

GEF-8 REQUEST FOR CEO CHILD ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

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General Child Project Information

Child Project Title

Integrated conservation of the Maiombe forest ecosystem in Cabinda Province Angola

Region	Angola	GEF Project ID	11244
Country(ies)	Angola	Type of Project	FSP
GEF Agency(ies)	CI	GEF Agency Project ID	
Project Executing Entity(s)	Ministry of Environment Development Aid from People to People (ADPP) Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) BirdLife International Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)	Project Executing Type	Government CSO CSO CSO CSO CSO
GEF Focal Area (s)	Multi Focal Area	Submission Date	6/25/2024
Type of Trust Fund	GET	Project Duration (Months)	36
GEF Project Grant: (a)	4,152,752.00	Agency Fee(s) Grant: (b)	373,748.00
PPG Amount: (c)	150,000.00	PPG Agency Fee(s): (d)	13,500.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	4690000	Total Co-financing	28,114,775.00
Project Sector (CCM Only)	AFOLU		

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
Principal Objective 2	No Contribution 0	Principal Objective 2	Significant Objective 1

Project Summary

Provide a brief summary description of the project, to offer a snapshot of what is being proposed. The summary should include: (i) what is the problem and issues to be addressed? ii) as a child project under a program, explain how the description fits in the broader context of the specific program; (iii) what are the project objectives, and if the project is intended to be transformative, how will this be achieved? and (iv) what are the GEBs and/or adaptation benefits, and other key expected results. (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

The Angolan component of the Maiombe forest, the most southern-western part of the Guineo-Congolian Forest Biome and centre of endemism, covers an area of around 2,600 Km² in Cabinda Province, of which over 1,930 Km² is covered by the Maiombe National Park (MNP), gazetted in 2011. With around 56,000 inhabitants, the ecological integrity of the Maiombe forest in Angola, including the MNP, is subject to multiple threats, mainly deforestation, encroachment, illegal hunting and wildlife trade, unsustainable (legal and illegal) land and resource use, and human-wildlife-conflict. This project is part of the Congo Basin Integrated Program (IP) under the GEF-8 Amazon, Congo and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program (CFB). The project aims to improve conservation, ecological integrity and effective governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest ecosystems, whilst fostering resilient livelihoods and multi-level stakeholder engagement for sustainable development. To achieve its objectives the project will address the main identified threats and drivers through a holistic, integrated and inclusive approach, and as a model of Nature-Based-Solutions, including support to the implementation of the MNP integrated management plan. The project will focus on (a) Promoting an enabling legislative and policy environment for the sustainable governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest, through strengthening institutional coordination; (b) Improving conservation of the Angola Maiombe Forest through stakeholder engagement and empowerment, including updating the information base and land use mapping, improving resource use sustainability through Forest Management Certification, conservation agreements and empowering local communities; (c) Strengthening the MNP effective management; (d) Strengthening the connection, coordination, learning and exchange at the local, national and regional levels, with emphasis on strengthening the collaboration with the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative (MTI) member countries – the Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Gabon, for enhancing the joint implementation of the MTI Strategic Plan, as well enhancing coordination and knowledge exchange with the other transboundary initiatives in the Congo Basin, through the Regional Coordination Project of the Congo Basin IP). This is captured under Component Four of the Angola Maiombe project, which focuses on knowledge management and transboundary coordination; e) Engaging high-level decision makers and private sector institutions in Angola in order to highlight the importance of conserving this Forest Biome while exploring opportunities to mobilize financing. Through these integrated project strategies and replicability, the project is expected to induce a transformational change at the local, national and regional scale, to reduce environmental degradation and enable recovery of degraded landscapes. The Angola project will therefore generate inclusive, gender-equitable socioeconomic global environmental benefits as follows: at least **2,781 direct beneficiaries, of which 48% are women**; mitigate approximately **11.39 Million metric tons of CO₂e**; ensure at least **167,000 Hectares outside Protected Areas** in the Maiombe Landscape of Angola are under improved practices; and at least **193,000 Hectares in the Maiombe National Park (MNP)** are under improved management.

Child Project Description Overview

Project Objective

Project Objective: To improve conservation, ecological integrity and effective governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest ecosystems, whilst fostering resilient livelihoods and multi-level stakeholder engagement for sustainable development

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: Promoting an enabling legislative and policy environment for the governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
547,372.00	6,522,883.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1.1. Strengthened National and Provincial institutional coordination for the sustainable governance of the Maiombe Forest, prioritizing conservation, with climate-proof and gender-responsive-and-inclusive policy and legal frameworks.

Output:

Output 1.1.1: Analysis of policies, legal and legislative frameworks and enforcement capacities conducted to identify gaps for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender, and community access and rights.

Output 1.1.2: Biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and local community access and rights mainstreamed in policies and legislative frameworks.

Output 1.1.3: Capacity building of key stakeholders on policy transformation and compliance tools with emphasis on mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and community access and rights.

Output 1.1.4: A National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platform for enhancing the mainstreaming of biodiversity, climate change, gender and community rights operationalized (with at least 30% women representation).

Output 1.1.5: Legislators (of the National Assembly) engaged, and their capacity strengthened on biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and local community access and rights mainstreaming legislative frameworks.

COMPONENT 2: Improved conservation of the Angola Maiombe Forest through stakeholder engagement and empowerment.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,189,185.00	6,199,347.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2.1: Updated and expanded data and information base on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola (with emphasis on stakeholder-integrated mapping of land cover, and existing and planned land use and resource use, including freshwater resources, and with gender considerations).

Outcome 2.2: Sustainable resource use (including land use) improved through conservation agreements.

Outcome 2.3: Improved management of the Angola Maiombe Forest through Forest Management Certification and integrated into the land-use plan (including RILC - Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefit).

Outcome 2.4: Strengthened capacity of community structures for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilization and management of natural resources.

Outcome 2.5: Resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods.

Output:

Output 2.1.1: Participatory gender-responsive and inclusive integrated resource and land-use plans developed and mapped for the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola

Output 2.1.2: Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) mapped for the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola and integrated into the land-use plan.

Output 2.1.3: Irrecoverable Carbon map with an accompanying detailed simplified assessment report for the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola developed and integrated into the land-use plan.

Output 2.2.1: Land use plans for West of Maiombe National Park (MNP) adopted and jointly implemented by communities (men and women), government, the private sector and civil society.

Output 2.2.2: Conservation Agreements signed and implemented by local communities (50% women), (with guidance from CI, the Provincial Government and the Ministry of Environment).

Output 2.3.1: The Angola Maiombe Forest is FSC-certified.

Output 2.3.2: Capacity building on Forest Certification (Supported by FSC through the Congo Basin Regional Coordination project).

Output 2.4.1: Local community forest governance and management structures assessed through a participatory process.

Output 2.4.2: Inclusive institutional and technical capacity of community forest governance structures strengthened and operationalized to sustainably manage resources and address HWC, including the capacity building and engagement of Community Forest Scouts.

Output 2.4.3: Youth engagement among local communities in the Angola Maiombe landscape management, through the JGI Roots & Shoots (R&S) programme

Output 2.5.1: Local commodity supply chains assessed, and local gender-responsive and resilient value chains supported, enhancing community capacities whilst partnering with the private sector

COMPONENT 3: Park management.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
752,600.00	6,170,776.00

Outcome:

Outcome 3.1: Strengthened institutional and technical capacity of Park staff and multi-agency collaborators for effective management and law enforcement in the Maiombe National Park

Output:

Output 3.1.1: Capacity building and operational support to the MNP Park staff, and collaborating agencies, for effective management of the MNP, law enforcement, and caretaking of confiscated wildlife, including capacity building support for the establishment of the Chimpanzee Sanctuary.

Output 3.1.2: Deployment of Conservation technologies including appropriate communications network, vigilance, and data collection technologies, among others

Output 3.1.3: Completion of a strategic analysis and plan for adequate long-term financing for the MNP, designed to meet the desired level of park management (and initial financing mobilized).

COMPONENT 4: Knowledge management and transboundary coordination.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
258,207.00	6,545,264.00

Outcome:

Outcome 4.1: Strengthened coordination, learning, and sharing between the GEF-8 Congo Basin Angola Project and initiatives at the Local, National and Regional levels (the Congo Basin with emphasis on the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative - MTI).

Output:

Output 4.1.1: A project Knowledge Management and Communications Strategy developed (including gender, equality, and inclusion aspects).

Output 4.1.2: Participation of Angolan participants in the Congo Basin 3-day Annual Forums organised by UNEP

Output 4.1.3: Learning and exposure visits facilitated with the Congo Basin Child Projects (and where applicable coordinated by the Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project).

Output 4.1.4: Knowledge management products integrating gender, equality and inclusion aspects generated, and disseminated at local, national and regional levels (integrating lessons learnt and best case practices on traditional knowledge for natural resource management, and information on the project as a model for Nature-Based-Solutions).

Output 4.1.5: Transboundary dialogue for collaborative implementation of the MTI strategic plan collaborations between Angola, DRC, the Republic of Congo, and Gabon is re-initiated and enhanced.

COMPONENT 5: Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
207,638.00	1,337,707.00

Outcome:

Outcome 5.1: An effective and gender-sensitive M&E system for the project.

Output:

Output 5.1.1: Periodic M&E reports submitted to CI-GEF Agency.

Output 5.1.2: Independent evaluations conducted in accordance with the GEF and CI-GEF Evaluation Policies

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
COMPONENT 1: Promoting an enabling legislative and policy environment for the governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest	547,372.00	6,522,883.00
COMPONENT 2: Improved conservation of the Angola Maiombe Forest through stakeholder engagement and empowerment.	2,189,185.00	6,199,347.00
COMPONENT 3: Park management.	752,600.00	6,170,776.00
COMPONENT 4: Knowledge management and transboundary coordination.	258,207.00	6,545,264.00
COMPONENT 5: Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	207,638.00	1,337,707.00
Subtotal	3,955,002.00	26,775,977.00

Project Management Cost	197,750.00	1,338,798.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	4,152,752.00	28,114,775.00

Please provide Justification

CHILD PROJECT OUTLINE

A. PROJECT RATIONALE

Describe the current situation: the global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address, the key elements of the system, and underlying drivers of environmental change in the project context, such as population growth, economic development, climate change, sociocultural and political factors, including conflicts, or technological changes. Since this is a child project under a program, please include an explanation of how the context fits within the specific program agenda. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

Context

This project is part of the Congo Basin Integrated Program (IP) under the GEF-8 Critical Forest Biomes (CFB) IP, to be implemented in Angola, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, and Sao Tome and Principe. The Congo Basin IP objective is: to improve the conservation and effective governance of critical landscapes in the Congo Basin Forest Biome that contribute to sustaining the health of the planet, the flow of vital ecosystem services, supporting green recovery and inclusive sustainable development initiatives. The IP is expected to enhance the forest conservation agendas at the national and regional levels through a specific focus on critical landscapes and by removing barriers to their conservation effectiveness.^[0]

The project will be implemented in the Maiombe Forest ecosystems component of Angola, specifically, in Cabinda Province, with a special focus on the Maiombe National Park (MNP). The Angolan component of the Maiombe forest covers an area of around 2,600 Km² in Cabinda Province. The MNP, gazetted in 2011, covers an area of 1,930 Km² and is one of the first three National Parks gazetted by the Government of Angola since independence. A management plan for this park was elaborated in 2019. The map of the project site in Angola, as well as the regional map of the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative (MTI), are provided in **Annex D**.

The Mayombe forest, shared between Angola, the Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Gabon, forms part of the Guineo-Congolian Forest Biome and centre of endemism, and hosts globally important biodiversity, including tracts of intact tropical forest landscapes, and with endangered and iconic species.^[2] The Congo Basin tropical rainforest is the second-largest contiguous block of dense tropical rainforest in the world, covering around 2 million km². The Mayombe forest forms the southern-western margin of the Congo Basin tropical rainforest. It covers an area of around 10,000 km² along a narrow stretch parallel to the Atlantic coast, from southwest Gabon to the southwestern tongue of DRC. The process of establishing the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative (MTI) commenced in the early 2000s, leading to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Angola, DRC, Congo and Gabon and a Transboundary Protected Area (TPA) Strategic Plan adopted by all four countries, in 2013.^[3]

There is no available estimate of the carbon capture value of the Mayombe forest. However, some related studies can demonstrate its potential high carbon capture value. For example, carbon stored in the living vegetation of forests of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the country covering the largest area of the Congo Basin tropical rainforest, was estimated by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)^[4] as equivalent to 85 billion tons of

carbon dioxide. Moreover, the peatlands of the Congo Basin were estimated to contain 30 billion metric tons of carbon.^[5] The carbon capture of wildlife in the tropical rainforest should also be taken into account. For example, a study by the International Monetary Fund (IMF)^[6] estimated that each forest elephant can stimulate a net increase in carbon capture of 9,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide per Km². The current population of forest elephants in the Congo Basin is estimated at 40,000.^[7]

Biodiversity status

Most of the area of the Mayombe forest ecosystems consists of secondary high dense tropical rainforest, at varying stages and levels of degradation and with small patches of climax rainforest, as well as the following habitat types: lowland drier forest; forest-woodland-savannah mosaics; riverine gallery forests; and transformed degraded landscapes. The Mayombe forest is exceptionally rich in water resources, with numerous rivers, lakes, streams and ponds.

The Mayombe forest ecosystems overlap considerably with one of Conservation International's High Biodiversity Wilderness Areas (HBWAs), corresponding closely to the Atlantic Equatorial Coastal Forest ecoregion designated by WWF. The northern part of the Mayombe forest area overlaps with the southern part of the Gamba-Mayumba-Conkouati Landscape, between Gabon and Congo, one of the 12 Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) Landscapes, selected as conservation priorities by the USAID-Central African Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE).

The MNP hosts species of outstanding global interest such as the central chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes troglodytes*), western lowland gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*), and forest elephant (*Loxodonta cyclotis*), as well as giant ground pangolin (*Manis gigantea*) and tree pangolin (*Manis tricuspis*). The Regional Action Plan for the Conservation of Western Lowland Gorilla and Central Chimpanzee, 2015-2025 has defined the Maiombe forest in Angola and Dimonika Biosphere Reserve in Congo as a 'survey priority' site, among a total of 18 defined priority sites regionally.^[8]

Other large and medium-sized mammals reported in the MNP include^[9]: White-nosed guenon (*Cercopithecus nictitans*), Moustached/ Red-tailed guenon (*Cercopithecus cephus*), Golden potto (*Arctocebus calabarensis*), Bosman's potto (*Perodicticus potto*), several bushbaby species (*Galago alleni*, *Eutoticus elegantulus*, *Galagoides demidovi*), Bushbuck (*Tragelaphus scriptus*), Yellow-backed duiker (*Cephalophus sylvicultor*), Black-backed duiker (*Cephalophus dorsalis*), Black fronted duiker (*Cephalophus nigrifrons*), Blue duiker (*Cephalophus monticola*), White-bellied duiker (*Cephalophus leucogaster*), Grey duiker (*Sylvicapra grimmia*), Water chevrotain (*Hyemoschus aquaticus*), Sitatunga (*Tragelaphus spekei*), Red river hog (*Potamochoerus porcus*), Slender/red mongoose (*Galerella sanguinea*), Long snouted mongoose (*Herpestes naso*), Marsh mongoose (*Atilax paludinosus*), Congo clawless otter (*Anonyx congica*), Spotted necked otter (*Lutra maculicollis*), Two spotted palm civet (*Nandinia binotata*), African civet (*Civettictis civetta*), genets (*Genetta spp.*), Golden cat (*Profelis aurata*), African wild cat (*Felis silvestris*), Aardvark (*Orycteropus afer*), Brush-tailed porcupine (*Hystrix athenus*), and cane rat (*Thryonomys gregorianus*). Forest buffalo (*Syncerus caffer nanus*) are found in the savannah and savannah/forest mosaic in the low Maiombe area. The African grey parrot (*Psittacus erithacus*), an endangered species of special conservation concern, is also prominent in the Maiombe forest.

