to shutdowns and social distancing needs, and the level of affordability of electric vehicles. On the other hand, the project will lead to opportunities to support a green recovery through support for innovative electric mobility technologies and life-cycle solutions for EV batteries, stimulating the development of Thailand's national technical capacity in its design and manufacturing industries and creating new jobs.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Electric mobility adoption is a key source of opportunity in the sustainable economic recovery from COVID-19. While the need for climate change mitigation action has only increased, the COVID-19 pandemic has shifted country priorities to a strong and rapid economic recovery. The transport sector is one of the largest contributors to GHG emissions and air pollution, making it a key sector for mitigation action that can also contribute to economic and health benefits. Electric mobility offers new manufacturing and business opportunities and contributes to reducing air pollution. In Thailand, the Ministry of Industry has indicated that the automotive industry is presently the main economic activity generating revenue for the country, accounting for 6.4% of Thailand's GDP in 2019, with over a dozen car assemblers and over 100 automotive parts companies located within the EEC. Therefore, this project will address a key economic sector in the country and support it in its transition to decarbonization. With a harmonized approach in its national policy and institutional framework, this project can also lead to a wider adoption of electromobility that offers cost savings to consumers. The project also has a focus on supporting national entrepreneurship on EVs and related technologies, further supporting job creation.

Project ID 10682

Project Title: POPs and mercury-free solutions for environmentally sound waste management in Paraguay

Agency: UNDP

Country: Paraguay

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The COVID 19 situation has resulted in an increased amount of Health Care Waste Management that requires sound elimination. The project supports COVID-19 recovery in the health sector by applying best practices to hazardous and infectious medical waste. This project will also coordinate with the UNDP projects in this Work Program addressing COVID-19 in medical waste.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The project should identify alternate technical expertise in case it is required. Planning should be flexible enough to reschedule activities onsite that require specific expertise. This is particularly important if government experts are not available due to emergencies. The Government of Paraguay dictates/updates COVID-19 containment measures. The project must be ready to strengthen the capacity of the stakeholders for remote work and online interactions by securing access to commercially available conferencing systems. The project will have to monitor closely the situation of its staff and stakeholders to strengthen their capacity for remote work and online interactions by securing access to commercially available conferencing systems and alternate interaction arrangements; e.g. reduced-size meetings in open spaces.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The subcomponent of the project dedicated to medical waste management must apply the best available techniques and best environmental practices, in addition to the lessons learned and the recent recommendations brought by the WHO and reputed national and international organizations.

Project ID 10683

Project Title: Promotion of circular economy in the textile and garment sector through the sustainable management of chemicals and waste in Ethiopia

Agency: UNIDO

Country: Ethiopia

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

COVID has been identified as both a risk and an opportunity in this project concept. Examples and details are listed in sections 2 and 3, respectively.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The potential health and safety risks in the recycling of the Textile and Garment waste due to potential contamination with medical waste are numerous. How to deal with this will be further considered and necessary adaptation and mitigation strategies will be undertaken during the PPG phase (e.g., development of alternative scenario).

Another risk is that companies won't be able to meet their financing obligation (e.g., co-financing) due to COVID 19: The project will identify opportunities for bail out and economic recovery funds from government and other donors.

Finally, cash flow constraints and the uncertainty of the global business environment can hinder project implementation. The project will identify opportunities for bail out and economic recovery funds from government and other donors.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

COVID has also provided opportunities to identify the shortcomings and vulnerabilities of the TG sector and to invest in necessary measures to address them. The spread of COVID-19 has disrupted the global supply chains at different levels which has necessitated the need to explore alternative supply sources and identify new markets for product and services. TG sector players are now looking for sources of supply of input materials that are reliable and less vulnerable to global shocks. Hence, to shorten the supply time, the TG sector will now have to identify local suppliers and alternative input materials like natural dyes and natural fibres that would be much easier to source. Furthermore, local TG suppliers are looking for opportunities to be part of the global supply chain, which will enable them to earn foreign exchange to cushion the impact of the pandemic on the value of the local currency. Therefore, there is a need for application of innovative solutions at each of the levels to tackle the shortage and reduce TG wastes. There is an opportunity to innovate solutions for sustainable and resilient supply chains while reducing TG waste.

Project ID 10684

Project Title: Improving the flow of ecosystem services in biologically rich watersheds of the Southern region of Haiti

Agency: UNDP

Country: Haiti

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

Forecasts already show an increase in the level of poverty in the country due to the COVID-19 pandemic impacts. This situation will also affect the food security of the country. Poverty is exacerbated by political instability, which has contributed to hinder the country's economic and social development, resulting in tenuous economic situation for the vast majority of the population. In addition, Haiti is highly exposed to natural hazards, which often lead to heavy damages to all sectors – water, health, infrastructure, food security among others – and cause losses and damages to the country's economy: for example, Hurricane Matthew, which hit the country on 2016, caused an estimated loss of 32% of the country's GDP; recovery efforts are still ongoing^[7]. To reduce its fiscal deficit, the government implemented drastic cuts in capital investments and social programs in 2019, leading to additional negative impacts on the population. Climate change is expected to intensify the impacts of natural hazards in Haiti, with negative effects on the natural environment and the livelihoods of the most vulnerable communities.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Large-scale deforestation has contributed to the degradation of watersheds: 25 out of the country's 30 watershed are now completely deforested. Compounding this baseline scenario, the impacts of COVID-19, affecting all economic activities in the country for several months, will contribute to accelerate the pressure on the country's natural resources.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Taking into account the impact of COVID -19 and given the interrelation between the socio-economic conditions of the populations and the conservation of biodiversity, other sustainable economic alternatives will be developed through this project. These activities will include cage aquaculture, which will contribute to reducing fishing pressure; beekeeping, which will help to strengthen plant cover; support for the processing of agricultural products to empower women's groups, and support for the conservation of fishery products through the acquisition and installation of solar refrigerators for the benefit of fisheries associations.

Project ID 10685

Project Title: Build back a blue and stronger Mediterranean

Agency: CI

Countries: Regional, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, Montenegro

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

- 1. General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities.

The COVID19 crisis is putting an additional economic and financial pressure on MPAs. The current pandemic and its aftermath could undermine decades of conservation effort. This global pandemic will have both immediate and longer-term effects on marine protected and coastal areas, such as the following:

- staff being sent home to self-isolate or even being laid off. Because staffing levels (front line custodians) are key to protected area effectiveness, this can have serious impacts on conservation of key habitats and species.
- reduced revenue from tourism and cuts in MPA operational budgets.

In a COVID-19 recovery context, it will be important to acknowledge the disproportionate impacts of the pandemic on the socio-economic status of women and their ability to participate in decision-making processes, and effectively address these through the project interventions/design choices.

- 2. Risk analysis and mitigation mechanism:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design.

The ongoing outbreak of Covid-19 has been directly affecting the work of international organizations, including both the Implementing and Executing Agencies. Travel bans have been in place and meetings have been canceled or postponed. Should the situation continue, or should similar situations take place, the risk will be mitigated by trying to carry out relevant activities via remote work (e.g. video- conferences, telecommuting, recourse to national human resources in the countries, online courses, etc.).

Project ID 10686

Project Title: Reduction of POPs and UPOPs through integrated sound management of chemicals

Agency: UNDP

Country: Philippines

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

COVID has been identified as both risk and opportunity in this project concept. Examples and details are listed in sections 2 and 3, respectively.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The full extent of impacts and the type of actions that need to be fully deployed to support the recovery is not clear. However, UNDP will consider, during the PPG Phase, the principles of the UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19, as well UNDP's Guidelines on UNDP's integrated response to COVID-19 potential linked and or parallel actions that could help decision-makers look and design beyond recovery, towards 2030, making choices and managing complexity and uncertainty in the green economy area to support the recovery from COVID-19 impacts. In addition, a risk mitigation plan will be deployed during PPG and implementation phase to cope with any potential challenges that still may be resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g., virtual meetings).

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Minding that the project aims to work in close partnership with the private sector, it is anticipated that its activities will contribute to industries in the targeted sectors to join the green recovery process by internalizing best practices and techniques linked to green chemistry. The increased access to green and low-cost financial mechanism may be critical to maintain the economic activity of targeted industries while transitioning to greener processes and products. This action is expected to be linked that the national efforts of recovery after COVID-19 and is expected to support the maintenance and recovery of jobs in the targeted industries. This will be critical to position the industrial sectors of the Philippines in the path of an environmentally responsive participation but also to alleviate some economic impacts on livelihoods of the people employed in these sectors, as well as the health impacts of the pandemic.

Project ID 10687

Project Title: Landscape Restoration for Increased Resilience in Urban and Peri-Urban Areas of Bujumbura

Agency: UNDP

Country: Mali

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

As of September 2020, Mali had just over 3,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection, with 129 deaths recorded. These figures are likely an under-reflection of the real situation, given the poor healthcare infrastructure across large parts of the country, the low level of testing capacity available, the unavailability of robust data and analysis, and an unreliable system for recording deaths generally. The Government of Mali has designed a National Action Plan for the prevention and response to COVID-19. Among the measures taken so far, the Mali government has introduced restrictions on travels to and from Mali, suspended public gatherings, requested the closure of all schools, and, on 25 March, a curfew from 21:00 to 5:00 has been decreed, along with the closure of land borders. Before the recent 8 years of conflict, Mopti's poverty rate at 79% was already much higher than the national average of 43%. A UN report in 2011 highlighted that 59.5% of the population was living on degraded land and only 29.2% had satisfactory water quality. The conflict years have worsened this situation, as a growing population tries to eke out a living on a shrinking area of productive land, without significant technological investment. Competition over scarce resources further fuels conflict, in a vicious cycle. In this context, the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Mali could have a devastating impact on the population. The project contributes to the Government of Mali's response to the pandemic, supported by the UN and other financial and technical partners. According to a rapid analysis by the UN Country Team of the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 in Mali, the indirect socio-economic impacts are likely to be even more devastating than the direct health effects. The proposed project strategy is to contribute in two ways to assisting the Government of Mali with a "green recovery" from the pandemic, building on UNDP's support to Government, and on the Government's commitment of new resources for social protection, corresponding to 1.3% of GDP, while also delivering environmental benefits. This strategy responds to the guidance document "GEF's Response to COVID-19" and has a dual action framework including for alignment of the project goals with the both national and specific response and recovery strategies for reducing the impact of COVID risks.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

During the PPG, the UNDP Mali Country Office will support the consultant team to conduct regular assessments of both the security situation and COVID-19 pandemic impacts in the country, and specifically in Mopti Region, and to put in place appropriate measures to ensure the safety of all stakeholders involved in project design and implementation. This will take into account (i) what impact the pandemic (or measures to contain it) has had on government capacity/resources to implement the work proposed in the project (or other baseline initiatives), either at the enabling level or practically; (ii) how targeted project beneficiaries have been affected (e.g. disruption of supply chains, price increases etc); and (iii) how will implementation be affected if there is recurrent outbreaks of this or other diseases during implementation. The project preparation phase and final site selection process will involve using consultants with in-depth local cultural as well as agro-ecological knowledge to undertake a detailed scoping of conditions on the ground and consultations with a wide range of stakeholders at local level (following COVID-19 protocols).