Gender aspects

The majority of adult men in the communities in and around the MNP engage to some extent in hunting for subsistence and small-scale commercial use. Both men and women engage in the commercialization of bush meat and other hunting products. Fresh-water fishing is practiced, for both subsistence and small-scale commercial use, by women, men and children. Anarchic logging is practised by men, for both subsistence and commercial use, for timber, construction, and firewood. Occasional engagement of men in small-scale anarchic gold mining has been reported. Small-scale husbandry is limited mainly to subsistence use, with most families raising a few chickens and ducks, and a few families keeping small numbers of sheep, goats, and rarely pigs. In general, women are responsible for most cultivation activities, except for preparing new fields. Women are also engaged in small-scale commercialization of cultivation products, as well as illegal logging, hunting, and fishing products. Both men and women are affected by the

threat drivers related to poverty factors and the lingering impacts of the rather recent long period of intense armed conflict. The project will implement actions to address the limited access of women to decision-making roles over the use of natural resources, which is exacerbated by poverty, the lingering effects of the civil war, and the effects of climate change and variability.

Global environmental problems, underlying drivers and root causes

The Maiombe/Mayombe forest ecosystems have been subjected to decades of extensive unsustainable utilization, impacts of armed conflicts and extreme poverty, resulting in intensive human disturbance and consequent ecological degradation, through poaching, encroachment and unsustainable use of the forest and other natural resources. On the other hand, the long armed conflict in Cabinda, Angola, has resulted in reduced utilization and recuperation of the forest over several decades, thereby forming an 'island' of relatively intact forest area in Cabinda, surrounded by heavily deforested areas in Congo and DRC. Political stabilization and security constantly improved in Cabinda Province since the resolution of the armed conflict, and in particular during the recent decade, have also resulted in increased exploration interests, mainly from the logging and mining sectors, as well as increased illegal activities of logging, poaching and cross-border trafficking, and thereby with increasing threats to the forest ecosystems' integrity.

An in-depth analysis of threats to the MNP's integrity, and the underlying drivers, was realized with the development of the MNP management plan (2019).^[10] Information on threats and underlying drivers was updated through recent stakeholder consultations and further consultations are planned during the PPG development process.

The main threats to the Maiombe forest ecosystems' integrity are illegal logging and deforestation; unsustainable land use and resource use and practices (including, e.g., unsustainable logging concessions, unsustainable mining concessions, artisanal mining, slash and burn cultivation practice, pollution of rivers and water resources, poor waste management, incompatible development works); illegal hunting for both subsistence and cross-border illegal trade in wildlife and forest products; human-wildlife-conflict (in particular human-elephant-conflict); and invasive plant species (*Chromolaena odorata*).

Global environmental problems that the project will address:

The project will address the following global environmental problems affecting the Maiombe Forest Landscape with a focus on the Angola component.

1. **Deforestation, habitat destruction, and biodiversity loss** in and around the MNP are driven by unsustainable land use and resource use, mainly through unsustainable logging, mining, construction, and cultivation activities; illegal hunting for both subsistence and illegal wildlife trade; human-wildlife-conflict; and invasive species (*Chromolaena odorata*). Additionally, anarchic logging (including forest clearing through unsustainable cultivation practice) has led to significant environmental degradation, including deforestation, habitat destruction, and biodiversity loss due to little to no enforcement of forestry laws which have allowed loggers to cut down trees without consideration for sustainability or legal boundaries. Anarchic logging has also contributed to soil erosion, disrupted water cycles, and exacerbated the effects of climate change by reducing the number of trees that absorb carbon dioxide.
2. **Climate change and variability:** Climate change and variability collectively threaten the resilience of the Maiombe Forest, and may impact its ecological health and the livelihoods of communities dependent on its resources. For instance:
 - a. *Altered Rainfall Patterns/changes in precipitation* may lead to prolonged dry seasons or more intense and frequent storms, disrupting the forest's water cycle and affecting communities, and plant and animal species dependent on specific rainfall conditions.
 - b. *Increased Temperature/rising temperatures* stress plant and animal species, potentially leading to shifts in species distribution as they move to more suitable habitats, which can disrupt existing ecosystems and exacerbate human-wildlife conflicts.
 - c. *Biodiversity Loss:* Climate change and variability have exacerbated existing threats to biodiversity by altering habitats and food availability and can lead to declines in species populations and even extinction.

- d. *Pest and Disease Outbreaks*: Climate variability may lead to the proliferation of pests and diseases that damage or kill trees and other vegetation, further weakening the forest ecosystem.
3. **Invasive species**: The most prominent invasive species in the Maiombe forest is *Chromolaena odorata*. It creates dense clumps occupying most of the forest areas that are cleared for cultivation, development, or logging, thereby impeding forest rehabilitation through the natural re-colonizing of cleared areas by indigenous species. During the dry season, between July and mid-September, the flowers and fruits of *C. odorata* release an enormous number of small seeds that are scattered by the wind. They germinate in areas of cleared forest. On the other hand, two years after *C. odorata* invaded a cleared area, the soil is enriched in nutrients, and soil fertility is improved. The optional use of areas invaded by *C. odorata*, for re-cultivation of previously cleared areas, and as a means to reduce further forest clearing, is being studied, as well as their use for the alimentation of goats.

Underlying drivers of environmental change:

1. **Anarchic logging**: Anarchic logging, for timber, construction, firewood, and charcoal, as well as for clearing areas for household agriculture, is an imminent threat to the Maiombe forest. Anarchic logging increased in the early 2010s with increased accessibility, reduced presence of the armed forces, and increased availability of sawing machines to local communities. Recent enforcement and education efforts of the MNP staff have been reported to have caused reduced engagement of local community members in commercial anarchic logging. Commercial logging operations, and their wider impact, form a considerable threat to the MNP and its biodiversity. Substantive commercial logging in the Maiombe forest, since the 1920s, has already transformed most of its area, which is now composed mostly of secondary forests at different levels of succession. During the years of the armed conflict, from 1982 until the early-mid 2000s, operational logging was much reduced, resulting in forest rehabilitation and conservation over a large part of the Angolan component of the Maiombe forest.

From the mid-2000s commercial logging was intensified including concessions granted in areas within the MNP, and even in its most ecologically sensitive areas. It was temporarily suspended by the Government of Angola in 2018 and resumed again in the early 2020s. Commercial logging is selective and if not well-regulated and controlled can severely threaten specific tree species. Commercial logging is often accompanied by additional negative impacts, related to the opening of roads and to the involvement of staff in poaching or in soliciting poaching products from local community members. Unsustainable logging results in habitat loss, degradation fragmentation, and soil erosion.

2. **Slash and burn cultivation practice**: Ongoing expansion of cultivation areas, that resulted from unsustainable cultivation practice, with each cleared field being used for only 1-3 years, forms a major threat to the MNP and its biodiversity. The constantly expanding slash-and-burn cultivation is a major cause of soil erosion and habitat loss, degradation and fragmentation. Bananas are cultivated mainly on formerly undisturbed forest patches since they need the originally fertile soil. Nevertheless, the cultivation of bananas is normally done without clearing the whole area, and without burning the area, thereby, impeding the invasion of the invasive species *Chromolaena odorata*. Cassava cultivation, on the other hand, is based on the full clearing of new forest areas annually, while the abandoned older fields are invaded by *C. odorata*. These areas may be cleared again for cultivation 5-15 years later. Thereby, a natural succession process of the forest is being impeded.
3. **Mining**: Both commercial (legal) and anarchic exploration of minerals form a major current and potential threat. The most notable mining operations currently, with high risk to sensitive ecosystems and wildlife, are the quartzite quarry in Serra de Ndoko, near Belize, and concessions for gold exploration near Buco-Zau and Penicacata. Oil prospection was done in 2014 near Dinge/Chivovo, accompanied by the destructive vast clearing of a large forest area in the low Maiombe area, and the construction of infrastructure, causing habitat loss and fragmentation in an area identified as ecologically highly sensitive. Legislation since May 2021 allows for mining activities and the exploitation of natural resources to be authorized within Conservation Areas in Angola.^[11] Small-scale illegal anarchic gold explorations were also reported in the Municipality of Buco Zau.

4. **Poaching:** Poaching for bushmeat is the main threat to wildlife in the MNP and to the ecosystems' integrity. Extensive poaching, both subsistence and commercial, occurs throughout the Maiombe forest area. The main species hunted for both subsistence and commercial bush meat are duikers and other small antelopes, forest hog, porcupines, genets, civets, guenons, pangolins, cane rats, game birds, green pigeons, snakes, and freshwater fish. Hunting methods used are snares, traditional traps, hunting shotguns, and group hunting with hunting dogs. Infant chimpanzees, gorillas, guenons, and African grey parrots, are also hunted for the commercial pet trade, involving cross-border illegal networks. Their capture normally involves the killing of conspecifics. Elephants were reported to be hunted rarely, and are mainly killed as a result of Human-Elephant conflict.

Most identified core causes of commercial bush-meat poaching are related to extreme poverty, unemployment and lack of alternative livelihoods, youth with no access to education and employment, ex-combatants with no other skills, loss of respect for old traditions, high demand and relatively good income in bush-meat and wildlife trade, soliciting by both domestic and cross-border illegal wildlife traffic networks. Foreign poachers, infiltrating mainly from DRC, are also reported to engage in illegal activities of commercial poaching, logging, and cross-border trafficking of bushmeat, live parrots, and other wildlife and their derivatives, as well as timber. Hunting for subsistence use of bushmeat is practised by most adult men in the local communities.

5. **Unsustainable development works:** The population residing in and around the MNP is very large (around 56,000 people). There are two main urban centres in this area – Buco-Zau and Belize. Both of these urban centres, as well as several large villages, have been expanding and subject to substantive development works, during the past 10-20 years. Most of these works were done without adequate coordination with the environment sector, and preceding environmental impact assessments, and at times have resulted in the significant impact of clearing ecologically sensitive forest areas, soil erosion, and the consequent creation of deep ravines, among others. The ongoing expansion of the urban centres and accessibility in the Maiombe forest area has also caused increased pressures on the biodiversity and natural resources in the forest.
6. **Invasive species:** The most prominent invasive species in the Maiombe forest is *Chromolaena odorata*. It creates dense clumps occupying most of the forest areas that are cleared for cultivation, development or logging, thereby impeding forest rehabilitation through natural re-colonizing of cleared areas by indigenous species. During the dry season, between July and mid-September, the flowers and fruits of *C. odorata* release an enormous amount of small seeds that are scattered by the wind. They germinate in areas of cleared forest. On the other hand, two years after *C. odorata* invaded a cleared area, the soil is being enriched in nutrients and soil fertility is improved. The optional use of areas invaded by *C. odorata*, for re-cultivation of previously cleared areas, and as a means to reduce further forest clearing, is being studied, as well as their use for the alimentation of goats.
7. **Human-Wildlife-Conflict (HWC):** Human-Elephant-Conflict is a principal concern of the communities, mostly in the central area of the Maiombe forest and in the low Maiombe forest area in the south. Other Human-Wildlife-Conflict is reported to be negligible. Several cases of people killed by elephants have been reported in recent years. HEC was reported as the main incentive to kill elephants, however, such incidents are rare. Several recent and planned projects and initiatives deal with HEC mitigation in Cabinda, though so far with no significant positive impact.

Root Causes:

Governance, policy, and institution limitations at the national and provincial levels:

- *Inter-sectorial and institutional conflicts* lead to a lack of mainstreaming of climate and conservation considerations. There is a dire need for multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder collaboration and integrated overall land and resource use planning, with mainstreaming and prioritization of conservation and climate considerations, through a whole of government approach. Inter-sectorial and institutional conflicts are also reflected in conflicting legislative tools;

- *Licensing of private companies to perform destructive activities (e.g., gold mining, logging for timber, forest clearing for cocoa and coffee plantations) in sensitive areas of the MNP are granted without clearance of environmental and social impact assessments, and realized without adequate control and supervision, through sectorial processes, rather than based on an overarching multi-sectorial land use planning;*
- *Local communities' rights and access are not mainstreamed and embedded into the legislation and policy frameworks.* The Angolan legislation does not recognize the term 'Indigenous People'. 'Local communities' are recognized by the Angolan law, but not their ownership over natural resources. There is, however, the general political will to improve legislation for securing local communities' rights, access, and engagement in sustainable management of natural resources.

At the local level:

- *Poverty:* A large and growing local population residing in and around the Maiombe forest ecosystems area, is subjected to extreme poverty with no access to diversified opportunities of sustainable livelihoods and income-generating activities, employment, and education, and that is therefore engaged in destructive activities, including illegal activities, and with escalating encroachment. Weak adaptive capacity due to poverty coupled with high exposure increases the vulnerability of local communities to the effects of climate change. Additionally, the resulting environmental degradation further reduces the local communities' access and resilience, resulting in their increased engagement in even further degradation through illegal and legal activities, in a vicious circle, with a higher negative impact on women and vulnerable groups;
- *Insufficient capacity to manage and protect the MNP and its biodiversity.* There are no sufficient financial resources, human resources, institutional support, and capacity to implement the MNP management plan, and to adequately manage and protect its biodiversity, including insufficient law enforcement and prosecution capacities to counter illegal activities in the park, as well as insufficient cross-border coordination to counter illegal trade in wildlife and forest products;
- *Consultations and engagement with local stakeholders are insufficient.* For example, certain private sector entities are licensed to perform destructive activities in sensitive areas of the MNP, with a negative impact on the local communities, with no benefit for them, and without any consultation with them. The local communities, their traditional leadership, and the municipal administration and provincial government must be integrated into any decision-making processes regarding land and resource uses in the Maiombe forest ecosystems in Angola.

Key barriers and enablers

The main enablers needed to achieve the project's intended outcomes are (a) the Political will of the Government of Angola to achieve its biodiversity conservation and climate action goals and commitments, through strengthening, mainstreaming and implementation of relevant policies and legislation; (b) Political will and active support of the Provincial Government and local administration to support achieving the project's objective; (c) Will of the local communities residing in the Angolan Maiombe forest landscape and of their traditional leadership, to strengthen their institutional and technical capacities, through engagement in this project interventions, for shifting toward sustainable practice and livelihoods and for improved resilience; (d) Multi-sectoral multi-stakeholder active engagement in integrated land and resource use planning; (e) Political will and active engagement of the Governments of Gabon, the Republic of Congo, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and of key stakeholders at all levels, throughout the MTI area, to collaborate for enabling conservation of the whole area of the Mayombe forest ecosystems; (f) The project will mobilize further partnerships and explore innovative mechanisms for sustainable financing.

Failure to mobilize the political will and active engagement, at the national, provincial, local or regional levels, may form significant barriers to the project implementation.

Lessons learned from baseline projects (Barriers to be addressed):

Lessons learned from other projects in the Maiombe Landscape highlight several challenges that have hindered effective forest governance, coherent policies, resilient communities, and robust commodity value chains are outlined below. Addressing the challenges below requires a holistic approach that strengthens governance, builds institutional

capacity, ensures community participation, secures sustainable funding, enhances data collection and monitoring, and promotes coherent policies and private sector partnerships hence cementing the interventions in the GEF-8 Angola Project.

1. **Fragmented Governance:** Previous projects suffered from fragmented governance structures, with overlapping responsibilities and a lack of coordination among government agencies, which led to inefficiencies and policy inconsistencies.
2. **Weak Institutional Capacity:** There was often insufficient capacity within local institutions to implement and enforce policies effectively, resulting in poor forest management and conservation practices.
3. **Limited Community Engagement:** Many projects failed to adequately involve local communities, particularly marginalized groups, in decision-making processes, leading to a lack of ownership and support for conservation efforts.
4. **Inadequate Funding and Resources:** Projects frequently faced funding shortages and lacked the necessary resources for long-term sustainability, which undermined their impact and continuity.
5. **Insufficient Data and Monitoring:** A lack of reliable data and robust monitoring systems made it difficult to track progress, assess impacts, and make informed decisions, leading to ineffective interventions.
6. **Economic Pressures:** High dependency on forest resources for livelihoods, combined with insufficient alternative income opportunities, drove unsustainable practices and hindered conservation efforts.
7. **Policy Gaps and Inconsistencies:** Incoherent and sometimes contradictory policies at local, national, and regional levels created confusion and impeded the effective implementation of forest governance strategies.
8. **Limited Private Sector Engagement:** There was a general lack of engagement and collaboration with the private sector, which is crucial for developing sustainable commodity value chains and fostering economic incentives for conservation.

The Maiombe Forest, despite its critical ecological importance, faces **limited funding and investment** due to several reasons such as:

- a. **Low Awareness and Visibility:** The Maiombe Forest may not be as well-known globally as other critical forest landscapes, leading to lower prioritization by international donors and investors. On this basis, reviving and keeping the Maiombe Transfrontier Initiative (MTI) afloat is critical to raising awareness and bringing attention to the Critical Biome. The partnership with the UNEP-led Congo Basin Integrated Programme is integral to making the Maiombe Forests visible.
- b. **Political and Economic Instability:** The regions encompassing the Maiombe Forest have experienced political and economic instability, deterring potential investors who are wary of high-risk environments.
- c. **Lack of Data and Research:** Insufficient data on the ecological and economic value of the Maiombe Forest hampers the ability to make a compelling investment case. Detailed and reliable information is crucial for attracting funding.
- d. **Weak Institutional Frameworks:** Inadequate institutional capacity and governance frameworks reduce the confidence of potential funders in the effective use of resources and the long-term sustainability of projects.
- e. **Competing Priorities:** Governments and local authorities may have competing priorities, such as addressing immediate socio-economic challenges, which can divert attention and resources away from forest conservation.
- f. **Poor Private Sector Engagement:** There has been limited involvement of the private sector in conservation efforts, missing opportunities for public-private partnerships that could bring in significant investments.

The above causes of funding limitations can be addressed by the points below which have been built into the design of the Angola Maiombe project. By addressing these issues, the Maiombe Forest can attract the necessary funding and investments to ensure its conservation and sustainable management, benefiting both local communities and global biodiversity.

1. **Enhance Awareness and Advocacy:** Increase global awareness of the Maiombe Forest's importance through targeted campaigns, documentaries, and partnerships with international environmental organizations. Highlighting success stories and potential benefits can attract attention and funding.
2. **Strengthen Institutional Capacity:** Build and strengthen local institutional capacities to ensure effective governance and transparent use of funds. This can be achieved through training programs, technical assistance, and institutional reforms.
3. **Improve Data Collection and Research:** Invest in comprehensive research and data collection to document the ecological, social, and economic value of the Maiombe Forest. Use this data to create compelling funding proposals and attract investments.
4. **Foster Political Stability and Governance:** Work towards political stability and improved governance in the region to create a conducive environment for investment. International agencies can play a role in supporting democratic processes and governance reforms.
5. **Engage the Private Sector:** Develop mechanisms to involve the private sector in conservation efforts. This can include creating incentives for sustainable business practices, establishing public-private partnerships, and promoting ecotourism.
6. **Integrate with Development Goals:** Align conservation efforts with broader socio-economic development goals to attract funding from diverse sources. For example, integrating forest conservation with community development and poverty alleviation programs can attract development aid.
7. **Leverage International Funding Mechanisms** e.g., GEF, GCF, Bezos Fund etc

Incremental cost reasoning

The Maiombe forest ecosystems (including the Angola portion) have faced extensive human disturbance, ecological degradation, poaching, encroachment, and unsustainable resource use due to decades of conflict and extreme poverty. Cabinda, Angola, however, has seen some forest recuperation due to reduced utilization of resources during conflicts. Improved political stability coupled with high poverty rates has led to increased logging, mining, and illegal activities, threatening the forest's integrity. The main threats include illegal logging, unsustainable land use, poaching, human-wildlife conflict, invasive species, and unsustainable development. Key drivers of these threats are inter-sectorial conflicts, inadequate legislation and enforcement, extreme poverty, insufficient management resources, and limited involvement of local communities in the design and implementation of policies and conservation initiatives. **All of these drivers will be addressed by this project.** Without intervention, this cycle of degradation and poverty is expected to worsen.

On the above basis, this GEF-funded project will improve conservation, ecological integrity, and effective governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest ecosystem, whilst fostering resilient livelihoods and multi-level stakeholder engagement for sustainable development. This will be achieved through an integrated approach that is founded on a) promoting an enabling legislative and policy environment effective forest governance b) improving stakeholder engagement and multi-stakeholder dialogues through coordinated institutionalized platforms c) engaging high-level decision makers and private sector institutions in Angola in order to highlight the importance of conserving this Forest Biome while exploring opportunities to mobilize financing, and; d) deploying innovative approaches including conservation technologies, resilient nature-based solutions amongst others whilst addressing gender inequalities.

This project will build on previous GEF-funded projects aimed at addressing the abovementioned drivers of the Maiombe forest ecosystems' degradation, focused on the Angolan component. The project will thus support the implementation of key aspects of the Maiombe National integrated management plan, developed through the GEF-funded project "Expansion and Strengthening of Angola's Protected Area System" (2016-2022). It will also be coordinated with the GEF-funded project "Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade and Human Wildlife Conflict" (ongoing), which strengthens the MNP's capacities to combat wildlife crime. Despite partial support through these projects, the critical ecosystems

of the Maiombe forest, are still underfunded, with much more substantial funding and capacity-building support needed to address the abovementioned extinction drivers and threats.

Gaps in the available data on the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola will be addressed through mapping Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs). This will inform and influence policy and decision-making for effective governance of the Maiombe landscape in Angola, as well as enhance knowledge sharing amongst the Congo Basin countries for effective governance of the Congo Critical Forests Biome. In particular to increase coordination among the MTI countries, including as a leverage to increase visibility and to mobilize further substantive funding for the conservation and sustainable management of the Maiombe forest ecosystems, throughout the four MTI member countries.

At the transboundary/regional level, the project will support the implementation of the MTI Strategic Plan, adopted by the four member countries in 2013^[1], following a baseline study published and disseminated in 2011^[2], both elaborated through the UNEP-IUCN initiative of support to establishing the MTI, which focused on support for these preliminary activities and transboundary meetings, during 2009-2013. A follow-up FAO MTI Support Project (2013-2015) focused on promoting the sustainable use and management of natural resources, through introducing agriculture and forestry best-practice methodologies, with pilot sites in Angola and regional dissemination of lessons learned. A participatory assessment realized through this project concluded that the main drivers of the Maiombe ecosystems; degradation are: (a) Unsustainable use of the natural resources; (b) Lack of diversification of livelihood strategies; (c) Weak local governance of the natural resources. This project addresses these drivers in Angola, as well as the regional dissemination of lessons learned.

Cognizant of the fact that the Maiombe ecosystem is underfunded and under-recognized, yet under threat despite being a biodiversity hotspot, the project will collaborate with UNEP through the Congo Integrated Program (IP) by leveraging partnerships with entities involved in the Congo Program such as Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC) and Central Africa Forest Institute (CAFI). The project will also mobilize financing for the Maiombe ecosystems in Angola and in the transboundary context. Notably, through this project, and in conjunction with the Congo IP, multi-stakeholder dialogues among the four countries (Angola, DCR, RoC, and Gabon) will be initiated which will potentially result in the mobilization of funding and influencing high-level decision-makers in the 4 countries to prioritize the governance of the Maiombe ecosystem. This project will also leverage COMIFAC's sustainability mechanism, which serves as a convening agency for Central African countries. By bringing these nations together, COMIFAC provides a strong platform for fostering regional collaboration. This makes it an ideal entry point for establishing a transboundary agency, facilitating coordinated efforts to conserve and sustainably manage shared ecosystems across borders.

In the transboundary context of the MTI this project will focus on: (a) Promoting political buy-in from the 4 countries; (b) Multi-stakeholder dialogues with the goal of enhancing collaboration in the updating and implementation of the MTI Strategic Plan and mobilizing resources; (c) Learning and Knowledge sharing and exchange among the 4 countries.

Despite minimal investments in this landscape, the project will play a critical role in influencing the governance of the Maiombe ecosystem, giving the landscape visibility by generating up-to-date database that justifies its importance and potentially attracting additional financing.

In the absence of the project (or other similar initiatives), it is expected that the vicious circle of increasing ecosystem degradation, and loss of natural resources, through unsustainable land and resource uses, amplified by unsustainable legal and illegal activities at the local level, would constantly increase the local drivers of extreme poverty, resulting

in constantly increasing degradation, resulting in increasing vulnerability of the communities and loss of resilience. A Business-as-usual approach will thus result in continued degradation and reduction of the area covered by the Maiombe ecosystem.

Table 2: Summary of incremental benefits of the project's interventions

Business as Usual (without project)	Incremental Benefits (with project – contributions to baseline)
<i>Weak coordination amongst institutions operating at National and Provincial levels in the management of the Maiombe Forest ecosystem</i>	The project will strengthen National and Provincial institutional coordination for the sustainable governance of the Maiombe Forest, prioritizing conservation, with climate-proof and gender-responsive-and-inclusive policy and legal frameworks, through the operationalization of a National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platform
<i>Weak mainstreaming of policies and legislation relating to forest governance, conservation, climate change, and local communities access to natural resources and rights</i>	The project will strengthen the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and inclusive local communities access and rights, in policies and legislative frameworks, through strengthening engagement and capacity building of relevant national and provincial officials and legislators
<i>There is insufficient up-to-date information on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola</i>	The project will support the development of an updated and expanded data and information base on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola
<i>Lack of overarching and participatory integrated land use planning of the Maiombe forest landscape in Angola</i>	The project will support a process of participatory gender-responsive and inclusive integrated resource and land-use planning and mapping of the Maiombe Forest landscape in Angola, with forest conservation prioritized and with target areas identified for protection, restoration, sustainable use and production
<i>The area around the MNP is subjected to degradation through unsustainable practices and utilization of resources by local communities</i>	The project will support local communities in land-use planning west of the MNP and in anchoring and implementing integrated and sustainable resource and land-use plans through Conservation Agreements with government, the private sector and civil society
<i>No area in the Angola Maiombe forest is under improved management through forest management certifications</i>	The project will enhance improved management of the Angola Maiombe Forest through Forest Management Certification, which will be integrated into the land-use planning (including RILC - Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefit), and including capacity building of key stakeholders on Forest Certification
<i>Local communities are governed by the governmental structures and through the traditional leadership, but there are no specific local structures for effective forest governance</i>	The project will support establishing local-level forest governance structures, based on participatory consultations, and will strengthen their capacities for leading effective sustainable utilization and management of natural resources and address HWC
<i>Limited youth engagement in sustainable conservation practices</i>	The project will support youth engagement among local communities in the Angola Maiombe landscape management, through the JGI Roots & Shoots (R&S) programme, for improved knowledge and understanding of sustainable conservation practices and their role in a holistic HWC approach.
<i>Local communities residing in the area of the Angolan Maiombe forest landscape are subjected to extreme poverty and their livelihoods are based mainly on unsustainable practices</i>	The project will support the local communities in shifting to resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods, including community-based disaster preparedness plans and early warning systems; assessment of local commodity supply chains; support for local gender-responsive and resilient value chains; enhancing community capacities (training, equipment, alternative livelihoods, green financing products); and developing a Business Case for Investment in Adaptation and Resilience

Business as Usual (without project)	Incremental Benefits (with project – contributions to baseline)
<i>There is insufficient capacity to effectively manage the MNP</i>	The project will strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of Park staff and multi-agency collaborators, to effectively manage the Maiombe National Park (MNP) and enforce the law, including capacity building for caretaking of confiscated wildlife, deployment of conservation technologies and a strategic analysis and plan for adequate long-term financing for the MNP
<i>Weak coordination, learning and sharing between projects and programs at various levels in the Maiombe ecosystem landscape and the Congo Basin as a whole</i>	The project will strengthen coordination, learning and sharing between the GEF-8 Congo Basin Angola Project and initiatives at the Local, National and Regional levels (the Congo Basin with emphasis on the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative - MTI), including the development of a project Knowledge Management and Communications Strategy; producing and disseminating knowledge management products; Participation in the Congo Basin Annual Forums; facilitating learning and exposure visits facilitated with the Congo Basin Child Projects; and enhancing the MTI transboundary dialogue for collaborative implementation of the MTI strategic plan between Angola, DRC, the Republic of Congo and Gabon

Objective and justification of the project

The project's objective is to improve conservation, ecological integrity, and effective governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest ecosystems, whilst fostering resilient livelihoods and multi-level stakeholder engagement for sustainable development.

The project, **in collaboration with the regional Congo Basin IP project**, aims to maintain and restore the ecological integrity of the Maiombe Forest landscape in Angola, by addressing the abovementioned threats and underlying drivers, through an integrated approach. It will focus on (a) Enhancing stakeholder engagement at all levels and on mainstreaming conservation, climate, and local communities' inclusive and equitable access and rights into legislation and policy frameworks, through multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder institutional coordination; (b) Local communities' engagement and empowerment, through integrated, participatory and inclusive land-use planning, strengthened capacity of community structures for effective local-level forest governance, and enhancing resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods; (c) Strengthening capacities for effective management of the MNP; and (d) Strengthening transboundary and regional coordination, learning and sharing, with focus on the MTI.