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The proposed project has been designed to maximize opportunities for job creation and training, local economic development, and productivity improvements; as well as to maximize opportunities for strengthening supply chains, consistent with long-term climate targets, and increasing natural and economic resilience and adaptive capacity; all of which, collectively, contribute toward green recovery, as follows:

Job creation through small business development (climate-smart technologies): The project supports the development of climate-smart agribusinesses, technologies and services, building on traditional knowledge and local preferences.

Productivity improvements: Technical and financial support will be provided to farming households (including women headed households) to adapt farming practices to climate change, with the aim of restoring farm productivity. The proposed project has been designed to maximize opportunities for strengthening supply chains, consistent with long-term decarbonization targets, and increasing natural and economic resilience and adaptive capacity.

Strengthening supply chains: New value chains for climate-resilient crops and processed products are identified and catalysed to support livelihood diversification and green recovery.

Increasing natural and economic resilience and adaptive capacity: Land and water resources (outside of family farms) are restored through communal restoration works for ecosystem-based adaptation, contributing to increase household and community resilience in the face of crises and shocks.

Project ID 10688

Project Title: Restoring and Enhancing the Value of Degraded Lands and Forest Ecosystems for Enhanced Climate Resilience in Benin (PIRVaTEFoD)

Agency: UNDP

Country: Benin

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project includes a brief analysis on the pandemic and how it has been integrated into the project design. As of 30 September 2020, Benin reported 2,340 cases of COVID-19, including 40 deaths. The pandemic is having a negative impact on agricultural production in rural areas, and comprises a threat to achieving project objectives. Outbreaks of Covid-19 in the project's intervention zones would negatively affect project beneficiaries and cause losses at target locations. Governments are constantly developing their responses to Covid-19 and Benin is no different, with a newly launched "Benin Covid-19 Preparedness and Response Project" to aid the country's response to the pandemic and also improve its resilience to health emergencies (World Bank, 2020; UNICEF, 2020)[30] as well as through UNDP, which is leading the UN's socio-economic response to the pandemic and its aftermath.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Risk mitigation measures are built into the project design, mainly to address the risks regarding the availability of technical expertise and/or changing timescales for implementation; difficulties relating to implementing community engagement activities; stakeholder engagement processes, and impacts on potential co-financing. UNDP will develop a COVID protocol specifically for this project, and endeavor to follow all protocols put in place by the government of Benin.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project has identified 6 opportunities areas where it can directly contribute to mitigating the negative impacts of COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and adaptation benefits, while also contributing toward building back better and the “green recovery.”

- i. Restoring natural systems and ecological functionality through ensuring the long-term integrity, conservation, and sustainable use of the target landscape and ecosystem functions, which will reduce human land use encroachment and fragmentation of ecosystems, which will also contribute to lowering the risk of future zoonoses.
- ii. Supporting the regulation of wildlife trade and consumption through the promotion of hunting alternatives, such as husbandry.
- iii. Supporting land use practices to decrease the risk of human/nature conflicts - The project focuses on the rural landscape of Benin as a mosaic of protected areas and the adjacent production landscape. Its objective is to ensure the sustainable management of both protected and agricultural areas. A key objective is to reduce or prevent the encroachment of human land uses (agriculture, pastoralism) into protected areas and remnant forests which results in their fragmentation and increased risk of human-wildlife conflicts with increased risk of disease exposure.
- iv. Supporting COVID economic recovery through: promoting sustainable agriculture, agroforestry and use of non-timber forest products, all of which will contribute to income generation and are geared toward supporting green growth models.

Project ID 10689

Project Title: Fostering sustainable, legal and traceable use and trade of wild native species in Mexico

Agency: UNDP

Country: Mexico

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project is aligned with the GEF's push for a Green Recovery post-COVID through nature-based solutions. COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on Mexico's economy, with GDP contracting 17.3% since the start of the crisis and heading for its worst recession in a century, with the IMF predicting a 10.5% contraction this year¹. For the post-COVID economic recovery to be sustainable, inclusive and resilient in Mexico, a return to 'business as usual' and environmentally destructive/negligent policies, investment patterns and activities must be exchanged for nature-based solutions (NBS) that optimize the synergies between nature, society and the economy. The project will develop and strengthen institutional and practice-based tools to support Mexico's recovery post-COVID through the promotion of nature-based solutions in the form of UMA/UMAFORES in 5 Biocultural Regions. These include expanding the current UMA/UMAFORES portfolio to increase coverage of key biodiversity resources and promote the sustainable use and marketing of selected species to ensure long-term society-wide benefits, particularly for IPLCs.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

In recognition of current health restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the project will employ videoconferencing equipment for virtual meetings and workshops, when necessary; and develop the workplan so that some activities in the field or related to consultations take place later, as necessary, to prevent exposure among project stakeholders and participants.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Furthermore, all wildlife trade poses environmental and other threats, including the spread of zoonotic disease, and needs to be countered. Legal species trade (LST) requires monitoring to prevent the spread of disease to native animal species, domestic livestock, and humans. Preventing another zoonotic pandemic, such as COVID-19, requires significantly increasing conservation and sustainable use of natural habitats and biodiversity. Thus, UMA/UMAFORES represent an alternative for producers and buyers to sustainably and legally fulfil this demand, creating economic incentives for conserving critical natural ecosystems.

Project ID 10690

Project Title: Building the resilience of forest biodiversity to the threats of climate change in Tanzania's Nature Forest Reserves

Agency: UNDP

Country: Tanzania

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

- 1. General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

COVID-19 has had the most impact on the finance, tourism, agriculture, and manufacturing sectors largely due to travel restriction, a decline in international trade, waning demand for exports, and supply-chain disruptions.

Tourism contributes about 17.2% to the country's gross domestic product and 25% of all foreign exchange revenues. The sector, which provides direct employment for more than 600,000 people, generated approximately \$2.4 billion in 2018. The country's tourism sector has incurred significant losses due to travel restrictions imposed by governments worldwide to contain the spread of the virus. Because tourism is the largest contributor to the financing of Tanzania's protected areas, lost revenues have had major ramifications for the state conservation agencies, private concessionaires and landowners, and community conservation programs.

The agricultural sector contributed 27% to Tanzania's GDP and employed about 67% of the workforce in 2019, mostly in small and medium-scale farming operations. Economic slowdowns in major export destinations in Europe and Asia are expected to reduce demand for agricultural products such as coffee, spices, flowers and fish. Women are expected to be most heavily impacted as they account for just over half of those engaged in informal, low-earning livelihoods

Due to COVID-19 travel constraints, field-based assessments were not possible and the estimation of targets for the core indicator 4.1 (landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity) has been conservatively estimated at 9,000ha. Targets will be confirmed at PPG.

Special attention will be paid to marginalized groups to understand the impacts of the outbreak of Covid-19 on communities and to identify opportunities for the project to contribute to addressing these impacts.

- 2. Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Ongoing impacts of COVID-19, or future outbreaks (with reintroduction of disease-transmission restrictions) may cause 1) disruptions in project implementation; 2) a reduction in state budget allocations for Natural Forest Reserves; and 3) less availability of cofinancing to support delivery of the intended project outputs.

COVID-19 risks and mitigation measures are presented in the project and integrated in the results framework. In summary: 1) The first component of the project to secure forest ecosystems and their services contributes to green recovery from the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis; 2) The second component will support the development of climate resilient, forest-based income generating opportunities in Natural Forest Reserves and their buffer zones, with ancillary benefits related to health, education, and job creation; 3) The entire project will promote innovations for climate change mitigation and carbon storage, as elements of a green recovery strategy and promoting long-term resilience to shocks and disturbances.

A more comprehensive analysis of risks and opportunities related to the Covid-19 pandemic will be undertaken during the project preparation phase with an up-to-date assessment to inform project design. An updated COVID-19 Action Framework will be incorporated in the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework to be developed during PPG.

- 3. Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project will provide an opportunity to test innovative, alternative revenue-generating opportunities in NFRs, and for forest-adjacent communities (second component). Diversifying income streams for NFRs will contribute to strengthening long-term resilience and reducing risk from external shocks, as the COVID-19 situation, responsible to the decline of visitor revenues.

The opportunities for innovation include aligning efforts across sectors such as forest conservation, agriculture and health, to build the resilience of forest-adjacent communities and the ecosystems on which they depend, to socio-economic shocks and disturbances such as those caused by the COVID-19 pandemic - these will be fully assessed during the project preparation phase.

The Government of Tanzania is also currently preparing a *Comprehensive Tourism Recovery Plan* to guide the interventions required to help the sector recover from the impacts of COVID-19.

Project ID 10692

Project Title: Integrated Community-based Management of High Value Mountain Ecosystems in Southern Kyrgyzstan for Multiple Benefits

Agency: UNDP

Country: Kyrgyz Republic

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project has carefully and adequately addressed the risks and especially the opportunities of the pandemic in the context of the proposed project, please see details below. There is a clear plan in place to further analyze potential impacts, risks, and opportunities during the PPG phase.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

During PIF preparation, preliminary risk analysis of the COVID-19 related containment measures on the project outputs have been considered and appropriate mitigation measures have been mentioned above in the Risks Section. Possible consequences of the reinstatement of COVID-19 situation, will be re-assessed in a more detailed manner at PPG stage. Availability of technical expertise of dedicated staff and co-financing will be re-assessed and appropriate interventions will be designed and included in the project document. UNDP together with the State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry have adaptive management capacities and possibilities to ensure COVID-19 related mitigation measures and effectiveness of the proposed overall project implementation and stakeholders engagement. The PPG stage will include consultations with a wide range of stakeholders in as much as possible, and the Stakeholders Engagement Plan will entail dedicated measures aimed at enabling the participation of all stakeholders in the project implementation, with appropriate mitigation measures in case of COVID-19 restrictions, including ways to reach out to the most marginalized groups.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

In response to the three Kyrgyz Government's COVID-19 anti-crises plans (the last one was approved on 13th of August 2020 by the Prime-Minister), the United Nations in the Kyrgyz Republic developed a Response Plan and Early Recovery with a 9 months horizon, based on the UNDAF and with the support of different development partners. The Plan has highlighted the amplified vulnerabilities and widening inequalities during the COVID-19, and the existing critical capacity gaps that are hampering adequate responses, focusing largely on health equipment and PPE in the short term. The short- and medium term recovery opportunities that this proposed project will support, are aligned with the integrated UN System in the Kyrgyz Republic's support to COVID-19 response under the "Early Recovery" pillar, including: 1) access to basic services; 2) Restoration of economic activities and livelihoods; 3) Security, Rule of Law, Social Cohesion; 4) Supporting migrants and displaced people impacted by the crisis. The project is fully aligned with the medium post COVID 19 recovery opportunities by supporting communities recovery through Integrated Landscape Planning and Management for Sustainable and Resilient Livelihoods in the Pamir-Alai, through Expansion and Financial Strengthening of Kyrgyzstan's Protected Areas System and Knowledge-management, stakeholder coordination and M&E activities. In the long term the project will support the green recovery efforts by enabling strengthened natural and livelihoods resilience and protecting and restoring the natural capital and mountainous ecosystem services in the Pamir-Alai Mountains.

Project ID 10693

Project Title: Combating land degradation through integrated and sustainable range and livestock management to promote resilient livelihoods in Northern Punjab

Agency: FAO

Country: Pakistan

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project has addressed the risks and opportunities throughout the PIF, in the baseline scenario, the co-financing considerations, and the risk section. Risks are identified and mitigation measures considered adequate. Opportunities are being explored within a national program of the GoP to address the pandemic (see below under 3).

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The project expects negative effects on project implementation from restriction measures established by national and local authorities related to the Covid 19 pandemic. In response to that, it will develop measures to increase the flexibility of project management. For example, FAO may sign letters of agreement with CSO / NGOs who have field staff in areas targeted by the project to carry out various project activities, which can help to mitigate restrictions on the mobility of staff of FAO, MoCC, Punjab Forest Department, and other partners. FAO will also assist the project team, and key project partners, in developing, planning and executing virtual meetings and working groups as needed, and in otherwise working effectively if containment measures are in effect and travel and in-person consultations are not possible. Finally, the project design will include contingency planning for the possibility of changes in baseline and/or co-financing resources due to Covid-19 impacts on the budgets of project partners.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Pakistan, together with partner international organizations, is developing a number of strategic programs for responding to the pandemic, and the proposed project will seek to collaborate with and learn from those programs as they begin to be implemented (this strategy will be elaborated in more detail during the PPG phase). These programs include: FAO's COVID-19 Response and Recovery Programme; the UN System's framework for immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19 in Pakistan ("Covid-19: Pakistan's Socio-Economic Framework"); and the Government of Pakistan's Covid-19 Responsive Annual Plan 2020-2021.

The project will also ensure that the output 2.2.6 on livelihood opportunities will support local governments and local initiatives for building back better, with COVID-impacted households and communities as an initial priority. The project will also build local capacities to access other government and non-government programmes to mitigate COVID19 related impacts.

Project ID 10694

Project Title: Integrated Landscape Management for Addressing Land Degradation, Food Security and Climate Resilience Challenges in The Bahamas

Agency: UNEP

Country: The Bahamas

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project indicated in general the COVID19 pandemic has further exposed the vulnerabilities of the economy- in terms of needs to diversify and the vulnerability of food supply chains, particularly in the context where 90% of the food consumed is imported. Potential risks to the project design and implementation phase were also explored. Opportunities for green recovery and building back better in particular related to sustainable land management of agriculture landscapes and resilience have also been identified.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The project has identified the following COVID related risks to the project: Imposition of COVID19 transmission mitigation measures (if crisis situation persists) and associated disruptions; challenges potentially related to post-pandemic economic recovery in terms of changing policy and priorities, personnel and material deployment. The project has indicated that the full extent of the impact of the COVID19 Pandemic is not yet known nor is the influence it may have in the coming period when the project is expected to be implemented. In addition to the international travel restrictions, there are also travel restrictions between islands as part of the transmission risk mitigation measures, that has implications for moving human resources/expertise. The pandemic has had implications for resource deployments at the government level, along with the other project partners in response to the economic fallout, that could have prolonged impacts in terms of implementation and co-financing commitments. The Bahamas will (if necessary) and in keeping with the GEF COVID Guidance, assess the changes in capacity of stakeholders, changes that may be needed to the baseline, change in conditions of beneficiaries and processes for stakeholder engagement. In addition, unlike other countries in the Caribbean region, The Bahamas has a more robust fiscal and macroeconomic situation, which allows it to develop a strong emergency response and the Government has put in place a series economic stimulus measures to offset the impacts of the crisis.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project has identified opportunities to incorporate green recovery and resilience to stem the potential impacts of the pandemic and future pandemics. Against the backdrop of the COVID19 pandemic, socio-economic vulnerabilities have been more exposed, amplifying the need to continue to invest in sustainable agriculture in the context of post-pandemic green recovery and resilience building in terms of expanding economic diversification and enhancing food security.

The project will demonstrate opportunity for green recovery and building back better in the wake of the COVID19 pandemic, particularly addressing the needs in islands whose populations have been severely affected such as on Abaco, Grand Bahama and New Providence, also considering the fact that Abaco and Grand Bahama that were still in recovery from Hurricane Dorian. These are 3 of the 7 targeted islands of the project.

Climate-smart agricultural systems to be piloted in this project will incorporate climate resilient crops and agroforestry systems will generate multiple benefits that will include maintaining and mitigating further biodiversity loss, enhancing carbon sequestration and soil carbon storage along with moisture retention that will contribute to soil health and productivity. Further, the push to get economic investments back up and running to buffer impacts of the COVID19 pandemic will be assisted by contributions from the project in the context of demonstrating green recovery opportunity and avenues for building back better.

Project ID 10696

Project Title: Inclusive conservation of sea turtles and seagrass habitats in the north and north-west of Madagascar

Agency: UNEP

Country: Madagascar

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project includes a brief analysis on the pandemic. Although at the moment of submission, the situation seems to be improving, second and potential third waves are likely to pose a risk to the PPG phase and early project implementation. Precautionary measures will continue to be in place indefinitely to ensure the highest levels of safety for project stakeholders. A relative return to normal has resumed in Madagascar recently after registering a decrease in cases and related deaths. The population and government institutions are adapting to the new reality and safety measures. Currently, meetings and local travel are authorized. In terms of COVID-19 impacts to the delivery of GEBs, the role of research institutions and CSOs remains crucial as they are closest and often part of the target communities. These strategic actors are highly committed to conducting their roles in advocacy, awareness-raising, development, and enforcement of regulations. The restrictions posed by COVID-19 have made it impossible to pursue some initial discussions with strategic sector partners across the tourism and fisheries sectors, mainly. These will be pursued in detail during PPG as the project plans to actively facilitate partnerships between relevant sectors.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Madagascar has experienced long months of mobility restriction, thus limiting travel even at the central level, and making fieldwork virtually impossible. The project proponents have engaged key stakeholders mainly at the central level, who have put forward the information collected during preliminary consultations with local authorities that had in turn engaged some of the communities before the pandemic. The project is fully committed to undertake extensive consultations at the sites during the project preparation phase. Should the restrictions continue over that period, the project will put in place alternative options to engage a core group of representatives of key stakeholders to inform the development of the project document.

Potential impacts on the commitment of co-financiers and private sector partners will be assessed in detail during the PPG phase to develop adequate risk mitigation actions. More generally, the project will continuously monitor the pandemic and its impact to plan an adequate response through adaptive management. Due to the remoteness of the target areas the project already envisaged the need to increase capacities for remote work and stakeholder interactions, integrated planning, and institutional coordination, with special focus on marginal and underprivileged and climate-vulnerable communities, with emphasis on women and girls. Given the envisaged work on illegal trafficking, the project could consider collaboration with other efforts related to early warning mechanisms and identification of potential risks. Relevant research focused outputs might also include marine pollution to better understand the potential impact of the dramatic increase registered during COVID-19 on the target species.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project will further organize discussions with strategic sector partners across the tourism and fisheries sectors. For example, the private fishing companies are already benefiting from stronger relationships with community-based fishing networks and, in some cases, improved fish products through the development of marine protected areas. This can lead to the creation of sustainable value chains, through public-private partnerships, with the support of State representatives at the local or regional level. Other opportunities are described under Component 3 mainly, referring to the valuation of marine ecosystem services, such as coastal protection, carbon sequestration, fish nursery, water purification, and marine biodiversity, and the range of opportunities related to them. For example, to develop further payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes including a market-based mechanism to trade carbon credits and to engage the fishing and tourism industries. The valuation of sea turtles through ecotourism provides another valuable option for this project. The project will build on successful experiences on sea turtle protection through ecotourism (Nosy Be in Madagascar, Seychelles, etc.) and collaborate with tourism operators to contribute to marine turtle conservation actions. The tourism sector is one of the sectors most affected during COVID-19, and the future development of the sector in the context of this project will be explored during PPG. Nevertheless, with the gradual recovery, the project will develop innovative approaches that can be developed through partnerships within the Indian Ocean, with experienced countries such as Seychelles, Mauritius, and La Réunion. For example, the project will explore the feasibility of developing a tourist circuit within the region focused on sea turtle watching. The project will also build on the work in Ankarea, where WCS has established a partnership with the Tsarabanjina resort to conduct sea turtle monitoring. Tsarabanjina, a private island, is one of the three target nesting sites in Ankarea. The resort staff is trained to protect and monitor nesting sites and share the data with WCS. The project plans to expand this partnership model across the other sites near Analalava, Nosy Be, and Sahamalaza, contributing to Components 2, 3, and 4.