The project outcomes are designed to produce an impact at the local level on a landscape with global biodiversity and carbon capture importance, and at the provincial and national levels, through enhancing mainstreaming and prioritizing of conservation and climate consideration and local communities' inclusive and equitable rights and access. It is also expected to have an impact at the regional level, on enhancing transboundary collaboration, and at the global level, through providing a show-case model for Nature-Based Solutions, and through sharing and disseminating lessons learned.

To mitigate potential risks to livelihoods, human rights violation, and gender bias among local communities, the project will include the following measures: (a) Identify and address relevant legislation and policy framework gaps; (b) Enhance relevant policy transformation including for mainstreaming inclusive and equitable community access and rights; (c) Support participatory and integrated land and resource use planning and inclusive and equitable conservation agreements for local communities; (d) Strengthen capacity of inclusive and equitable community forest governance structures to sustainably manage resources and address Human-Wildlife-Conflict (HWC); (e) Support capacity building and engagement of community forest scouts (men and women), to act as educators/influencers and liaison agents between the communities and related authorities; (f) Support youth engagement among local communities for improved knowledge and understanding of sustainable conservation practices and their role in a holistic HWC approach; (g) Support development and implementation of community-based disaster preparedness plans and early warning systems to mitigate the impact of natural disasters and climate-related hazards on agricultural production and supply chains; (h) Support development of local sustainable, gender-responsive and resilient alternative livelihoods and value chains; (i) Train the MNP staff and collaborating agencies on social safeguards,

inclusion and gender aspects; (j) Support the integration of traditional knowledge, as well as gender, equality and inclusion aspects in knowledge management products.

Contribution of key stakeholders to the Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs), and proposed outcomes:

The table below outlines the relevant stakeholders, private sector, and local actors and their roles in the system, and how they will be critical to deliver on the GEBs and proposed outcomes.

Table 3: Relevant stakeholders and their contribution to the delivery of the proposed outcomes and GEBs

Stakeholders	Contribution/Role in the Project Implementation	Enduring Benefits from the Project
Government (National)		
Ministry of Environment (MINAMB)	MINAMB is the Project’s Executing Agency. The project will be led under the leadership and oversight of the Secretariat of Climate Action and Sustainability at MINAMB, with the engagement of specific departments in respective project components, as relevant.	MINAMB and relevant MINAMB staff will be direct and indirect key beneficiaries of all project components, including improved management of the Angolan Maiombe landscape, institutional and technical capacity building, support for multi-sectorial as well as transboundary and regional coordination.
The Institute of Biodiversity Conservation (INBC), and MNP park staff	INBC at MINAMB, and in particular the MNP park staff, will be the key stakeholders for the implementation of project interventions related to the MNP management (and in particular, Component 3).	The MNP at INBC and the MNP park staff will be among the key direct and indirect beneficiaries of all of the project components. In particular, they will benefit directly from institutional and technical capacity building, through component 3 (as well as through components 1, 2, and 4).
Ministry of Agriculture and Forest (MINAGRIF)	MINAGRIF will be a key project stakeholder. Specifically, the Institute of Forestry Development (IDF) is responsible for the conservation and management of forests in Angola, and the Institute of Agrarian Development (IDA) is responsible for the development of agricultural activities with the local communities.	MINAGRIF, and in particular IDF and IDA, and respective staff will be among the project's key beneficiaries. In particular, they will benefit from institutional and technical capacity building through component 2 (as well as through components 1, 3, and 4).
Ministry of Social Affairs, Family and Women (MASFAMU)	MASFAMU will be a stakeholder in the implementation of all project interventions related to socio-economic development, inclusion, and gender equality, including the development and implementation of the ESMF Plans.	MASFAMU and relevant staff will benefit from project capacity-building support related to socioeconomic development, inclusion, and gender equality.
Other line Ministries	Other line Ministries will be engaged in this project, through participation in multi-sectorial coordination, in particular in relation to the implementation of Components 1, 2, and 4. These Ministries include (among others): The Ministry of Territorial Administration. The Ministry of Mineral Resources Economy and Planning The Ministry of Fisheries The Ministry of Health The Ministry of Foreign Affairs The Ministry of Education The Ministry of Energy and Water The Ministry of Urbanism and Habitation	These line Ministries will benefit mainly from the project support to National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue for enhancing the mainstreaming of biodiversity, climate change, gender, and community rights into policy and legislative frameworks, and related capacity building (Component 1), from the project support for participatory integrated resource and land-use planning, and related capacity building (Component 2), and from strengthening transboundary and regional collaboration, and related capacity building (Component 4).

Stakeholders	Contribution/Role in the Project Implementation	Enduring Benefits from the Project
	The Ministry of Constructions and Public Works The Ministry of Transport The Ministry of Tourism and Culture The Ministry of Defense The Ministry of Interior The Ministry of Justice The Ministry of Finance	
Government (Provincial)		
The Provincial Government of Cabinda	The Provincial Government of Cabinda is a key stakeholder in the implementation of all project components, as well as responsible for guiding and supporting the project interaction with all other stakeholders at the provincial, municipal, and local levels. In particular, the project interventions in Cabinda will be guided and supported by the Provincial Departments of Environment, Agriculture, IDA, IDF, and MASFAMU.	The Provincial Government of Cabinda will be a key beneficiary of all project components. It will particularly benefit from the project support for National-Provincial multi-sectorial dialogue (Component 1), integrated land-use planning and empowerment of local stakeholders to engage in sustainable management (Component 2), improved management of the MNP (Component 3), and strengthened transboundary and regional collaboration (Component 4) and the related institutional and technical capacity building.
Municipal Administration of the Municipalities: Belize, Buco-Zau and Cacongo	The Municipal Administration of the Municipalities covering the area of the Angolan Maiombe landscape (the Municipalities: Belize, Buco-Zau, and Cacongo) are key stakeholders for the implementation of all project components, and responsible for guiding and supporting the project interaction with all other stakeholders at the municipal and local levels.	The Municipal Administration of the Municipalities of Belize, Buco-Zau, and Cacongo will be among the key beneficiaries of all project components. They will particularly benefit from the project support for integrated land-use planning and empowerment of local stakeholders to engage in sustainable management (Component 2), and related institutional and technical capacity building.
Law enforcement agencies collaborating with the MNP	Law enforcement agencies in Cabinda collaborating with the MNP staff in law enforcement and prosecution for the protection of the MNP, will participate in the implementation of Component 3, as well as in strengthening transboundary collaboration (Component 4). These agencies include: IDF; The army (FAA); The National Police; The Border Police; Intelligence (SIC); Customs (AGT); Immigration (SME); General Prosecution (PGR); Judiciary.	The law enforcement agencies in Cabinda collaborating with the MNP staff in law enforcement and prosecution for the protection of the MNP will benefit from the project support to multi-sectorial coordination, transboundary collaboration, and institutional and technical capacity building activities under Components 3 and 4.
Other National and Provincial Stakeholders		
The National Assembly	Members of the National Assembly (Parliament) will participate in the implementation of Component 1, in particular through Output 1.1.5., supporting the engagement of legislators in mainstreaming relevant legislative frameworks.	Legislators of the National Assembly will benefit from capacity-building activities under Output 1.1.5. (Component 1)

Stakeholders	Contribution/Role in the Project Implementation	Enduring Benefits from the Project
The Academia and thematic experts	Relevant departments and individuals of National and Provincial Academic Institutions, as well as individual relevant thematic experts, will participate in the project development, guidance, and implementation, as relevant.	National and Provincial Academic Institutions will benefit from participating in multi-sectorial as well as transboundary dialogue platforms, as relevant.
GRAA-Angola	The Game Rangers Association of Africa – Angola Chapter, will participate in activities related to the project’s engagement with the MNP park staff.	
CSOs & NGOs (National and International)		
CSOs & NGOs (e.g., ADPP, JGI, ICCF, BirdLife International, TNC, CI, UNDP, FAO, FSC, DBDS, Maiombe Network, Kissama Foundation, ADRA, JEA, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) etc.)	NGOs will be engaged in the development and implementation of specific project activities, as relevant. The selection of NGOs to be engaged in specific project activities will be assessed and determined during the Project Inception Phase.	
Local-level Stakeholders		
The local communities and their traditional leadership	The local communities residing in and around the Angolan Maiombe landscape are key stakeholders of all project components. In particular, they are the main stakeholders in the implementation of Component 2.	The local communities residing in and around the Angolan Maiombe landscape will be the key direct and indirect beneficiaries of all of the project components and interventions. In particular, they will benefit from improved legal access and rights through Component 1, from effective local-level forest governance and sustainable and resilient livelihoods, and related empowerment and capacity building, through Component 2, and from participation in activities for strengthened transboundary collaboration, through Component 4.
Local organizations (NGOs, CSOs) and associations (e.g., Defensores Ecológicos)	Local organizations and associations operating in the Angolan Maiombe landscape (e.g., Defensores Ecológicos) will be engaged, through ADPP, in supporting the implementation of local-level activities with the local communities, and in managing micro-grants.	Local organizations and associations operating in the Angolan Maiombe landscape (e.g., Defensores Ecológicos) will be project beneficiaries, in particular capacity-building activities related mainly to Component 2.
Religious authorities	Religious authorities play a key role in the social life in the Angolan Maiombe landscape and will be engaged in supporting the local community's engagement and empowerment, in particular through Component 2.	Religious authorities in the Angolan Maiombe landscape will be among the beneficiaries of capacity-building activities under Component 2.
Private sector actors operating locally	Private sector actors, operating in the Angolan Maiombe landscape (in the logging, mining, oil, tourism, construction sectors, etc.) will be engaged in activities related to integrated resource and land-use planning, sustainable management of natural resources, and the development of resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods, under Component 2.	
Transboundary and Regional Stakeholders		

Stakeholders	Contribution/Role in the Project Implementation	Enduring Benefits from the Project
The MTI Executive Secretariat and representatives of the MTI from the Republic of Congo (RoC), DRC and Gabon	The MTI Executive Secretariat and representatives of the MTI and partners from RoC, DRC, and Gabon, will engage in project interventions of support for transboundary collaboration, in particular through Component 4.	The MTI Executive Secretariat, representatives, and partners will benefit from the project interventions of support for transboundary collaboration, in particular through Component 4
UNEP (Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project)	UNEP will support project interventions related to strengthening regional coordination and exchange, in the framework of the RCP, in particular under Component 4.	
The Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC), The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), The Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI)	The COMIFAC, ECCAS, and CAFI will be engaged in project interventions for strengthening regional coordination, learning, sharing, and exchange, mainly through Component 4.	

Cooperation with past and ongoing initiatives/projects

A Business-as-usual approach will thus result in continued degradation and reduction of the area covered by the Maiombe ecosystem.

In line with the regional projects in the Congo Basin, several key lessons from countries including the Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Gabon and other countries in the biome provide valuable insights applicable to Angola's context:

- a) **Multi-stakeholder Engagement:** In the DRC and Gabon, successful land use planning and REDD+ initiatives have underscored the importance of inclusive multi-stakeholder engagement. These countries effectively involved local communities, government agencies, and private sector actors in decision-making processes, which enhanced local ownership and minimized conflicts. Angola can adopt similar practices to harmonize conservation and development objectives by ensuring that diverse actors contribute to and support land use planning and sustainable forest management.
- b) **Institutional Capacity Building:** The Republic of Congo's REDD+ projects have demonstrated that investing in institutional capacity is critical for achieving long-term conservation goals. Continuous training, capacity-building initiatives, and knowledge-sharing platforms strengthened governance and enhanced the ability of local institutions to manage natural resources effectively. Angola could benefit from replicating this approach, focusing on building strong institutional frameworks for forest governance and protected area management to ensure long-term sustainability.
- c) **Adaptive Management for Climate Resilience:** Adaptive management approaches used in Gabon and the DRC have proven effective in addressing the impacts of deforestation and biodiversity loss. These countries implemented flexible strategies that allowed projects to adjust to evolving environmental and socio-economic conditions, making them more resilient. Angola could integrate similar adaptive management mechanisms, incorporating continuous monitoring and feedback loops to address changing challenges, such as human-wildlife conflicts and illegal land use, while enhancing climate resilience in forest ecosystems.

Lessons and potential opportunities from other past and ongoing initiatives and projects relevant to the Angola project are summarized in Table 4.

Project Name	Duration	Funding Source	Objectives	Components and Achievements	Lessons and Leveraging Opportunities
Amazon Congo Critical Forest Biomes: UNEP's Regional Coordination Project for The Congo Basin Integrated Program (IP) (GEF ID: 11248)	72 Months (start tentatively 2025)	GEF (\$7,78 M)	To improve the conservation and effective governance of critical landscapes in the Congo Basin Forest Biome	Learning, Knowledge sharing, and Improved coordination amongst the Congo Basin countries for effective governance of Congo Critical Forests Biome	
Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) Programme	Ongoing	Multiple Donors	The vision of the KBA Programme is 'a comprehensive network of sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity is appropriately identified, correctly documented, effectively managed, sufficiently resourced and adequately safeguarded.'	Contribute to the Maiombe data base; KBA maps to inform and influence policy and decision making for effective governance of the Biome; Learning, Knowledge sharing about KBAs amongst the Congo Basin countries for effective governance of Congo Critical Forests Biome; Unlock financing in the Biome	Access to up-to-date information and data base about KBAs is critical and will influence decision making hence promoting the governance of these critical biodiversity and landscapes
GEF-8 Strengthening Management and Climate Resilience in Angola's Conservation Areas (GEF ID: 10505)	2021-2028	GEF (\$14.8M), Co-finance (\$26.3M)	Strengthen resilience of communities, support management of Luengue-Luiana and Iona National Parks	Establish eco-villages, local climate adaptation plans, anti-poaching strategies, training programs, policy reviews	Leveraging community engagement for sustainable management; opportunities in eco-tourism and renewable energy.
GEF-6 Addressing Urgent Coastal Adaptation Needs and Capacity Gaps (GEF ID: 5230)	2017-2024	GEF (\$6.18M), Co-finance (\$12.31M)	Build climate resilience for coastal areas, strengthen planning and monitoring capacities	Enhanced resilience, capacity building, effective ecosystem planning and monitoring	Lessons in coastal adaptation applicable to other vulnerable regions; opportunities in capacity building and ecosystem monitoring.
GEF-7 Various Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Land Degradation Projects	2018-2022	GEF (\$10.42M)	Biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, sustainable land management	Conservation of critical habitats, climate adaptation measures, restoration of degraded lands	Leveraging biodiversity conservation experiences to enhance climate resilience; opportunities in habitat restoration

Project Name	Duration	Funding Source	Objectives	Components and Achievements	Lessons and Leveraging Opportunities
					and sustainable land management.
GEF-6 Various Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Land Degradation Projects	2014-2018	GEF (\$13.69M)	Biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, sustainable land management	Enhanced conservation of biodiversity, climate resilience, sustainable land management practices	Utilizing enhanced conservation techniques to improve biodiversity outcomes; opportunities in climate resilience measures.
GEF-5 Various Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Land Degradation Projects	2010-2014	GEF (\$15.65M)	Biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, sustainable land management	Conservation efforts, climate change adaptation, land restoration initiatives	Applying conservation and climate adaptation lessons to similar projects; opportunities in land restoration initiatives.
GEF-4 Various Biodiversity and Climate Change Projects	2006-2010	GEF (\$7.1M)	Biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation	Establishment of protected areas, sustainable land management, climate adaptation strategies	Leveraging experience in protected area management; opportunities in integrating climate adaptation strategies.
Market-Oriented Smallholder Agriculture Project (MOSAP) II and III	2017 - ongoing	World Bank	Increase agricultural productivity, enhance market access, improve food security	Capacity building for farmers, support for agricultural production, market linkage improvements	Improving agricultural practices can serve as a model for similar regions; opportunities in enhancing market linkages and food security.
Integrated Program for Local Development and Social Inclusion (PIDLIS)	2018 - ongoing	European Union	Improve quality of life in rural areas, enhance access to basic services	Local infrastructure development, capacity building for local government, support for local economic development	Leveraging infrastructure development and capacity building lessons for rural advancement; opportunities in local economic development.
UNIDO Industrial Development Projects	Ongoing	UNIDO, various donors	Promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development	Industrial upgrading, renewable energy, energy efficiency, skills development, vocational training	Promoting industrial development as a model for inclusive growth; opportunities in renewable energy and vocational training.