The project will explore opportunities for accelerating the work envisaged under component 3 to identify new “green” based businesses that support sea turtle and seagrass conservation linked through the sustainable sea-based and coastal zone solutions to be defined under component 2. Together these components aim at introducing sustainable marine natural resource practices generating multiple GEBs, as well as livelihood benefits and green jobs.

Project ID 10698

Project Title: Safeguarding Solomon Islands endemic and globally threatened biodiversity and ecosystem services from key threats, particularly invasive alien species and unsustainable land use practices (SAFE project)

Agency: UNDP

Country: Solomon Islands

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

In view of the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 and recent extreme weather events, effort has been made in the design of this PIF to integrate green recovery and resilience principles that can also deliver global environmental benefits. These include opportunities for accelerating new green-based businesses including green and climate-smart agriculture and other livelihoods based on sustainable use of natural resources. Analysis of risks has taken full account of the COVID-19 pandemic and the related GEF guidance.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The pandemic has worsened the current dire economic state of the country due to slowdown of activities in natural resource-based sectors such as forestry, tourism and transport. At the local level, the pandemic is having its toll on food security and livelihoods as small-scale informal sectors including street and market vendors were ordered to close down by the government, leading to reduction in cash flow and mass movement of people to rural areas[6]. These COVID-19 induced impacts have been further exacerbated by Tropical Cyclone Harold in April 2020. Limited human resources in government ministries and agencies and competing priorities, including as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, may delay project activities. Human resources will be hired under this project to build government's capacity and the project will have a dedicated PMU housed within the Implementing Partner, MECDM. Staff recruited to build government's capacity may be absorbed by government once project ends. The project strategy will be aligned as far as possible to support the government's longer-term strategy for development, through a focus on nature-based economy and green livelihoods.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

While initial government response to COVID-19 has focused on economic stimulus and targeted improvements in health and emergency response, the opportunity for COVID-19 recovery to bolster the government's transition to a more sustainable growth strategy and the potential for green-blue economy to support livelihoods recovery and resilience is well-recognized. Green-blue economy and sustainable management of natural resources are likely to feature prominently as areas to support long-term economic recovery and growth in upcoming processes such as a COVID-19 socio-economic assessment and response by UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Planning, review of the National Development Strategy by the Ministry of Planning, and preparations for the LDC graduation process that is due to culminate in 2024. More recently, sustainable agriculture is being integrated into COVID-19 response and recovery initiatives to show the full potential of sustainable agriculture and green farms in livelihood resilience. While feasibility assessments are needed, and tourism needs to be considered as part of a broader suite of resilient, nature-based livelihoods, such opportunities offer the potential to support COVID-19 green economic recovery in accordance with recent UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) guidance and technical assistance on tourism recovery and resilience building.

Project ID 10699
Project Title: Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Improving Forest Landscape Planning in Bago Region, Myanmar
Agency: UNDP/WWF
Country: Myanmar

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

Covid-19 implications have been built into the design addressed in several sections throughout the PIF. Covid is addressed from three perspectives: opportunity, risk, and ecology. From an ecological perspective the intention of the project is to recover an intact, well-managed production landscape, where wildlife harvest is done in an ecologically sound manner, healthy wildlife populations are protected, and as the more intact landscape develops over time, that the possibility of zoonoses is substantially reduced. The project has done a complete COVID risk and opportunities analysis with highlights of these sections included below.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

A complete COVID risk analysis has been undertaken for this project. The risks from COVID are numerous from impacts to the ability to undertake local consultations and fieldwork due to challenging virtual communications and work environment due to low internet connectivity. The pandemic could accelerate resource exploitation due to economic disruptions as significant economic impacts are forecast for Myanmar and local impacts are already being felt. Further, government is quite occupied with pandemic relief and mitigation efforts currently. The project start-up and implementation could be delayed. The availability of co-financing could be affected by shifts in government fiscal priorities and exchange rates. Methods for biosecure implementation will be needed, such as increased use of remote communication, virtual consultations when viable, use

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Further, UNDP has an ongoing focus on green business in Myanmar and also an emphasis on country recovery following Covid to “build it back better”, in a more sustainable way. Both of these programs will, in part, shift to the Bago Region to ensure long-term sustainability of livelihoods options, including community forests, to be developed under this GEF proposal. Tourism opportunities will be one of the many possible options available for economic development in the Bago Region. Specifically, for the tourism sector, the UNWTO guidelines will be followed but more importantly application will be made to their technical assistance package for tourism recovery. Green business practices, and a circular economy will be a cornerstone of all alternative livelihoods projects and through the UNDP’s green business program, local businesses will be assisted with green value chain analysis and mechanisms to reduce footprint.

Project ID 10700

Project Title: Implementation of the Strategic Action Programmes and the National Strategic Action Plans for the Integrated Water Resources Management in the Puyango-Tumbes, Catamayo-Chira and Zarumilla Transboundary Aquifers and River Basins

Agency: UNDP

Countries: Ecuador, Peru

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

- 1. General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities.

Due to the emergence of COVID-19, PIF consultations were carried out remotely with interested parties between April and June 2020. During project preparation, the mechanisms and dialogue spaces developed during the foundational project will be used to carry out a socialization and consultation process in a participatory manner with the different actors associated with the project to ensure a participatory process

- 2. Risk analysis and mitigation mechanism:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design.

The project will develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) from the project beginning to be activated in cases of catastrophic events, and currently for COVID-19. The project will also ensure the political and economic commitment of government actors to the project prior and during inception phase. In particular, proactively develop a mitigation plan for potential slowdowns, shutdowns, and project restarts, including a project startup plan before slowing or shutting down, documenting work that has been completed and remains to be completed; review project activities to identify what work may need to be halted and how to strategically do so; assess what activities can be continued offsite to limit schedule delays; review contracts, consult with counsel, and maintain open communication channels with project stakeholders; refresh risk analysis and consider using simulation tools to assess potential cost and schedule outcomes at various confidence levels.

Project ID 10701

Project Title: Transformational wildlife conservation management in China

Agency: UNDP

Country: China

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project has identified several risks to the project from COVID-19 and mitigation measures, but currently it sounds like normal operations are ongoing including field work and government engagement. The project also fits into efforts for a greener recovery from the pandemic in that it will make important progress on the integration of wildlife conservation and considerations into broader landscape and cross-sectoral planning and development. This has the possibility of decreasing risk of future zoonotic disease transmission and prevention of future outbreaks.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

There is a risk that restrictions to mobility as a result of COVID 19 (or another potential pandemic) undermines project design and implementation. The PPG will assess the progress of COVID 19 Vaccine deployment globally, nationally and in the three provinces in scope to determine the viability of leveraging alternative local resourcing. Mitigation measures include: Leverage local expertise and resourcing as required to minimize impact; Ensure there is a business continuity plan to support virtual consultations and where possible virtual meetings during implementation; Regularly monitoring of national CDC announcements and advisory; Ensure fallback solutions to ensure business continuity; and take remote risks just as seriously as those likely to materialize.

Exchange rate fluctuation creates uncertainty in total GEF (US\$) funding available in Yuan, and potential for decrease in dollar converted funds as a result of COVID 19 and global economic recession. The risk associated with exchange rate fluctuation will be assessed during project design phase based on historical trends and local and global political and social climate. Mitigation measures include: Continuous monitoring of exchange rate forecasts and project budget adjustment in annual plans for planned activities; use conservative and worst-case figures to plan how activities could be modified and still deliver benefits; and continual forecasting and modeling against project plan.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The global pandemic is the result of a degradation in the relationships between human systems and wildlife. There has never been a point in time that the interplay between the intactness of ecosystems, unchecked sectoral growth and impacts on human health have been so apparent. With the backdrop of the global COVID-19 pandemic recover efforts, the hope is to build back better through a sustainable bridge between environmental and sectoral activities, by ensuring that going forward, multi-use landscape planning not only takes wildlife needs and their habitats into account, but prioritizes it.

Project ID 10702

Project Title: Community-based Management of Tanguar Haor Wetland in Bangladesh

Agency: UNDP

Country: Bangladesh

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

Covid-19 implications have been built into the design addressed in several sections throughout the PIF, including the targeting of vulnerable populations who have been affected by COVID as beneficiaries in Core Indicator 11, with an aim is to ensure that 25% of beneficiaries of livelihood activities in targeted project areas would be those most affected by COVID-19. Given the relative remoteness of the project site and its rural nature, the number of COVID cases have been relatively lower than other parts of the country. Nevertheless, as part of the effort to address impacts of COVID-19 and other future risks, an analysis will be undertaken to understand the extent and risk posed by the disease as well as emerging infectious diseases in the future, to map most vulnerable groups, to assess the social and economic impacts on these vulnerable populations and to identify specific investments and means to engage with, respond to, build resilience and ensure income recovery for these populations as well as improving awareness of risks of zoonotic diseases. The project has done a complete COVID risk and opportunities analysis with highlights of these sections included below.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

There is a possibility of delays in project start-up on account of shift in government fiscal priorities. This can be further compounded by limited availability of remote means of communication. This would necessitate some adjustment and innovative means of project management to adapt to changing situations. In the remote location of the Tanguar Hoar, where communities are not well equipped with remote means of communication, the project will use local NGOs, local community mobilizers and local staff to carry out consultations, fieldwork and local level planning. This will entail application of existing COVID-19 protocols to reach out the vulnerable groups, such as use of masks and social distancing, given the option to communities to decide if they are comfortable with participating. COVID protocol will be developed and followed, such as testing, and supply of sanitizer and masks. In any case where either party is not comfortable to engage in discussions it will not proceed. The project will make use of the wide availability of national specialist to provide technical support rather than rely on international consultants. Finally, the stakeholder engagement plan will establish protocols for national, provincial and district staff if the Covid19 situation remains unchanged to ensure less likelihood of disease transmission. These actions will be based on the guidance provided by the government

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project will promote a focused approach to ensure more sustainable use of wetland resources, coupled with alternative livelihoods to reduce poaching and consumption of wild meat. Improving the ecological conditions and services provided by the wetland, through promotion of sustainable fisheries, sustainable agriculture, local tourism, agro-forestry, sustainable aquaculture that can enhance the diversity of livelihoods will also help vulnerable communities to better cope with future disease outbreaks. Restoration of natural vegetation, improving river-wetland connectivity, reduction of pollution, and other measures will enhance environmental quality and improve the general health of the wetland population. The strengthening of community decision-making and management of the wetland, will help build community institutional capacity and enhance their overall ability to ensure equity and self-determination, promote a more sustainable approach to wetland resource management, enhance local ownership and success and hence the inherent capacity of the community to deal with crises will be improved.

Project ID 10704

Project Title: Sustainable Management of Natural Resources towards Rehabilitation and Preservation of the Key Biodiversity Area along Bataan Province to Manila Bay

Agency: FAO

Country: Philippines

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

COVID19 has resulted in greater pressures on landscapes as coastal residents lost their source of incomes and have resorted to illegal fishing and unsustainable land uses. As a result the project plans “to explore multiple measures to strengthen safety nets and promote a local green economy...” In particular, the risks of losing livelihood and being affected by the pandemic and climate change combined impacts are real concerns for the local communities and Indigenous Peoples due to their limited movements from their ancestral domains into the barangays. Under the “new normal” scenario, the products generated (goods and services) by the IP communities will have less buyers, with less tourists visiting their areas, where they act as tourist guides, while the cost of living escalates. This scenario may perpetuate poverty, food insecurity, health problems, etc., with a decline in number of IP children going to school. In order to minimize these risks, the project will support and train the local communities and IPs, especially the women, in appropriate income generating livelihood activities, both off-farm (such as responsible tourism under the new normal) and on-farm, simple marketing technologies, financial literacy, health care and sanitation, etc, in combination with appropriate climate change adaptation measures such as adoption of community agro-forestry in upland areas, biodiversity friendly agriculture that promotes stress and pest/disease tolerant crops, and soil and water conservation measures.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The project design plans have been modified to consider COVID-19 limitations. In order to meet the required participatory and consensus building processes, the design of the planning workshops will be modified, in coordination with the partners and key stakeholders, including the mechanisms of delivering the messages, and consensus building. Wherever possible, consultations and planning workshops with implementing partners and other agencies will be conducted via telecommunication. Community-level consultations, including focused group discussions, will be held in more groups with smaller number of participants. Attention will be given to the more vulnerable people, including women, people with disabilities, indigenous peoples, etc. These discussions will be held in strategic locations, if possible, in close proximity to where the most vulnerable communities reside, to address the impact of restrictions on movement and transportation. The project will develop a standard operating procedure for stakeholder consultations and participatory processes in dealing with COVID-19 pandemic and related future risks and shocks. Measures will be taken to ensure that there are no compromises in the number and range of stakeholders consulted in the virtual meetings.

COVID-19 also imposed significant unprecedented risks in project implementation for government partner agencies as they have limited, or no, related experiences. During the project development phase, the project will develop metrics on COVID-19 response in the context of green recovery and ancillary benefits that help mitigate the COVID-19 impacts. The information and data generated from the project will be shared with the government to enrich its database and understanding of the pandemic and help in dealing with, as well as recovering with similar future shocks. Further, the project under its knowledge management platform (outcome 3), will collate best practices on COVID-9 response and recovery, within the country and other FAO projects globally, to support the government is dealing more effectively with similar crises. Where possible, the project team will also facilitate capacity building trainings and workshops for partner agencies to effectively deal with such crises.

The implementing agencies and key partners (DENR, BSWM, and Partner LGUs), are likely to face real financial constraints due to the unexpected occurrence of the pandemic and the diversion of government budget to COVID-19 response. In order to minimize the risks related to these realities, the commitments on co-financing and other needed support for the project will have to be formalized, taking into consideration the said realities faced by all parties involved in project finalization, approval and implementation, with an understanding that this is a near to long term investment that will reduce the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable communities, with the re/generation of ecosystem services. Other sources of co-financing for the project will also be sought, including from the private sector.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project will be designed to support recovery from COVID-19 and create opportunities to build back better. This will include prioritizing the most vulnerable communities as key stakeholders of the project that will benefit from investments in future shock-proof interventions such as biodiversity friendly enterprises, regenerative agriculture, resilient coastal resources, sustainable fisheries, responsible tourism, etc. to strengthen their resilience to the current and possible future outbreaks.

Project ID 10705

Project Title: Strengthening Capacities for Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species (SMIAS) in Indonesia

Agency: FAO

Country: Indonesia

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the project will develop measures to increase the flexibility of project management, taking account of the possible continuation (or reinstatement) of Covid-19 containment measures. For example, FAO may sign letters of agreement with CSO / NGOs who have field staff in areas targeted by the project to carry out various project activities, which can help to mitigate restrictions on the mobility of staff of FAO, MoEF, and other partners. FAO will also assist the project team, and key project partners, in developing, planning and executing virtual meetings and working groups as needed, and in otherwise working effectively if containment measures are in effect and travel and in-person consultations are not possible. In addition, under Component 1, the project will look in detail at capacity building measures to assist the Biosecurity Task Force within KEMENKO MARVES as well as MoEF in managing for Covid 19 impacts over the longer term. Finally, the project design will include contingency planning for the possibility of changes in baseline and/or co-financing resources due to Covid-19 impacts on budgets. Additionally, during PPG the project design team will seek opportunities to support Indonesia's National Economic Recovery Program through investment in green recovery.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The Team will engage in more flexibility in project design and management to account for the COVID. They are also looking at how CSOs in the targeted areas might be engaged to do more of the execution in the case that travel restrictions are put back in place. Efforts also to prepare for virtual meetings are being included

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

There is the possibility of working together with green recovery programs and investments for this project.

Project ID 10706

Project Title: Strengthening participatory natural resource management processes for sustainable economic development, conservation of biodiversity and maintenance of carbon stocks in Amazon Wetlands

Agency: FAO

Country: Brazil

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The components of the project constitute a series of activities that will balance natural and human systems so that natural resources are used in a sustainable manner in line with national priorities. The global environmental benefits derived from the project, including improved management of 972,776 ha in 17 protected areas, and 33,242 ha in 3 lake complexes, will support improved livelihoods in an effort to boost the economy as part of a “build back better approach” to recover from the adverse effect caused by the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

During project preparation the COVID-19 pandemic may affect travel, meetings and consultations. Mitigation measures include the identification alternatives to develop meetings and consultations. Travel will be limited to the minimum and virtual meetings will be held whenever possible. Only when they are necessary, face-to-face meetings will be held following strictly national guidance and biosecurity measures to prevent transmission of the virus. During project preparation, the evolution of the pandemic will be monitored to include mitigation measures in the design of the project. Regarding the impacts caused by the COVID-19 crisis on project preparation, the project will deal with them developing an adaptation of the security protocol described in the Human Resources Guidelines for Offices during the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic by the FAO taking into account the particular characteristics of inhabitants and environmental conditions in the target region. We have also noticed during project preparation that transport and face-to-face meeting costs have increased, so this will be considered in the preparation budget.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project will start implementation in 2022, when the COVID-19 is expected to be under control. Nevertheless, the evolution of the pandemic will be monitored and mitigation plans will be carried out during project preparation considering the following important aspects:

While the pandemic continues, community-level and stakeholder consultations will be held virtually whenever possible. Alternatives will be considered when necessary and the design of workshops, courses and meetings will include protocols to minimize risks of contagion and spread of the virus. During the project preparation and development, activities will be tracked to generate information for the mitigation of current and future risks and identify recovery measures.

The participatory management plans and improved livelihood opportunities could be affected by the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic or the emergence of other similar infectious diseases as economic activity may be restricted by the pandemic. To mitigate this risk, the activities of the project will consider the lessons learned from the current COVID-19 to raise awareness among stakeholders about the need of developing innovative channels for economic activity.

Project ID 10708

Project Title: Towards a Land Degradation-Neutral Azerbaijan

Agency: FAO

Country: Azerbaijan

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project indicated in general the impact of COVID19 on Azerbaijan including impacts on all sectors of the economy including the agriculture sector. Potential risks to the project design and implementation phase were also explored. Opportunities for green recovery and building back better in particular related to sustainable land management of agriculture landscapes and resilience have also been identified.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The project has identified potential COVID related risks related to a shift in government priorities to other emerging issues, rather than conservation and restoration of land resources. The project proposes to conduct regular consultations and meetings with stakeholders to ensure the understanding of importance of the project by relevant government and non-government institutions and to support project activities considering the long-term targets and strategies even during the potential pandemic situations.

Additionally, FAO proposes to work closely with the government of Azerbaijan and during the course of the project through the steering committee meetings and updates to the workplan to monitor these emerging issues in a way to guarantee implementation of the project.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project has identified opportunities to incorporate green recovery and resilience to stem the potential impacts of the pandemic and future pandemics. The COVID - 19 crisis revealed that there is urgent need to rehabilitate degraded agricultural land to strengthen resilience to potential food crises. In the case of Azerbaijan, the pandemic and lockdown measures have hit almost all sectors of the economy, including agricultural sector. In the short term the main challenges have been reduced demand for exports and hence of export opportunities, leading to lower selling prices in the crop and livestock sectors. There have also been restrictions limiting public access to agro supply markets, which is located in big cities, presenting a major barrier for suppliers to deliver inputs to farmers. In a long-term perspective, it may lead to shortcomings in the implementation of the agricultural activities, mostly in crop production. In addition, the lack of an adequate quality control mechanism to protect product quality in the export and domestic markets has created barriers to exports and to the sale of products by small farms in local markets. The challenges posed by the pandemic are further aggravated by the shortage of irrigation water due to global climate change, the improper use of water resources and the lack of adequate irrigation infrastructure. Both factors threaten small-scale producers, especially those who sow less than 0.5 hectares of land, which are estimated to be 100,000 farmers.