Project Name	Duration	Funding Source	Objectives	Components and Achievements	Lessons and Leveraging Opportunities
Angola Social Action Fund (FAS)	1994-2020	World Bank, various donors	Improve access to basic services, support community-driven development	Construction of schools, health centers, water systems, capacity building for community management	Leveraging community-driven development approaches; opportunities in scaling up basic services and infrastructure projects.
Project to Support the National Plan for Environmental Management (PNGA)	Completed in 2015	African Development Bank	Strengthen environmental management and governance	Development of environmental policies, capacity building for environmental institutions, sustainable resource management practices	Strengthening environmental governance frameworks; opportunities in sustainable resource management and policy development.

Cooperation with past and ongoing initiatives/projects

Best practices, lessons learnt from past and ongoing initiatives and projects from other countries in the Congo Basin Integrated Program.

17. In line with the regional projects in the Congo Basin, several key lessons from countries including the Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Gabon and other countries in the biome provide valuable insights applicable to Angola's context:

- a) **Multi-stakeholder Engagement:** In the DRC and Gabon, successful land use planning and REDD+ initiatives have underscored the importance of inclusive multi-stakeholder engagement. These countries effectively involved local communities, government agencies, and private sector actors in decision-making processes, which enhanced local ownership and minimized conflicts. Angola can adopt similar practices to harmonize conservation and development objectives by ensuring that diverse actors contribute to and support land use planning and sustainable forest management.

- b) **Institutional Capacity Building:** The Republic of Congo's REDD+ projects have demonstrated that investing in institutional capacity is critical for achieving long-term conservation goals. Continuous training, capacity-building initiatives, and knowledge-sharing platforms strengthened governance and enhanced the ability of local institutions to manage natural resources effectively. Angola could benefit from replicating this approach, focusing on building strong institutional frameworks for forest governance and protected area management to ensure long-term sustainability.

c) **Adaptive Management for Climate Resilience:** Adaptive management approaches used in Gabon and the DRC have proven effective in addressing the impacts of deforestation and biodiversity loss. These countries implemented flexible strategies that allowed projects to adjust to evolving environmental and socio-economic conditions, making them more resilient. Angola could integrate similar adaptive management mechanisms, incorporating continuous monitoring and feedback loops to address changing challenges, such as human-wildlife conflicts and illegal land use, while enhancing climate resilience in forest ecosystems.

Lessons and potential opportunities from other past and ongoing initiatives and projects relevant to the Angola project are summarized in Table 4.

Table 4: Cooperation with past and ongoing initiatives/projects

Project Name	Duration	Funding Source	Objectives	Components and Achievements	Lessons and Leveraging Opportunities
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Project Name	Duration	Funding Source	Objectives	Components and Achievements	Lessons and Leveraging Opportunities
					and ecosystem monitoring.
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Project to Support the National Plan for Environmental Management (PNGA)	Completed in 2015	African Development Bank	Strengthen environmental management and governance	Development of environmental policies, capacity building for environmental institutions, sustainable resource management practices	Strengthening environmental governance frameworks; opportunities in sustainable resource management and policy development.
Building the capacity of the Government of Angola in Countering Wildlife Trafficking in Cabinda Province	2018-2021	United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Strengthen capacities for Countering Wildlife Trafficking, with focus on Cabinda Province	Assessment of legislation relevant to CITES implementation and wildlife crime; Law-enforcement capacity building	Legislation needs were assessed; 2 Manuals produced for the management and care of confiscated live wildlife in Angola; and capacity-building training was provided to the MNP rangers.

[ftnref1](#)

[ftnref1](#)

[0] UNEP-GEF. 2024. Amazon Congo Critical Forest Biomes: The Congo Basin Integrated Program. Project Document

[1] Maiombe in Angola, Mayumba in Gabon and Mayombe in the Republic of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo, as well as in the context of the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative

[2] Ron, T. 2011. Potential for designating Protected Areas for conservation and for identifying conservation corridors as part of the planning process of the Mayombe forest TPA. Prepared for the Governments of Angola, Congo and DRC, UNEP and IUCN.

[3] Ron, T. 2013. Towards a transboundary protected area complex in the Mayombe forest ecosystems. Strategic Plan. With inputs from Angola, Congo, DRC, UNEP and IUCN. Adopted by all of the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative's governments on March 2013. (<https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2013-029-En.pdf>).

[4] <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-017-15050-z>

^[5]https://www.nature.com/articles/nature21048.epdf?sharing_token=Jn5Wu7hvUgHfotker8eJ09RgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv0N_LMxHFWjYoJRqIqtWz75GIACE7GZZPFxD952J1qAemKmkZ6MaAZ1t88yZWglmsXaEfEeEhXR14UGDb6AMVNN-N0kirVIQ7UL1QXCmzxXSLfMWmvEWdV21DZFTf3V4EyDIqW1ntqfQfCfhtD5bQ36QcuiJfIYTvhRTasFH2Ihr3GMKJkSZM1gGOoZQoRPODTJVnxH51UgtQIau3s8MldhauNI7q3v5jIE_6U5xYWalWXFBZLLjG6IQGEtFXyJWynQ%3D&tracking_referrer=news.mongabay.com

^[6] <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/fandd/issues/2020/09/how-african-elephants-fight-climate-change-ralph-chami>

^[7] <https://congo.wcs.org/Wildlife/Forest-Elephant.aspx>

^[8] IUCN, 2014. Regional Action Plan for the Conservation of Western Lowland Gorilla and Central Chimpanzee, 2015-2025. Gland, Switzerland. IUCN SSC Primate Specialist Group

^[9] Ron, T. 2018. Report of the Preliminary Wildlife Survey in the Maiombe National Park. MINAMB/INBAC-UNDP-GEF.

^[10] Ron, T. 2019. Draft Management Plan for the Maiombe National Park, Angola (and baseline studies). MINAMB/INBAC-UNDP-GEF. Developed with stakeholders' inputs. (Validated by GoA, 2020, available only in Portuguese).

^[11] Law No. 12/21 amending Law No. 8/20 of 16 April on Environmental Conservation Areas, on 07 May 2021.

B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole, including how it addresses priorities related to the specific program, and how it will benefit from the coordination platform. The project description is expected to cover the key elements of good project design in an integrated way. It is also expected to meet the GEF's policy requirements on gender, stakeholders, private sector, and knowledge management and learning (see section D). This section should be a narrative that reads like a joined-up story and not independent elements that answer the guiding questions contained in the guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

This project is part of the Congo Basin IP under the GEF-8 Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program (CFB) IP. The CFB IP consists of 5 regional Projects, all based on the same Theory of Change, in view of contributing to: (a) expanded protection of primary forests by means of protected areas and OECMs; (b) increased understanding and valuing of natural capital; (c) expanded forest-friendly production; and (d) improved policy coherence and institutional and legal frameworks.

The CFB IP strategy is based on the following four levers for system transformation: (a) Governance and policies: CFB IP actions are designed to improve inter-sectoral coordination and dialogue to enhance policy coherence on primary forest conservation in pertinent policies and instruments (at local, subnational, national, and regional levels); (b) Multi-stakeholder dialogues: a multilevel inter-sectoral constructive dialogue among key stakeholder is promoted by establishing or strengthening pertinent multi-sectoral local, national, and regional platforms; (c) Innovation and learning: in the areas of protected area management, management of OECMs, community-based forest restoration practices, innovative financing models and tools, use of novel incentives and business models to incentive nature-friendly activities, and new coalitions for change; and (d) Financial leverage: CFB IP interventions will support the use of financing tools to mobilize domestic and international resources to channel long-term funding for urgently needed actions like sustaining protected areas and OECMs, restoration of primary forest cover and the development of forest-friendly endeavors.

The Congo Basin IP aims to improve the conservation and effective governance of critical landscapes in the Congo Basin Forest Biome that contribute to sustaining the health of the planet, the flow of vital ecosystem services, supporting green recovery and inclusive sustainable development initiatives.

The main problems addressed by the Congo Basin IP are deforestation and degradation associated with ecologically destructive land uses that are prevalent in the Congo Basin, primarily linked to conversion of forest into agricultural land, pasture and industrial use through clearings; unregulated and illegal forest concessions; mining; expansion of infrastructural development; and uncontrolled fires as a result of land conversion. These direct and indirect causes of deforestation and degradation are driven by global demand for minerals, road construction, the emergence of agribusiness, demand for biofuels, palm oil, and population growth. Lack of tenure security for IPLCs and overlapping land use regimes are also an important underlying factor behind deforestation. In addition, poor governance, weak institutions and lack of law enforcement hamper the protection and sustainable use of forests. Illegal conversion of forests for logging and extractive activities is also increasing.

A contextual analysis of the baseline situation in the Congo Basin indicated that the following barriers stand in the way to achieving the Congo Basin IP long-term solution: (a) Failed policies, coordination and incentives that favor

unsustainable use; (b) Regulatory barriers: Insufficient protection of ecosystems and species; (c) Ineffective governance including lack of engagement of communities, forest dependent people, and private sector in conservation and sustainable use and limited organizational capabilities (institutional, investment and social inclusion barriers, including gender-based); (d) Technological barriers to conservation; (e) Market failure (distributive); (f) Insufficient capacity, knowledge and awareness of key local stakeholders and decision makers; and (g) Financial barriers to conservation.

The Congo Basin IP will promote transformational change by proving the concept of 'effective forest governance within multi-use landscapes. It will do so by expanding and enhancing protection and implementing nature-based solutions, by valuing natural capital and sustainable resource use across productive landscapes, and by assessing the conservation effectiveness role that landscapes play in conservation effectiveness, consider the environmental, social and economic impacts (both negative and positive) of landscape-level management action.^{[1]³}

The project aims to maintain and restore the ecological integrity and reduce land degradation and biodiversity loss of the Angolan component of the Maiombe forest, a forest landscape with biodiversity and carbon capture local, national, regional, and global importance, as well as enable recovery of degraded ecosystems in this landscape. It further aims to secure the well-being, livelihood sustainability, and resilience of the local communities residing in this landscape and enhance multi-stakeholder as well as transboundary collaboration for conservation.

The project is thus expected to contribute to achieving the following GEF Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs): (a) Conservation and enhanced carbon stocks in forest; (b) Increased adoption of innovative management practices for carbon sequestration; (c) Conservation of globally significant biodiversity; (d) Reduction in forest loss and forest degradation; (e) Maintenance of the range of environmental services and products derived from forests; and (f) Enhanced sustainable livelihoods for local communities and forest-dependent people.

The theory of change has been developed based on the following assumptions: (a) The Government of Angola (GoA) will actively use the project to achieve its biodiversity conservation and climate action goals and commitments; (b) GoA will use the project to strengthen relevant legislation and policy frameworks, through strengthened multi-sectorial coordination at all levels; (c) GoA and stakeholders at all levels will actively engage in integrated land and resource use planning that prioritizes forest conservation; (d) Local stakeholders will use the project to enhance local resource governance, engagement in conservation and sustainable management, and best practice livelihoods, for improved resilience; (e) The four countries sharing the Mayombe/Maiombe landscape will actively engage in re-activating the MTI; (f) The project can contribute globally through supporting a model for climate Nature-Based-Solutions; (g) The project will succeed to enhance its sustainability through establishing partnerships and exploring innovative funding mechanisms. Through its integrated and holistic approach, the project will foster intentional and long-term behavioural change. It will aim to enhance the mainstreaming of biodiversity and climate considerations into national and provincial decision-making, policy forming, legislative and land and resource use planning, as well as to facilitate local-level governance, access, and ownership for the development of sustainable livelihoods and shift to sustainable best practices. The project will also invest in purposeful innovation, specifically in the deployment of innovative conservation technologies, human-wildlife-conflict mitigation measures, livelihood, and income-generating best practices, and in seeking new, sustainable, and substantive financing mechanisms, including, e.g., enhancing access to carbon markets. The project will perform these activities through close collaboration with other existing and planned initiatives, that address the same issues in this landscape.

Private sector engagement is considered specifically for engagement in integrated land and resource use planning, including conservation agreements and Forest Management Certification, as well as in the development of resilient and sustainable livelihoods and income-generating best practices. Private sector support and partnership will be sought to secure financial sustainability for the long-term engagement of the Community Forest Scouts, to support innovative livelihood pilots, green financing products, and local commodity supply chains. The private sector will be engaged in

seeking new funding partnerships, sources, and mechanisms, for sustainable and resilient livelihoods, as well as for establishing financial sustainability of the MNP's effective management, including the deployment of conservation technologies.

Theory of Change

Goal: The project aims to conserve the ecological integrity and carbon capture value of the Maiombe forest ecosystems in Angola, promote ecosystem recovery, secure the well-being and resilience of local communities, and enhance transboundary conservation efforts, contributing to global biodiversity conservation and climate action.

Problem Statement: The Maiombe forest landscape faces severe threats from deforestation, illegal hunting, human-wildlife conflict, and unsustainable land use. Underlying drivers include inter-sectorial conflicts, population pressure, poverty, limited stakeholder engagement in conservation initiatives, and insufficient park management capacity.

Strategic Approach: The project will address these threats through a multi-level, integrated, and stakeholder-engaged approach, focusing on local, provincial, national, transboundary, and regional/global levels.

The Theory of Change for the Angola Congo Basin Child project **assumes** that:

1. The Government of Angola will commit to biodiversity conservation and climate action goals.
2. Strengthened legislation and policy frameworks are developed and implemented.
3. Stakeholders at all levels actively engage in integrated land and resource use planning.
4. Local communities, marginalised and vulnerable groups participate in sustainable management and conservation efforts.
5. Regional cooperation is maintained among countries sharing the Maiombe landscape.
6. The project supports global contributions through climate Nature-Based Solutions and knowledge sharing.
7. Partnerships and innovative funding mechanisms ensure project sustainability.