This project will evaluate the natural capital and ecosystem services and their role in creating more resilient agriculture, while promoting ecosystem services leading to more stable food systems. The project will contribute to rehabilitating degraded agricultural land to strengthen resilience to potential food crises.

Project ID 10709

Project Title: Panama Sustainable Rural Development and Biodiversity Conservation

Agency: WB

Country: Panama

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

At the time of preparing the PIF, the COVID-19 crisis appears to be demonstrating temporary improvements as biodiversity is benefiting from reduced human activities. However, a rebound effect could result during the final and post-pandemic stages in part due to (i) reduction of financial resources available for conservation activities vis-à-vis the promotion of economic recovery measures without sustainability considerations; and (ii) the need for households to accelerate livelihood recovery, without the technical or economic possibility to do so in a sustainable manner.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Activities to improve the management effectiveness of PAs and to directly benefit the poorest rural families, through the provision of income generation activities, are intended to support the inclusive economic recovery process under the principle of building back better, serving as a direct underpinning to mitigate the potential impact of a rebound effect and/or future potential risk - future pandemics, relevant environmental crisis, climate change- for the country's natural capital. Considering its financial limitations, a strong coordination with other government agencies and the private sector is being promoted, including co-financing, in order to leverage resources. During the COVID 19 crisis, the Bank has accumulated experience in carrying out remote processes for project preparation based on ICT solutions, including consultation with key stakeholders regarding the application of the social and environmental standards, aiming at incorporating their perception and appropriation of the project design and subsequent implementation. The regional offices of both MiAmbiente and MIDA will play a key role during the consultation and initial project implementation actions scheduled within the next 12 months. During the preparation and final evaluation of the project, any adjustments will be made to facilitate ICT solutions to enhance the connectivity of the project implementation unit with the regional offices.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Notwithstanding the country's strong overall economic growth, inequality remains high, a situation exacerbated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly in the country's lagging regions mostly located in the Indigenous, Afro-descendants, and rural territories. The COVID-19 pandemic and the containment measures affected Panama's growth drivers significantly with severe social and poverty impacts, especially on indigenous people, women, and Afro-descendants. The COVID-19 crisis poses additional challenges, but it also presents an opportunity or "turning point" to build back better by promoting a more sustainable and inclusive growth. Facing the COVID-19 crisis has demonstrated that protected areas and their buffer zone are important sources of ecosystem services and products. Project beneficiary focus is on IPs living in buffer zones of PAs that have been most impacted by COVID-19. With the contraction in rural labor opportunities during the COVID-19 period, component two takes on broader economic significance for the poorest households. Investments funded by the Component are to be implemented utilizing local labor under the supervision of technical assistance. Project activities will be implemented in accordance with national guidelines and project specific Covid-19 management protocols. The investments of this component will strengthen the capacities of the BDA to structure and finance "biodiversity-friendly investments", while maximizing the impact of the operation in the country's rural areas. The proposed investments under Component 2 may be co-financed through the project and the BDA zero rate resources. The objective of this effort is to provide the guidance and technical support necessary for the continuous optimization of the processes of participation, prioritization, implementation, and tracking of investments of the BDA. It is expected that this proposal will generate the framework for MiAmbiente and BDA to foster the collaboration towards promoting sustainable and climate-resilient "biodiversity-friendly" financing for investments with a positive impact on the SINAP.

Project ID 10710

Project Title: Yangtze River Basin Biodiversity Conservation Programme

Agency: IUCN

Country: China

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

According to IUCN: As the situation of COVID-19 in China has been under control since mid-2020 (with only a handful new foreign cases per day and non-domestic cases), the capacity of implementing the programme is expected to be not significantly impacted by COVID-19 with the current situation continuing, and also the capacity will be gradually improved along with the recovery of all the sectors. Limited adaptations will be needed (as discussed in the risks section). This program provides an opportunity to improve ecosystem conservation in an area of China-the Yangtze River Basin-that is home to over 40% of the country's population, which will help to mitigate the risk of future pandemics by providing an increased buffer between human and wildlife populations.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Nonetheless, with close engagement and communication with the GEF Secretariat, IUCN, NFGA and MEE will adaptively identify potential risks related to COVID-19 at the PPG stage and during the implementation of the programme. Also, World Health Organization guidance, especially in terms of travel and social distancing, will be followed throughout the programme cycle.

In addition, IUCN is actively promoting management strategies for COVID-19 response and as such programme team members will have needed knowledge and experience with the needed procedures required for travel, events and project management, as well as the alternatives when they are not possible. The alternatives will include remote interaction with stakeholders, on line consultations, workshops, trainings and capacity-building events. Engagement with communities and on-the-ground undertaking will be conducted by team members experienced and trained to operate in potentially hazardous environments and involve digital contact tracing and outbreak monitoring, as promoted and available in China. Vaccine will be taken for needed programme members as long as it is approved and available in China.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

During the programme preparation, opportunities to integrate considerations and activities related to COVID-19 and other diseases to PA management will be explored, taking advantage of the evolving knowledge of IUCN on wildlife and health. The programme will aim to create opportunities for people negatively impacted by the pandemic.

Project ID 10711

Project Title: Innovating Eco-Compensation Mechanisms in Yangtze River Basin (YRB)

Agency: Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Country: China

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

This project has adapted to pandemic conditions from the start, as the pandemic originated from within the Yangtze River Basin. Since early 2020 travel restrictions have impacted the design team's ability to move freely and carry-out field work and consultation meetings. The use of virtual tools to the extent possible, extended timelines and engagement through local entities have been undertaken to accommodate pandemic conditions. The project will contribute to decreased risk of zoonotic disease transmission by improving the conservation and connectivity of key ecosystems for wildlife and human wellbeing as well as provide innovative models for the incorporation of the value

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The COVID-19 situation has brought some stark challenges to the initial design of the project and will also influence implementation. The pandemic created logistical challenges for the project team due to the heavy restrictions on travel; and also limited the ability of local stakeholders, notably ethnic minorities, farmers and local community members, to participate in full consultations due to lockdown situations, coupled with poor internet connectivity. Towards July and August 2020, in person government-related consultations were possible in Beijing, through facilitation from the Executing Entity and ADB PRC Resident Mission. Although PRC's Covid response measures appear to be well organized, should this situation persist during project preparation, the project team will work with the NDRC and other Agencies to develop work around solutions. As a matter of principle, the project will follow international and national guidance in its approach to managing risk and exposure to the health hazards posed by the virus, as well as future pandemics at all times.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

This project will make efforts to ensure that protected areas are structurally connected and that “nature-positive” approaches are supported. The implications are that efforts could possibly: i) contribute to reducing likelihood or prevention of further such outbreaks, and ii) present wider opportunities to “build forward better”. Central dimensions of resilient ‘build forward better’ approaches are inclusiveness (focus on people), and long-term policy supported by finance aimed at ‘green growth’. Green recovery financing of nature-based solutions, driven by eco-compensation mechanisms could hold promise to generate incentives for community livelihoods which hinge on a well-managed protected area system.

Project ID 10712

Project Title: Enhancing water-food security and climate resilience in volcanic island countries of the

Pacific Agency: FAO

Countries: Regional, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project includes a thorough run through of COVID impacts on the project as a separate text box, as well having included COVID as a Risk in the risk matrix.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

As of September 2020, COVID-19 has had little direct impact on human health in Pacific Island States (PICs): WHO reports cases (32) only in Fiji. Nonetheless, given the extreme vulnerability of the islands' population and economies, in particular the very high dependence on international tourism which has ceased, high attention will be paid in the design and implementation of the project in these fragile environments. The project detailed design will include active steps to mitigate risk, including training on pandemic-related guidance for project staff and stakeholders during the inception phase, and the expansion of standard monitoring of project operations and ensure that they are in conformity with FAO policies regarding travel, risk reduction, and other areas regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. While COVID-related travel restrictions remain in place, it will be difficult to provide direct international consultant support to the countries. However, SPC possesses a strong network of water specialists based in the Pacific region that can be utilized to help develop and implement the full project. SPC experts can be supported by FAO country offices where necessary. This presents a big opportunity for local experts to play a more central/leading role in national development processes (supported remotely by experts where necessary).

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

COVID-related restrictions will have a continuing impact on the economies of the Pacific island countries long after a vaccine is developed and distributed. This may have an impact on government capacities/resources and their ability to fully engage in the project. However, project resources, and both SPC and FAO supportive networks, will be fully utilized to ensure governments and communities are able to participate and benefit from project activities and outcomes.

Project ID 10714

Project Title: Institutionalizing transboundary water management between Tajikistan and Afghanistan for the Panj River Sub Basin

Agency: FAO

Countries: Regional, Afghanistan, Tajikistan

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

- 1. General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities.

The project will implement adaptive management, and the work plan and stakeholder engagement plan would be adjusted, if necessary, to reflect the impacts of COVID-19. It is anticipated that, even if face-to-face interactions are reduced, the project would still be able to organize meaningful consultations with local stakeholders through the local representatives. Remote communication via email, online meetings and phone may be used increasingly to adjust to the new situation. It is not currently anticipated that the COVID-19 restrictions would affect the availability of national expertise. The project relies mostly on national experts for its implementation. With regard to any international experts, it is expected that expertise could be provided remotely, if necessary. As explained above, increasing exports as well as environmental protection, poverty alleviation, and green economic recovery are among the priorities of the Governments, which is aligned with the GEF-7 project goals. Measures are being developed under the socioeconomic response frameworks and the COVID response plans both Governments have put in place. These aim to support the socio-economic recovery and increase resilience. Availability of co-financing is not anticipated to be affected due to the additional investments in the COVID-19 response. The GEF-7 project will ensure implementation of the One Health approach, contributing to a coordinated approach in promoting public health, animal health, plant health and environmental outcomes, including in the area of human-livestock-wildlife interface.

- 2. Risk analysis and mitigation mechanism:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design.

The early design of the proposed project has taken steps to minimize the risks related to the COVID-19 global pandemic in the area of community health. While the project will not directly generate risks related to construction or hazardous materials, there is a risk that travel to or from areas where COVID-19 is prevalent could pose a risk to the islands' population, and to project staff, consultants/contractors. The project detailed design will include active steps to mitigate this risk, including training on pandemic-related guidance for project staff and stakeholders during the inception phase, and the expansion of standard monitoring of project operations and ensure that they are in conformity with FAO policies regarding travel, risk reduction, and other areas regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. The Project Manager will report on compliance to the Project Steering Committee and take any necessary steps to protect the health of staff, consultants/contractors, and beneficiaries required by the situation.

The COVID-19 pandemic affects jobs and livelihoods in many sectors, including those related to freshwater resources. The proposed project will improve the resilience of communities to climate change, conservation of the integrity of freshwater ecosystems, and fostering environmentally sustainable water resources management, which in combination will improve the COVID related recovery process and improve the long-term resilience of communities to future shocks.

Project ID 10715

Project Title: Promoting cleantech innovation for climate action in Senegal

Agency: UNIDO

Country: Senegal

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project will focus mostly on capacity development of SMEs, government agencies and other stakeholders along the cleantech innovation value chain and ecosystem. Risks are generally related to possible delays in consultations/meetings and in the need to conduct parts to the trainings remotely, with relative possible limitations for internet bandwidth.

There are pandemic-related risks in terms of the project development and implementation timeline which are noted below. An additional risk related to the pandemic is noted with regards to the ability to effectively conduct consultation to identify a suitable level of co-financing. In this respect, the Agency notes that: “due to COVID-19 related restrictions, in-depth stakeholder consultations with the private sector were limited and therefore definite source of co-financing could not be identified.”

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Some delays in communications and consultations with counterparts and stakeholders are expected, in the case meeting/travel restrictions are enforced in Senegal to contain the spread of COVID-19. In addition, level of uncertainty introduced to the market due to the pandemic and post-recovery measures may result in difficulty with mobilizing co-financing within defined the PPG phase. The PPG work plan will be developed in consideration of such risk factors, and initial communications with the stakeholders will provide extra emphasis on the timelines so that the counterparts and stakeholders are fully aware of the timelines within which the project development must take place. Also, opportunities in post-recovery measure of COVID-19 will be communicated to increase level of confidence of stakeholders in how the project can support Senegal in addressing not only its climate challenges, but also in supporting growth of the SME sector. In the case that delays are still foreseen, UNIDO will immediately inform the GEF Focal Point of Senegal and the GEF Secretariat to seek support and guidance.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or

climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Response to COVID-19 restrictions, such as remote working arrangements and no-contact business modalities will require solutions that can be turned into new business models. These opportunities will be analyzed at the national levels and shared with the GCIP entrepreneurs as part of the market intelligence information.

Examples of former GCIP alumni responding to new business opportunities by providing innovative solutions during the pandemic are summarized here: <https://www.unido.org/stories/cleantech-innovators-take-covid-19>

By design, the GCIP projects engage the private sector (especially start-ups and SMEs) to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies, business models with resilience to climate change, and circular business practices. New business opportunities and policies and regulations will be added to the Accelerator curriculum so that the entrepreneurs are fully informed of the market and policy environment trends.

Project ID 10716

Project Title: Phasing out mercury measuring devices in healthcare

Agency: UNEP

Country: Global, Burkina Faso, India, Montenegro, Uganda, Albania

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project acknowledges that covid-19 presents a risk primarily at the PPG which will start in 2021 where the availability of a vaccine may not be widespread enough, however as the WHO is a main partner in this project, their presence in country will help in project development work. Further the project has adopted health and safety guidelines for country personnel working on the project to mitigate their exposure to covid-19. The project also recognizes a higher demand for non-mercury contactless thermometers as a direct result of the pandemic, which can inflate the price, however it expects that if manufacturing of alternatives begins in 2022 there will be availability for future use at non-prohibitive prices.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The project recognizes risks to the ability to recruit project staff, have free movement and potential for exposure to the virus. It has taken all of these into consideration and seeks to mitigate these risks by using the WHO country offices to recruit staff, train them and ensure that they follow WHO safety guidelines.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The project works in distinct industrial sites so the risk to low achievement if GEB's is low since technological upgrades etc. are required for the GEB's to be achieved. The risks of industrial shutdowns would be the only factor that will prevent work occurring.

Project ID 10717

Project Title: Green and Inclusive Recovery in Mexico (GreenMex): Making high-value ecosystems and rural livelihoods more resilient and sustainable in a post COVID-19 scenario

Agency: FAO

Country: Mexico

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The GEF project will support the implementation of a green recovery strategy in post-COVID-19 scenario in Mexico, in close coordination with GoM signature program Sembrando Vida (SV). GEF intervention will support the transformation of perverse policy incentives into positive ones. These include shifting from deforestation to sustainable forest management and from a short-term production/extraction model to one that better manages biodiversity resources for sustainable use and ensure long-term society-wide benefits.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

In recognition of current health restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the project will employ videoconferencing equipment for virtual meetings and workshops, when necessary; and develop the workplan so that some activities in the field or related to consultations take place later, as necessary, to prevent exposure among project stakeholders and participants.

The project will start in 2022 when the COVID-19 pandemic is expected to be under control.

Nevertheless, however, during the project's preparation phase (2021), a number of diagnoses will be carried out to assess the potential of the project participants to be integrated in green and inclusive value chains through the generation of sustainable market instruments and enterprises, to contribute to green recovery (during project implementation, 2022 onwards).

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The proposed GEF project is innovative as it based on the acknowledgment of the impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in Mexico and the LAC region in 2020 and proposes a green recovery strategy to build back better. It envisages nature-based solutions of type 1 and type 2 to address the pre-existing social, economic and environmental challenges worsened by the health crisis and economic downturn. It addresses the renewed threats on fragile habitats and environmental services created by poverty rises and policy responses that put the accent on the social and economic dimensions while overlooking the environmental pillar of sustainability. This is an opportunity to reiterate the GEF catalytic role in co-financing the incremental cost of mainstreaming environmental criteria in social and productive policies and programs.

The project innovative actions are: i) integrating biodiversity conservation in social programs (cash transfers) which will enable a behavioral change - necessary to generate the desired results. The assumption is that biodiversity conservation can be an enabler for more sustainable livelihoods, economic development and healthier diets; ii) fostering the sustainability of the investment / economic model: the importance of achieving linkages with sustainable value chains; iii) improving the information sources to enable evidence-based decision-making. This will improve the monitoring of the project (and SV). It will also generate the evidence necessary to upscale similar practices in other landscapes (in Mexico and other countries).

Project ID 10718

Project Title: Restoration of biodiversity and ecosystem services at the landscape scale on productive agroforestry areas and their natural environment

Agency: FAO

Country: Chile

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

During project preparation the on-going COVID-19 pandemic is likely to affect travel, meetings and consultations. Appropriate risk-mitigation measures include the identification of remote tools and methodologies to develop meetings and consultations. Travel will be limited to the minimum essential and virtual meetings will be held whenever possible. Only when necessary, face-to-face meetings will be held following strictly national guidance to prevent transmission of the virus. During the entire duration of project preparation, the evolution of the pandemic will be monitored to include mitigation measures in the design of the project.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

The project will start implementation in 2022, when the COVID-19 is expected to be under control. Nevertheless, the project preparation will consider an analysis to identify mitigation measures for risks related to the availability of technical experts and capacities, stakeholder engagement process and the complexities associated with restoration activities. The work plan of the project will consider these measures in the activities of the project.

The business models, partnerships and market articulation mechanisms considered by the project could potentially be affected by the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic or the emergence of other future diseases of zoonotic origin by the closure of roads, markets and quarantine measures that can hinder economic activity. The project will take the lessons learned from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic to include them in the design of the business models. Measures could include, for example, the support with digital transformation processes or the provision financial support to increase liquidity among smallholders.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

This project will build on the efforts from the Chilean Government to build back better considering that the Forestry Service has been designed as a key executing agency for post COVID-19 economic recovery activities with the implementation of reforestation, afforestation and sustainable management activities. Hence, economic recovery efforts are closely linked to Project's executing organizations and activities, reducing the risk of financing and/or resources dilution or redirection. This project will take the lessons learned from that experience and build on them to promote sustainable practices and business models for the forestry and agriculture sectors. The project will partner with the private sector, local communities and stakeholders to implement good practices, technology packages, partnerships and market articulation. These activities will be a part of a landscape restoration strategy that will contribute to the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services and achieve Chile's LDN targets of 140,000 ha of afforestation and re-vegetation, 20,000 ha of ecological restoration program, 10,000 of restoration of ecosystems affected by forest fires, creating Buffer zones for livestock production to minimize the impact of livestock on land that is valuable for conservation and to design forest management program focused on public and private lands.