THEREFORE:

IF, the project implements a comprehensive and integrated approach to address the ecological and socio-economic challenges of the Maiombe forest landscape,

THEN, the project will contribute to maintaining the ecological integrity and carbon capture value of the Maiombe forest, enable ecosystem recovery, secure the well-being and resilience of local communities, enhance transboundary conservation efforts, and contribute to global environmental benefits of biodiversity conservation and climate action.

THE IMPACT DRIVERS of the transformative change are:

1. Multi-stakeholder coordination and engagement at all levels.: Strengthening multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination at all levels.
2. Enabling legislative and policy environment for biodiversity conservation and leveraging financing (financing for climate and biodiversity conservation): Promoting an enabling gender-responsive and inclusive legislative and policy environment for conservation and climate action as well as attracting financing for climate and biodiversity conservation.
3. Implementation of Protected Area Management Plans: Supporting the implementation of the Maiombe National Park (MNP) management plan and the Maiombe Transfrontier Initiative (MTI) strategic plan in order to a) foster effective forest governance and achieve management effectiveness of the protected area and environs; b) mobilise long term financing
4. Participatory and inclusive Land-Use Planning: Facilitating participatory, gender-inclusive and responsive and integrated land and resource use planning.
5. Strengthened Institutional Capacity for effective management of the MNP: Strengthening institutional and technical capacities for effective park management and forest governance.

6. Gender-inclusive Community Empowerment: Empowering local communities for effective forest governance, sustainable utilization of resources and sustainable livelihoods.
7. Transboundary Collaboration: Facilitating gender-sensitive and inclusive regional exchange amongst the 4 countries sharing the Maiombe Forests as well as with regional bodies governing this landscape, the GEF-funded Critical Forests Impact Programs (IP) such as the Congo Basin IP, Amazon IP, Meso Americas IP, and the Indo-Malay IP
8. Effective knowledge management and dissemination: Generate and disseminate gender-sensitive knowledge products on conservation best practices and traditional knowledge.

TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE

The outcomes of the project correspond with the principal GEF levers of transformation that underpin the Congo Basin Integrated Program.

1. Policy and governance:

- Strengthened National and Provincial institutional coordination for the sustainable governance of the Maiombe Forest, prioritizing conservation, with climate-proof and gender-responsive-and-inclusive policy and legal frameworks
- Strengthened capacity of community structures for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilization and management of natural resources
- Strengthened institutional and technical capacity of Park staff and multi-agency collaborators, to effectively manage the Maiombe National Park (MNP) and enforce the law

2. Innovation and Learning:

- Resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods
- Updated and expanded data and information base on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola (with emphasis on stakeholder-integrated mapping of land cover, and existing and planned land use and resource use, including freshwater resources, and with gender considerations)
- Sustainable resource use (including land use) through conservation agreements.
- Improved management of the Angola Maiombe Forest through Forest Management Certification and integrated into the land-use plan (including RILC - Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefit)
- Strengthened coordination, learning and sharing between the GEF-8 Congo Basin Angola Project and initiatives at the Local, National and Regional levels (the Congo Basin with emphasis on the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative - MTI), whilst fostering traditional knowledge for sustainable natural resource management
- Regional and global impact through shared best practices and solutions.

3. Multi-stakeholder dialogues:

- Operationalization of the National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platform that enhances the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation, climate change, gender, and community rights into policies and decision-making processes at both national and provincial levels.
- Transboundary conservation efforts are reinforced through strengthened cooperation and joint conservation efforts, with emphasis on reviving the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative (MTI)

4. Leveraging financing:

- Completion of a strategic analysis and plan for adequate long-term financing for the MNP, designed to meet the desired level of park management (and initial financing mobilized)
- Working with the Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) Programme, this project will map KBAs for the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola. The mapped KBAs will be instrumental in building a case to unlock investments and financing for this Biome.

The Theory of Change (ToC) is summarized in the Figure Diagram below.

Figure 1: The Theory of Change

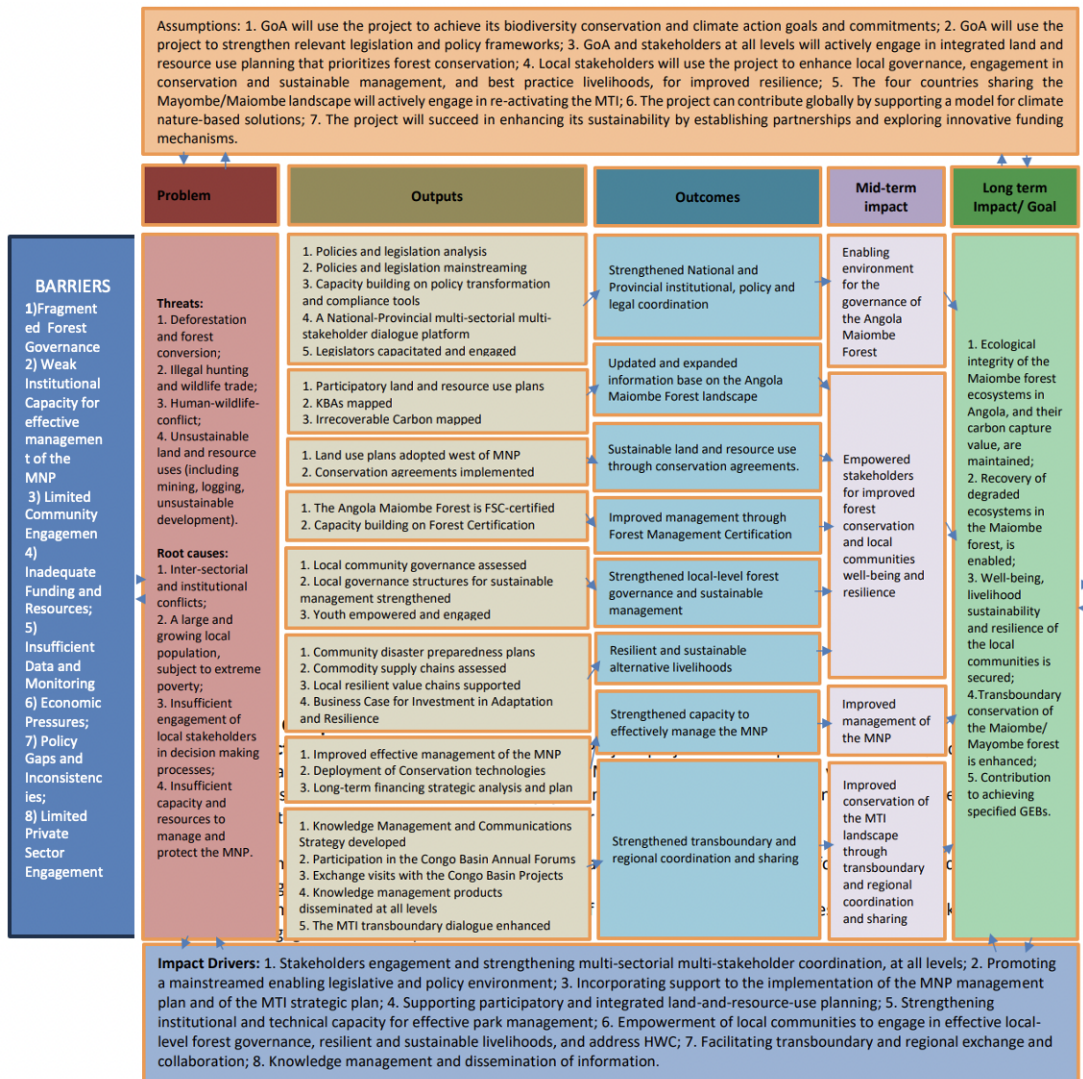
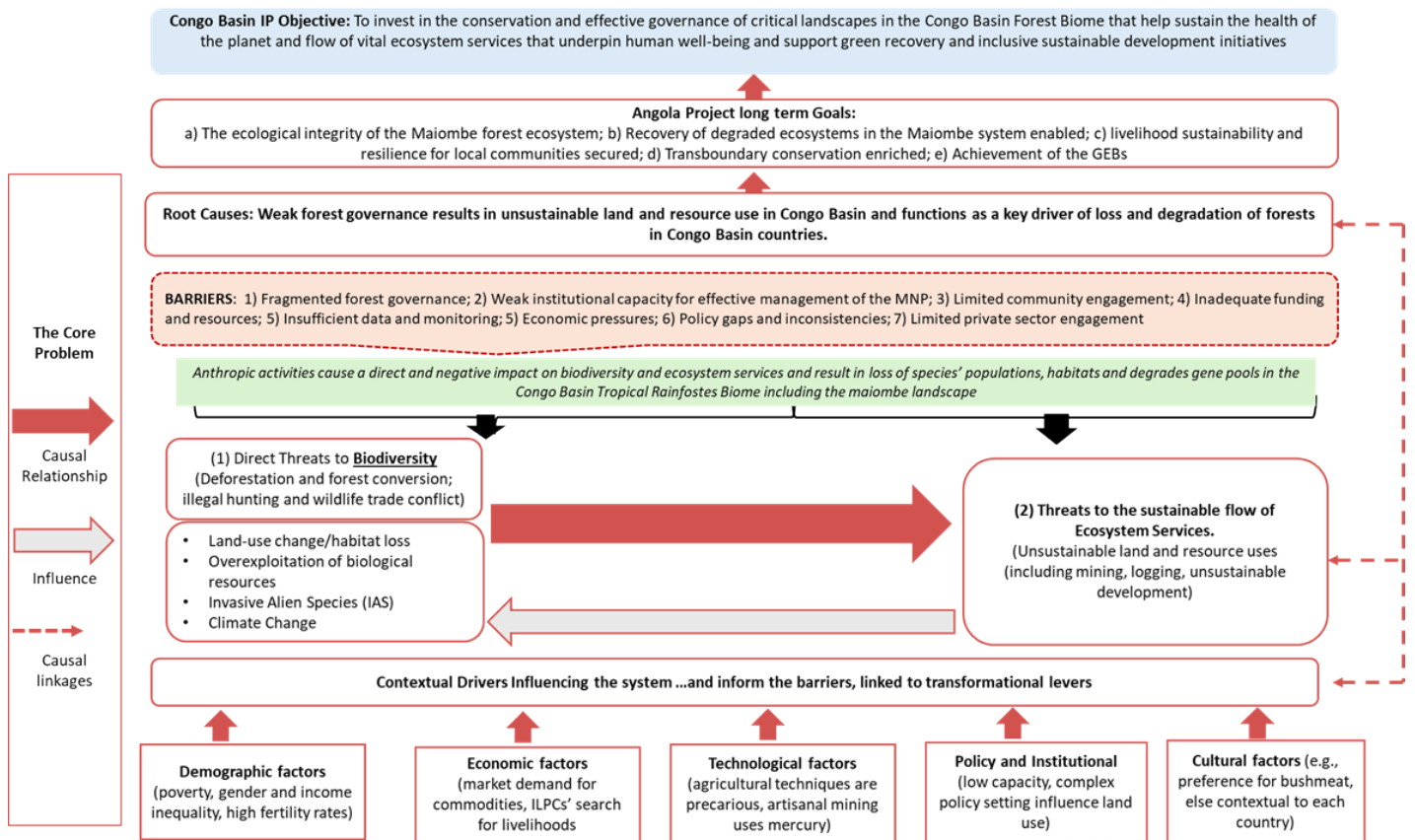


Figure 2: The Angola Theory of Change integrated into the Congo IP Theory of Change



Project Components

The **objective** of the Angola Congo Basin Child Project is: to improve conservation, ecological integrity and effective governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest ecosystems, whilst fostering resilient livelihoods and multi-level stakeholder engagement for sustainable development. This objective will be achieved through interventions that are under four components namely:

- Component 1: Promoting an enabling legislative and policy environment for the governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest
- Component 2: Improved conservation of the Angola Maiombe Forest through stakeholder engagement and empowerment
- Component 3: Park management
- Component 4: Knowledge management and transboundary coordination
- Component 5: Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

The project duration is **62 months** (6 months implementation set up; Actual project execution 48 months; 8 months Terminal Evaluation and closeout).

COMPONENT 1: Promoting an enabling legislative and policy environment for the governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest

OUTCOME 1.1: *Strengthened National and Provincial institutional coordination for the sustainable governance of the Maiombe Forest, prioritizing conservation, with climate-proof and gender-responsive-and-inclusive policy and legal frameworks.*

Target 1.1: At least 10 institutions actively coordinating at the National and Provincial levels to sustainably govern the Maiombe forest, with climate-proof, gender-responsive and inclusive policy and legal legislative frameworks.

Component 1 aims to strengthen national and provincial institutional coordination for sustainable governance of the Angolan Maiombe landscape by integrating biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting (NCA), forest certification, and inclusive community access and rights into policies and legislative frameworks. The interventions will provide technical support to the Government of Angola to mainstream these considerations in decision-making processes, enhancing conservation and sustainable resource use. Successful implementation of component 1 hinges on the Government of Angola's commitment to adopting and enforcing these policies, fostering a whole-of-government approach to achieve conservation, climate, sustainability, and resilience goals. Key interventions under this component include:

- a. Policy and Legislative Analysis: Identifying gaps in current frameworks and supporting the development of legal instruments like the Interim Forest Stewardship Standard and mechanisms for carbon markets and sustainable financing.
- b. Institutional Coordination: Establishing and operationalizing a National-Provincial multi-sectorial dialogue platform to enhance mainstreaming efforts, with a minimum of 30% female representation.
- c. Capacity Building: Engaging and training legislators and stakeholders on biodiversity, climate, NCA, forest certification, and inclusive policies, ensuring they can implement and sustain these policies.
- d. Transboundary Coordination: Aligning policies and compliance tools with transboundary agreements under the MTI strategic plan and engaging with regional bodies like COMIFAC.

Key stakeholders under this outcome will be the Ministry of Environment of Angola, other key line ministries and departments (e.g., agriculture, forest, social affairs, mining, transport, etc.), the Provincial Government of Cabinda, and the National Assembly. The implementation of interventions under this component will be supported by ADPP, ICCF and FSC.

Output 1.1.1: *Analysis of policies, legal and legislative frameworks and enforcement capacities conducted to identify gaps for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender, and community access and rights.*

This output will focus on strengthening National and Provincial institutional coordination, for the sustainable governance of the Angolan Maiombe landscape, through mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting (NCA), Forest certification, gender and local community inclusive access and rights, in policies and legislative frameworks.

Strengthening of the relevant policy and legislative frameworks will be based on the mapping and analysis of relevant policies, legal and legislative frameworks and enforcement capacities, to identify gaps, and will include support to ongoing processes of developing enabling legal instruments, e.g., for Interim Forest Stewardship Standard, mainstreaming of the NCA, and introducing carbon markets and other sustainable financing mechanisms, to Angola. Policy analysis will be conducted to a) pinpoint conflicting and antagonistic policies and legislative frameworks that facilitate forest degradation and deforestation; b) identify gaps impeding policy coherence; c) identify entry points for integrating biodiversity conservation, Climate change aspects, gender, community access and rights etc. Subsequently, deliberate action will be undertaken in partnership with Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to mainstream these important priority aspects into selected policies and legislative frameworks. Consequently, the project will operationalize the Angola National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platform (**output 1.1.4**) where discussions on how to foster effective governance of the Maiombe Forest Component of Angola will be discussed. These discussions will cover topics such as a) interventions required to achieve policy coherence; and b) approaches to eliminating incentives/enablers of forest degradation and deforestation in policies and legislative frameworks among others.

Output 1.1.2: *Biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and local community access and rights mainstreamed in policies and legislative frameworks.*

The result of the policy analysis under output 1.1.1 will inform the entry points for output 1.1.2. Therefore, this output will focus on mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender, and community access and rights in the selected policies and legislative frameworks.

Interventions under this output will enable the Government of Angola to establish a whole-of-government approach to mainstreaming conservation, climate, equality and inclusion considerations, and enabling their prioritization at the decision-making level. Successful implementation of this output will strengthen these earmarked considerations in land and resource use planning and decision-making in Angola in general, including in the context of enabling immediate and enduring conservation of the Angolan Maiombe landscape.

Output 1.1.3: *Capacity building of key stakeholders on policy transformation and compliance tools with emphasis on mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and community access and rights.*

This output seeks to empower key stakeholders with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively mainstream biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting (NCA), forest certification, gender and community access and rights into policy frameworks and compliance mechanisms. Training on relevant policy transformation and compliance tools will enable the stakeholders to implement the updated policies and prepare other policies that mainstream those aspects and will help ensure the sustainability of this component's outputs after the project ends. The activities that will be undertaken under this output are outlined below. These activities will also be the foundation for delivering output 1.1.5.

- a. **Select and Engage Trainers** that are experienced in practical applications as well as theoretical knowledge.
- b. **Capacity Needs Assessment:**
 - Conduct a comprehensive capacity needs assessment to identify gaps in current knowledge, skills, and practices among stakeholders.
 - Determine specific training requirements based on the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders, in a way that acknowledges different needs of women and men.
- c. **Develop capacity-building platforms and Training Materials:** This will involve the development of tailored training modules in Portuguese and English (if needed) that cover the prioritised topics listed below (the list is not exhaustive). The trainers will utilize interactive and participatory methods such as case studies, group discussions, role-plays, and simulations to enhance learning and practical application.
 - Policy transformation techniques.
 - Compliance tools.
 - Biodiversity conservation principles.
 - Climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.
 - NCA methodologies.
 - Forest certification standards.
 - Gender and community access rights.
- d. **Identify trainees (multi-sectoral and from state and non-state institutions).** The target number of trainees is at least 15 trainees (of which 5 are women)
- e. **Organize Workshops and Training Sessions.** Working with the PMU, the trainers will schedule a series of workshops and training sessions at national, provincial, and local levels. The trainers will also use a mix of in-person and virtual sessions to ensure wider reach and flexibility.
- f. **Continuous Support and Mentorship:** A support and mentorship program to assist stakeholders in implementing what they have learned will be established.
- g. **Monitoring and Evaluation:** The trainers will develop a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework to assess the effectiveness of the training programs. Through this M&E Framework, the trainers and PMU will collect feedback from participants to improve future training sessions and track the implementation of new policies and practices to measure impact.
- h. **Knowledge Sharing and Best Practices:** The Trainers will foster a community of practice to maintain engagement and continuous learning.

Output 1.1.4.: *A National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platform for enhancing the mainstreaming of biodiversity, climate change, gender and community rights operationalized (with at least 30% women representation).*

The project will strengthen coordination between decision-makers at national and provincial levels, through **operationalizing the National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platform that enhances the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation, climate change, gender, and community rights into policies and decision-making processes at both national and provincial levels.** By undertaking the activities below, the project will operationalize a robust and inclusive dialogue platform that fosters collaboration and mainstreaming of critical environmental and social considerations into policy and decision-making processes across national and provincial levels.

This platform will also consider transboundary harmonization of the relevant policy, legislative and compliance tools, as agreed under the MTI strategic plan. Members of this platform will be invited to meetings organized by the Integrated Program/Regional Congo Project (RCP) led by UNEP, including meetings related to the MTI that will be held in Luanda. The project will also engage with the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC).

Activities that will be undertaken to operationalize the National-Provincial Multi-Sectorial Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Platform include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. **Stakeholder Mapping and Analysis:** a) Identification and mapping of key stakeholders across sectors (e.g., government agencies, NGOs, local communities, private sector, academic institutions).; b) Conducting a stakeholder analysis to understand their interests, influence, and potential contributions to the platform.
- b. **Update/Establish Governance Structure:** Update/develop the governance framework for the platform, including roles, responsibilities, and decision-making processes. The selection of the exact structure and list of sectors/stakeholders included will be done, under the leadership of MINAMB, during the project inception phase, and based on existing multi-sectorial platforms. It will include at least 30% women representation.
- c. **Engage and Mobilize Stakeholders:** The PMU will work closely with MINAMB to organize initial meetings to introduce the platform concept and objectives to stakeholders as well as facilitate discussions to align on common goals, expectations, and commitments.
- d. **Update/develop Terms of Reference (ToR):** Update/develop ToR for the platform, detailing its purpose, scope, operational procedures, and frequency of meetings. The ToR will be inclusive and reflect the priorities of biodiversity, climate change, gender, and community rights.
- e. **Capacity Building:** a) training will be provided to stakeholders on effective participation, collaboration, and mainstreaming of key themes (biodiversity, climate, gender, community rights). B) training modules on dialogue facilitation, conflict resolution, and consensus building will be updated/developed.
- f. **Establish Communication Channels:** The PMU will support MINAMB to set up formal communication channels (e.g., email lists, online platforms, regular newsletters) to facilitate information sharing and coordination. Digital tools will be used to enable virtual meetings and broader participation.
- g. **Conduct Regular Meetings and Workshops:** The PMU will support MINAMB in organizing regular meetings and workshops to discuss progress, share updates, and address challenges. The PMU will ensure meetings are well-structured with clear agendas, objectives, and outcomes.
- h. **Facilitate Thematic Working Groups:** The PMU will support MINAMB to create working groups focused on specific themes such as biodiversity, climate change, gender, and community rights. These groups will also be tasked to develop action plans, policy recommendations, and technical guidelines.
- i. **Develop and Implement Action Plans:** The PMU/MINAMB will collaborate with stakeholders to develop action plans that detail specific activities and interventions to mainstream the key themes.

- j. **Monitor and Evaluate Platform Activities:** A monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system to track the performance and impact of the platform will be updated/established. Feedback from stakeholders will be collected continuously to improve the platform's effectiveness.
- k. **Report and Disseminate Outcomes:** Regular reports on the platform's activities, achievements, and lessons learned will be prepared and disseminated to all stakeholders. These reports will also be used to advocate for policy changes and resource allocation.
- l. **Secure Funding and Resources:** Through the support of the PMU/MINAMB, stakeholders will identify funding sources and secure resources necessary for the platform's sustainability. The PMU will also support MINAMB in exploring partnerships with international organizations, donors, and private-sector entities that could ensure the sustainability of the platform.

Output 1.1.5.: *Legislators (of the National Assembly) engaged, and their capacity strengthened on biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and local community access and rights mainstreaming legislative frameworks*

Activities under this output will be actioned in tandem with tasks under Output 1.1.3. In addition to the activities listed under Output 1.1.3, this output will undertake capacity building targeting high-level decision makers (members of the National Assembly). At least 10 National Assembly members (at least 4 women) will be trained and engaged in strengthening biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and local community access and rights mainstreaming legislative frameworks.

A training module specific to legislators will be developed: The training modules/programs for legislators and policymakers will enable them to understand the importance of integrating the aforementioned aspects into legislative frameworks. The training will also provide tools and methodologies for drafting and reviewing policies and legislation.

The support and Mentorship program developed under output 1.1.3 will also benefit the high-level decision-makers trained under this output.

COMPONENT 2: Improved conservation of the Angola Maiombe Forest through stakeholder engagement and empowerment

Component 2 aims to improve the conservation and sustainable management of the Angolan Maiombe landscape by empowering and engaging local stakeholders, especially local communities, in sustainable activities and forest conservation through participatory planning. The success of this component relies on buy-in and active engagement by local communities and stakeholders in sustainable land and resource use planning, prioritizing forest conservation, and ensuring inclusive access and rights to natural resource management.

Supporting smallholder farmers is critical for halting deforestation and inclusive transition toward deforestation-free supply chains: The outputs under Component 2 are interlinked in their collective focus on supporting smallholder farmers to promote sustainable agricultural practices and halt deforestation, thus facilitating an inclusive transition toward deforestation-free supply chains. Output 2.5.1 involves the development and implementation of community-based disaster preparedness plans and early warning systems to mitigate natural disasters' impact on agriculture, ensuring stable and sustainable production. This stability is crucial for effective land use, as outlined in Output 2.2.1, where collaboratively adopted land use plans prevent deforestation and promote sustainable resource management. Output 2.2.2 furthers this by engaging local communities, including a significant proportion of women, in Conservation Agreements, reinforcing their role in sustainable practices and forest conservation. Additionally, Output 2.5.2 assesses local commodity supply chains to identify deforestation risks and areas for improvement, leading to more informed and targeted interventions. Output 2.5.3 supports local gender-responsive and resilient value chains, enhancing community capacities and fostering partnerships with the private sector to ensure sustainable and inclusive growth. Together, these outputs underscore the critical importance of supporting smallholder farmers, as their engagement and resilience are pivotal in halting deforestation and establishing deforestation-free supply chains.

Critical assumptions for the successful implementation of this component are that local communities residing in the Angolan component of the Maiombe forest ecosystems and other key stakeholders at the Provincial and local levels, will use the project to enhance local governance, engagement in conservation and sustainable management, and best practice livelihoods, for improved resilience, and that stakeholders at all levels will actively engage in integrated land and resource use planning that prioritizes forest conservation, and facilitates local communities equal and inclusive access and rights to manage the natural resources sustainably.

Key stakeholders under this component are the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Family and Women, other key line ministries and departments, the Provincial Government of Cabinda and the Municipal Administrations of Belize, Buco-Zau and Cacongo, the local communities residing in and around the MNP (women, men and youth) and their traditional leadership, international organizations and thematic experts, national and local organizations and associations, and private sector entities active in this area. The implementation of interventions under this component will be supported by ADPP, BirdLife International, FSC and JGI.

OUTCOME 2.1.: *Updated and expanded data and information base on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola (with emphasis on stakeholder-integrated mapping of land cover, and existing and planned land use and resource use, including freshwater resources, and with gender considerations)*

Target 2.1: One data and information base developed and mapped, on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola.

There is insufficient information on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola hence outcome 2.1 seeks to update and expand the data and information base on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola (with emphasis on stakeholder-integrated mapping of land cover, and existing and planned land use and resource use, including freshwater resources, and with gender considerations). Interventions under this outcome include:

- a. **Technical Support and Data Expansion:** The project will provide technical support for updating and expanding data on the Maiombe Forest, focusing on participatory mapping of land cover and resource use, incorporating gender equality and inclusion.
- b. **Integrated Resource and Land-Use Planning:** Gender-responsive and inclusive land-use plans prioritizing forest conservation, with identified areas for protection, restoration, and sustainable use will be developed.
- c. **Mapping Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)**
- d. **Irrecoverable Carbon mapping.**

Output 2.1.1.: *Participatory gender-responsive and inclusive integrated resource and land-use plans developed and mapped for the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola.*

Through a participatory process, this output seeks to develop gender-responsive and inclusive integrated resource and land-use plans for the Maiombe Forest ecosystem in Angola. The activities that will be undertaken under this output include:

- a. **Select and Engage experts** to undertake the mapping/activities listed below (the list is not exhaustive)
- b. **Stakeholder Identification and Engagement:** Relevant stakeholders, including local communities, government agencies, NGOs, and private sector actors will be identified and engaged through this process. Marginalised groups including women, youth, and marginalised communities will be engaged.
- c. **Baseline Assessment:** A comprehensive baseline assessment of the Maiombe Forest ecosystem, including current land use, resources, and socio-economic conditions will be conducted. Gender-disaggregated data will be gathered to understand the different needs and uses of the forest by men, women, and various community groups as part of the baseline assessment.
- d. **Participatory Mapping:** Participatory mapping exercises involving community members to identify and document key resources, land uses, and areas of cultural significance will be organised. GIS technology will be used to support the mapping process and ensure accurate spatial representation.

- e. **Integrated Resource and Land-Use Planning Workshops:** A series of workshops will be organised to develop integrated resource and land-use plans collaboratively. The workshops will be gender-responsive and inclusive, allowing all voices to be heard and considered.
- f. **Scenario Planning and Modelling:** Different land-use scenarios using modelling tools to understand potential impacts and benefits will be developed and analyzed. Gender perspectives to evaluate how different scenarios might affect men and women differently will be incorporated into the scenario planning and modelling.
- g. **Review and Validation of the integrated land-use plans:** Stakeholder Review Sessions will be organized where stakeholders can provide feedback on the draft plans. Additionally, validation meetings with community leaders, government representatives, and other stakeholders to formally approve the integrated resource and land-use plans will be held.
- h. **Action Plan Development:** Detailed action plans for the implementation of the integrated resource and land-use plans will be developed. The action plans will be gender-responsive and include specific measures to address the needs and roles of different community groups.
- i. **A Monitoring and Evaluation Framework** to track the progress of the implementation of the integrated resource and land-use plans will be developed. Gender-sensitive indicators to assess the impact on different community groups and ensure ongoing inclusivity will be included in the M&E Framework.
- j. **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Public awareness campaigns will be conducted to inform the broader community about the plans and their benefits. Various media channels will be used to reach a wide audience, ensuring messages are accessible to all, including non-literate members.
- k. **Documentation and Reporting:** The process of developing the integrated resource and land-use plans will be documented and comprehensive reports that highlight the participatory, gender-responsive, and inclusive approaches generated. The reports will be shared with stakeholders and relevant authorities to promote transparency and accountability.

Output 2.1.2.: *Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) mapped for the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola and integrated into the land-use plan.*

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) are critical regions globally for species and their habitats. In light of the global environmental crisis, it's imperative to concentrate efforts on conserving these vital areas. The **BirdLife International through the KBA Programme** will aid in identifying, mapping, monitoring, and conserving KBAs, ensuring the protection of the most essential sites for nature on our planet.

Working with the KBA Programme, this project will map KBAs for the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola. The mapped KBAs will be instrumental in building a case to unlock investments and financing for this Biome.

Output 2.1.3.: *Irrecoverable Carbon map with an accompanying detailed simplified assessment report for the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola developed and integrated into the land-use plan*

Irrecoverable carbon refers to large carbon reserves in nature that are at risk of being released due to human activities. If these reserves are lost, they cannot be restored by 2050, the global target year for achieving net-zero emissions to prevent the most severe consequences of climate change. The Maiombe forest ecosystem is a critical intact forest and carbon sink. On this basis, mapping the irrecoverable carbon of the Maiombe forest ecosystem component of Angola will inform decision-making with regard to its significance hence the need for stringent measures for its governance and conservation. This will also potentially build a case to unlock investments for this Biome.