Project ID 10720

Project Title: Combating Climate Change through the Promotion and Application of Sustainable Biomass Energy Technologies in Pakistan (PASBET)

Agency: UNDP

Country: Pakistan

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The proposed project was designed and developed during challenging times when COVID-19 pandemic was striking the world; the UNDP and Pakistan thus have gained considerable knowledge and experience in dealing with the challenges from the pandemic in project development and implementation. The general impacts COVID 19 on this project include: nationwide fragile economy, interrupted trade, investment and travel, pre-occupied government institutions coping with the pandemic. As a result, the project personnel, local communities and government officials have faced and may continue facing health issues and may not achieve the desired results that were planned. On the other hand, COVID -19 may provide opportunities to benefit local and global stakeholders, such as accelerating digital transformation, shifting working patterns, and catalyzing innovative business models. In such circumstances, this project will take necessary measures during the PPG stage to carefully identify any risks and opportunities.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

A comprehensive COVID-19 Risk Analysis will be conducted during the project design and development (PPG) stage. Expert professionals will be engaged to carefully analyze COVID-19 related risks and suggest mitigation measures in the form of a 'COVID-19 Risk Management Plan (CRMP)'. Project staff will be trained to ensure compliance with the CRMP during project implementation. With the lessons learned and experience gained in addressing COVID-19 issues in Pakistan, the project proponent, together with UNDP experts, will be able to prepare the CRMP. When necessary, local public health officials in the project areas will also be consulted to get a wide perspective view of the risk issues and come up with the appropriate preventive and alleviative mitigation measures. Moreover, COVID-19 will be made part of the project risk log which will be regularly analyzed, carefully monitored, and periodically updated. Particular attention will be paid to ensuring the safety, health and welfare of the project development team members, and the project partners. Moreover, the safety, health, and welfare of the GEFID 10722 project staff, local communities and concerned government/non-government personnel involved in project

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Potential opportunities to the project due to COVID-19 include the change of human mindset in better using the natural resources and information technologies for sustainable economic development. For example, the use of accelerated digital transformation that helped avoiding air travel, consuming less energy and phasing out plastics during workshops, meetings, and seminars may continue after the pandemic. The lessons learned, experiences and knowledge gained during the COVID-19 pandemic provide opportunities for the project proponents and their partners to formulate effective mitigating actions to prevent and/or alleviate any negative impacts of any future pandemics. During the PPG stage, more of such opportunities will be identified.

Project ID 10721

Project Title: Environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes containing POPs and Mercury

Agency: UNDP

Country: Panama

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

This project will support the GEF's COVID-19 response and mitigation of Future Pandemics through the promotion of activities that minimize human health risks while reducing pollution. Specifically, through Component 2, the project will assist Panama on improving the management of hospital's waste disposal where a programme to decrease the incidence of waste burning will be developed, and also through Component 3, where the project will support the country on the establishment of Best Practices for the management of Healthcare Waste management, including COVID-19 pathological wastes. Through the Project's Pilots, demand and supply channels of Healthcare facilities will be strengthened, fostering the decisionmakers' capability to understand the challenges of waste management and its implications for human health and the environment. Components 2 and 3 will incorporate COVID-19 and healthcare waste management considerations into all activities developed throughout the implementation of the project. These activities assess opportunities where the Project's initiatives and Pilots can help reduce the risk of emerging infectious diseases such as COVID-19.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

To avoid change of priorities of central government due COVID-19, which could include lack of availability of human and financial resources, the project will have close cooperation with stakeholders to highlight the links of the project with the governmental policies to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Management of Risk:

- a) Develop innovative virtual and remote methods for working and implementation.
- b) Since the World has not yet found a vaccine for this virus, for the implementation of those activities that require social gathering, the Project will assume COVID-19 as a public health crisis, implementing the solutions for which are social distancing, careful sanitization, widespread testing, access to safety equipment, and immediate competent medical care, if needed. During the preparation of terms of reference, conditions will be included to request that service provider take into consideration the COVID-19 pandemic in their implementation plans.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

This project will support the GEF's COVID-19 response and mitigation of Future Pandemics through the promotion of activities that minimize human health risks while reducing pollution. Specifically, through Component 2, the project will assist Panama on improving the management of hospital's waste disposal where a programme to decrease the incidence of waste burning will be developed, and also through Component 3, where the project will support the country on the establishment of Best Practices for the management of Healthcare Waste management, including COVID-19 pathological wastes. Through the Project's Pilots, demand and supply channels of Healthcare facilities will be strengthened, fostering the decisionmakers' capability to understand the challenges of waste management and its implications for human health and the environment. Components 2 and 3 will incorporate COVID-19 and healthcare waste management considerations into all activities developed throughout the implementation of the project. These activities assess opportunities where the Project's initiatives and Pilots can help reduce the risk of emerging infectious diseases such as COVID-19.

Project ID 10722

Project Title: Facilitating Cleaner and Energy Efficient Phosphate Chemicals Industry in China (PhosChemEE) Project

Agency: UNDP

Country: China

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The proposed project may be affected by the general issues in China caused by the pandemic including a fragile economy, lack of qualified and available technical expertise, and lack of government focus. On the other hand, there may be opportunities to benefit local and global stakeholders, such as accelerating digital transformation, shifting working patterns, and catalyzing innovative business models.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

A comprehensive COVID-19 Risk Analysis will be conducted during the project design and development (PPG) stage. Expert professionals will be engaged to carefully analyze COVID-19 related risks and suggest mitigation measures.

3. **Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

New business models and technologies may be identified that can bring efficiencies and create new benefits to the country and best practices that can be transferred elsewhere.

Project ID 10723

Project Title: Regeneration of Livelihoods and Landscapes (ROLL) Project

Agency: IFAD

Country: Lesotho

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The project identifies the following risks: Disruption of or impediments for project activities due to the ongoing COVID 19-pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic may result in more public resources being directed towards addressing the situation and thus limit the Government co-financing for this project. The pandemic, or future ones of similar nature, is also likely to adversely impact livelihoods through income generation activities, which will undoubtedly impact investment by the smallholders.

In the project design the potential impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic will be addressed through the elaboration and sequencing of project activities and the sources of funds. The protocols already established during the current pandemic will be adhered to including remote conducting of activities and resources being allocated from the baseline project to improve capacity (connectivity, data capture and reporting) of remote activity delivery. Resources will be set aside for this eventuality in the project costs and budget. The potential shift in focus and priorities by Government will be mitigated through the use of community based organizations and in particular the coalitions being created and strengthened under Component 1.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

To protect the stakeholders involved in the project, wherever possible, meetings with partners will be conducted virtually as a precautionary measure and also for cost-saving reasons. Whenever face-to-face meetings are unavoidable, the project will adhere to the standardized measures to reduce infection risks (social distancing, masks, disinfectant lotion). The decentralized approach via local SLM coalitions will keep meeting sizes at a low level. Also, analytical work, capacity development and production of knowledge management materials will be conducted in small groups or through virtually connected teams to reduce COVID 19 infection risks.

In cases where the government co-funding fails to materialize as the government's resources are more focused on the pandemic, the project can still proceed with implementation as core/ critical path activities are financed through GEF and through the baseline investment (IFAD and OFID).

- 3. Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

The focus on landscape and agricultural productive systems restoration provides opportunities for building the resilience of the communities and building back better after-shocks through promotion of green jobs will be implemented to reduce the impact of loss of income due to the pandemic. The identified opportunities such as landscape restoration, livelihood diversification and capacity building activities capture the concept of green recovery and building back better. The land restoration activities will result in GEBs, improve the food security situation given the inclusion of agricultural land and also improve the climate resilience of the communities. The off-farm activities provide opportunities for livelihoods diversification and job creating, which improve the resilience of the communities being targeted. Further opportunities of green businesses will be explored for the targeted 200 farming enterprises.

Project ID 10728

Project Title: Investing in the Komodo Dragon and other globally threatened species in Flores (IN-FLORES)

Agency: UNDP

Country: Indonesia

COVID-19 Considerations for GEF Projects and Programs

1. **General:** Describe briefly how the pandemic overall is addressed in the project, including associated impacts, risks and opportunities. Projects are required to identify and establish likely impacts and risks from COVID-19, and how they will be dealt with in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits.

The biggest socioeconomic impact of COVID19 in Flores region has been on tourism resulting in significant losses of livelihoods for Flores residents. At PPG stage, with the participation of the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy, an assessment will be made in relation to the potential for recovery of the tourism market and identify specific disease risk mitigation/prevention measures that are needed in case there is some post-Covid19 recovery of the tourism industry. Options for promoting national tourism and other income generation will be investigated with financial options that might be available through a number of financial instruments promoted by the Islamic social fund (zakat), the Islamic social fund (waqf) as well as green sukuk and the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund, all of which have potential for supporting the poor and economically disadvantaged, who are likely to be most affected by zoonotic disease outbreaks.

2. **Risk analysis:** Describe further how risks from COVID-19 have been analyzed and mitigation strategies incorporated into the design. Project documents are expected to include consideration to the risks that COVID-19 poses for all aspects of project design and eventual implementation.

Project start-up and implementation activities may be modified or delayed due to COVID limitations. Communication is a particular concern with the rural areas of Flores not well equipped for remote work, including limited Wi-Fi availability. Consequently, alternative communication measures are being considered. Experience in Indonesia to date with other projects indicates that remote video training modules can be developed. Planning meetings can be accommodated in this manner at halls and offices where Wi-Fi is available. More time is required, however, as live attendance will be limited by restrictions on attendance at any one session. Note, however, that local level consultation will only be undertaken if it complies to national to local government guidelines and UNDP-CO and WWF national office guidelines under COVID. For example, it is likely that the consulting team will be small (1-2 people), national staff, and may have to be across design, gender, social and environmental issues, and they will likely consult with small group sizes (under 10 people or per local guidelines) and will have PPE for themselves and for people they talk to in person. COVID protocol will be developed and followed, such as testing, and supply of sanitizer and masks. In any case where either party is not comfortable to engage in discussions; it will not proceed. As much as possible, remote connections will be sought, for example via local government offices visiting communities. International experts most likely will not participate due to travel restrictions. In all cases, continued attention will be given to ensuring the voices of IP, women, youth, and any underrepresented community members.

Co-financing is another concern, which could be affected due to shifts in fiscal priorities and exchange rates. As noted above, alternative sources of financing are already planned for the project, including the Islamic social fund (zakat), the Islamic social fund (waqf) as well as green sukuk and the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund.

- 3. Opportunity analysis:** Describe further how the project has identified potential opportunities to mitigate impacts (if any) created by COVID-19 to deliver GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits and contribute toward green recovery and building back better.

Opportunities to build back better have not been discussed and is noted as an area to address during PPG. In particular, as businesses, such as tourism related industries, consider reopening there may be opportunities to incorporate sustainable practices as part of a green recovery.