OUTCOME 2.2.: *Sustainable resource use (including land use) improved through conservation agreements.*

Target 2.2a: At least 67,000 ha under improved practices

Target 2.2b: At least 2,000 people (1,000 women and 1,000 men) sustainably utilizing natural resources, in terms of conservation agreements.

The area around the MNP is subjected to degradation through unsustainable practices hence this outcome seeks to undertake interventions that will promote improved resource use practices in order to mitigate further degradation. Interventions under this outcome include:

- a. **Payment for Ecosystem Services using the Conservation Agreements model** to enhance sustainable utilization of natural resources. The Conservation Agreements Model was founded by Conservation International. Conservation Agreements is a deal between a community and a group or person funding a conservation project and takes into consideration the Free, Prior, Informed, Consent (FPIC). For Example, in exchange for making specific conservation commitments to protect and preserve their natural resources — such as keeping forests standing by not logging them — communities receive benefits from the GEF Project, such as organic fertilizer and pruning tools to improve their farms or training and wages for patrolling forests to stop illegal logging. **CI, through its Conservation Finance Division, is supporting the Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project and will provide examples of Conservation Agreements to the Project Management Unit at ADPP, and high-level guidance on how to negotiate the Agreements with communities. The alternative livelihoods and other relevant support from the project in other outputs will be captured in the Conservation Agreement signed with communities.**
- b. **Forest Stewardship and Certification (FSC):** Incorporation of FSC-Forest Management Certification and Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefit (RILC) to improve forest management, supported by capacity building for stakeholders.
- c. **Local Community Empowerment:** This will entail a) strengthening community structures for forest governance (including meaningful participation of women and men), sustainable resource management, and Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) mitigation and b) Establishment and support of Community Resource Management Committees, ensuring compatibility with traditional and municipal structures.
- d. **Youth Engagement and Education:** The youth will be engaged in the following a) the Jane Goodall Institute's Roots & Shoots program to enhance their understanding of sustainable conservation practices and their role in HWC mitigation; b) At least 30 Community Forest Scouts will be trained (50% women) to work with the MNP staff in education, awareness, data collection and act as liaison agents between the communities and the MNP and related authorities. The Community Forest Scouts will not engage in direct law enforcement or in other activities that may cause conflict between them and their communities.
- e. **Sustainable Resilient Livelihoods and Capacity Building:** Provision of training and support to communities for sustainable livelihoods, such as agroforestry, beekeeping, and non-timber forest products. Implement a Train-the-Trainers approach for knowledge dissemination and offer micro-grants for community engagement. The project will also support local gender-responsive and resilient value chains and explore innovative financing mechanisms like carbon credits and conservation bonds.
- f. **Disaster Preparedness and Resilience Building** which will involve strengthening/developing and implementing community-based disaster preparedness plans and early warning systems.
- g. **Business Case for Adaptation and Resilience:** Identify and incubate climate adaptation and resilience business models, supported by market research, stakeholder engagement, and access to finance. Profile and promote commercially viable models to attract investment.

Output 2.2.1: *Land use plans for West of MNP adopted and jointly implemented by communities (men and women), government, the private sector and civil society.*

Output 2.2.1 will build on the integrated resource and land-use plans developed under output 2.1.1. The integrated resource and land-use plans developed under Output 2.1.1 will inform the selection of resource-use interventions and the target sites in the West of MNP - which will be built into the Conservation Agreements under Output 2.2.2.

Output 2.2.1 will therefore focus on executing the results of Output 2.1.1 as follows:

- a. **Implementation of the action plans of the integrated resource and land-use plans**
- b. **Implementation of the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework** to track the progress of the integrated resource and land-use plans. Gender-sensitive indicators to assess the impact on different community groups and ensure ongoing inclusivity will be monitored and reported.

- c. **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Public awareness campaigns will be conducted to inform the broader community about the progress of implementing the integrated resource and land-use plans and their benefits. Various media channels will be used to reach a wide audience, ensuring messages are accessible to all, including non-literate members.
- d. **Documentation and Reporting:** The progress of implementing the integrated resource and land-use plans will be documented and comprehensive reports that highlight the participatory, gender-responsive, and inclusive approaches generated. The reports will be shared with stakeholders and relevant authorities.

Output 2.2.2: *Conservation Agreements signed and implemented by local communities (50% women), (with guidance from CI, the Provincial Government and the Ministry of Environment)*

Payment for Ecosystem Services using the Conservation Agreements^[2] model to enhance sustainable utilization of natural resources. The Conservation Agreements Model was founded by Conservation International. Conservation Agreements is a deal between a community and a group or person funding a conservation project and takes into consideration the Free, Prior, Informed, Consent (FPIC). For Example, in exchange for making specific conservation commitments to protect and preserve their natural resources — such as keeping forests standing by not logging them — communities receive benefits from the GEF Project, such as organic fertilizer and pruning tools to improve their farms or training and wages for patrolling forests to stop illegal logging.

The integrated resource and land-use plans created under Output 2.1.1 will guide the selection of resource-use interventions and target sites in the West of MNP. These will be incorporated into the Conservation Agreements under Output 2.2.2.

CI through the UNEP Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project will provide technical support to Child Projects on delivering tasks related to Conservation Agreements. The Conservation Agreements will be adopted and implemented by the local communities (50% women) with support from CI (through the Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project), the MINAMB, the Provincial Government, the private sector and civil society. **Considering that while most of the traditional leaders of the communities are men, the farming and production activities are performed mainly by women, a target of 50% of women beneficiaries from the Conservation Agreements is an ambitious but achievable target. Moreover, deliberate action will be taken to secure women's participation in training activities and in the development and implementation of the Conservation Agreements.**

OUTCOME 2.3.: Improved management of the Angola Maiombe Forest through Forest Management Certification and integrated into the land-use plan (including RILC - Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefit)

Target 2.3: At least 100,000 ha of the Angola Maiombe forest is FSC-certified (*managed to strict environmental, social, and economic standards*), integrated into the land-use plan and audited annually.

Anarchic logging drives deforestation and land degradation in Angola. To combat this, the project will implement FSC-Forest Management Certification and Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefit (RILC) to enhance forest management. This includes capacity building for stakeholders in the Angolan Maiombe forest, supported by FSC and the UNEP-Led Congo Basin Regional Coordination project, particularly in Cabinda Province.

Output 2.3.1: *The Angola Maiombe Forest is FSC-certified.*

This output will deliver FSC-Forest Management Certification and Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefit (RILC) to improve forest management, supported by capacity building for stakeholders. At least 100,000 ha of the Angola Maiombe forest will be FSC-certified (managed to strict environmental, social, and economic standards), integrated into the land-use plan and audited annually. The specific locations will be determined at the implementation.

Output 2.3.2: *Capacity building on Forest Certification (Supported by FSC through the Congo Basin Regional Coordination project)*

The resource and land-use planning of the Angolan Maiombe forest will incorporate Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)-Forest Management Certification, including Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefit (RILC), to secure improved management of the Angola Maiombe landscape. To ensure the sustainability of the Forest Management Certification, FSC will support the capacity building of relevant stakeholders for this effect, in Cabinda Province, Angola, as well as through the UNEP-Led Congo Basin Regional Coordination project.

Lastly, the Angola Project will lean on UNEP (Congo Basin RCP) to make the link between FSC, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and Child Projects with regards to as part of knowledge management and learning.

OUTCOME 2.4.: Strengthened capacity of community structures for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilisation and management of natural resources.

Target 2.4: At least 15 community structures established for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilisation and management of natural resources (with at least 30% women representatives)

Local community forest governance and management structures will be evaluated through a participatory process. This will be followed by enhancing the institutional and technical capacity of these governance structures to manage resources sustainably and address human-wildlife conflicts (HWC). This includes establishing and supporting elected Community Resource Management Committees or similar bodies while ensuring gender equality and inclusion. The compatibility of these structures with traditional and municipal systems will be considered, with support and oversight from traditional and municipal authorities.

Output 2.4.1.: *Local community forest governance and management structures assessed through a participatory process.*

Local community forest governance and management structures will be assessed through a participatory process, followed by strengthening the inclusive institutional and technical capacity of community forest governance structures to operate effectively in sustainably managing resources and address HWC (e.g., through elected Community Resource Management Committees). Gender considerations will be factored in during the assessment.

Output 2.4.2: *Inclusive institutional and technical capacity of community forest governance structures strengthened and operationalized to sustainably manage resources and address HWC, including the capacity building and engagement of Community Forest Scouts.*

The establishment and functioning of elected Community Resource Management Committees, or similar structures will be considered with the communities, taking into account gender equality and inclusion considerations, as well as the importance of ensuring that these structures are compatible with the traditional and municipal structures (e.g., through the traditional and municipal authorities support and oversight).

This output will include capacity building and engagement of 30 Community Forest Scouts (15 women and 15 men), to work in collaboration with the MNP staff, engage in education, raise awareness, and data collection, and act as liaison agents between the communities and the MNP and related authorities. To enable the long-term sustainability of this intervention the project will seek partnerships and opportunities for permanent funding of the Community Forest Scouts engagement. The Community Forest Scouts will not engage in direct law enforcement or in other activities that may cause conflict between them and their communities.

The long-term sustainability of local forest governance and management structures will be further strengthened through youth engagement among local communities (through the JGI Roots & Shoots (R&S) programme), for improved knowledge and understanding of sustainable conservation practices and their role in a holistic HWC approach.

Output 2.4.3.: *Youth engagement among local communities in the Angola Maiombe landscape management, through the JGI Roots & Shoots (R&S) programme.*

The JGI Roots & Shoots (R&S) programme³¹ seeks to empower young people to affect positive change in their communities, in this case focusing on environmental conservation and protection. Working with JGI, at least 10 Roots

& Shoots Clubs, with a total of at least 150 youth participants (at least 50 girls) will be established and operationalized to foster environmental conservation and protection of the Maiombe forest environs.

The youth will be engaged in the following a) the Jane Goodall Institute's Roots & Shoots program to enhance their understanding of sustainable conservation practices and their role in HWC mitigation; b) At least 30 Community Forest Scouts will be trained (50% women) to work with the MNP staff in education, awareness, data collection and act as liaison agents between the communities and the MNP and related authorities. The Community Forest Scouts will not engage in direct law enforcement or in other activities that may cause conflict between them and their communities.

OUTCOME 2.5.: Resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods

Target 2.5: At least 2,000 people (1,000 women and 1,000 men) sustainably utilizing natural resources, in terms of conservation agreements (possibly the same beneficiaries under Outcome Target 2.2b)

Interventions under this outcome will enhance local communities' equal and inclusive access to and ownership of natural resource management by empowering and engaging them in the improved conservation of the Angolan Maiombe landscape. Specifically, these interventions will promote Sustainable Resilient Livelihoods and Capacity Building by providing training and support for sustainable livelihoods, such as agroforestry, beekeeping, and non-timber forest products. A Train-the-Trainers approach will be implemented for knowledge dissemination, and micro-grants will be offered for community engagement. Additionally, the project will support local gender-responsive and resilient value chains and explore innovative financing mechanisms, such as carbon credits and conservation bonds.

Community empowerment will be strengthened through the enhanced capacity of local structures for effective forest governance and sustainable management of natural resources. Support will also be provided for disseminating resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods among the population living in and around the Angolan Maiombe landscape.

Output 2.5.1: *Local commodity supply chains assessed, and local gender-responsive and resilient value chains supported, enhancing community capacities whilst partnering with the private sector.*

The objective of a local commodity supply chain assessment is to analyze and understand the current state, strengths, and weaknesses of the supply chains within a specific community and determine entry points for the project interventions. This assessment will identify key commodities, evaluate the efficiency of production, processing, and distribution processes, and pinpoint critical bottlenecks or challenges that hinder performance. By conducting this thorough analysis, the project will develop targeted strategies/interventions to enhance the resilience, sustainability, and economic viability of local supply chains. Additionally, this assessment will promote inclusive economic growth by ensuring equitable access to resources and market opportunities, thereby supporting community livelihoods and contributing to overall regional development.

One of the key barriers impeding investment in the Maiombe landscape is the lack of up-to-date data. In this project, we aim to support and introduce alternative sustainable livelihoods. The value chain assessment will inform the project's entry points. Furthermore, this assessment will yield valuable information that can be shared with UNEP and disseminated through multi-stakeholder dialogues, thereby could guide the design of other projects/initiatives/investments in this landscape and potentially attract further investments.

Based on the result of the local commodity supply chain assessment, value chains will be supported, with entry points of the project support and private sector institutions to be involved, being informed by the results of the assessment. This output seeks to benefit at least 500 (250 women, 250 men) direct beneficiaries and possibly the beneficiaries of Output 2.2.2 (2,000 beneficiaries of which 50% are women).

The project inception phase will include pilots to facilitate the selection of adequate options, to be disseminated among community members through the 'Train the Trainers' approach. Such sustainable activities may include, e.g.: agroforestry and conservation cultivation; beekeeping; small livestock sustainable husbandry (e.g., cane rats); indigenous tree nurseries; Non-Timber-Forest-Products (NTFPs) sustainable use, etc. Capacity building and basic equipment and supplies will also be provided to support HWC mitigation, and in particular to mitigate human-elephant-conflict (HEC), which is a major concern of the local communities in the Angolan Maiombe landscape, through a holistic approach and in collaboration with existing initiatives. Gender and inclusion considerations will be integrated into the implementation of these activities. Interventions under this component will also include the provision of microgrants to support community engagement in sustainable activities. The micro-grants will be administered by local associations, under the overall oversight of ADPP.

COMPONENT 3: Park management

OUTCOME 3.1: Strengthened institutional and technical capacity of Park staff and multi-agency collaborators for effective management and law enforcement in the Maiombe National Park.

Target 3.1: 193,000 ha of protected areas with at least 70% improvement in METT Score (*hence the target is reaching at least 68 METT Score*)

Component 3 aims to bolster the institutional and technical capacity of Maiombe National Park (MNP) staff and collaborating agencies to effectively manage the park and enforce laws against illegal activities. The project will provide training and operational support, guided by the National Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (INBC) at MINAMB, to implement the MNP management plan. Efforts will focus on enhancing the capabilities of park staff and agencies, including the army, police, and other relevant bodies, through joint training workshops and the deployment of conservation technologies. Additionally, the project will support wildlife caretaking, support the establishment of a Chimpanzee Sanctuary with the JGI Tchimpounga Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Center, and encourage women's participation in training.

Long-term financial sustainability will be pursued through strategic planning and partnerships. Critical assumptions for the successful implementation of this component depend on active collaboration among MNP staff, INBC, and agencies, and securing innovative funding mechanisms.

Key stakeholders under this outcome will be the Ministry of Environment and in particular INBC and the MNP staff, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and in particular IDF staff in Cabinda, other key line ministries and departments, (interior, defence, justice, etc.), and the relevant agencies - the military (FAA), National police, border police, prosecution (PGR), judiciary, customs (AGT), immigration (SME), etc., the Provincial Government of Cabinda and the Municipal Administrations of Belize, Buco-Zau and Cacongo, the local communities and their traditional leadership, international NGOs and thematic experts, national and local organizations, and private sector related to conservation technologies. The implementation of interventions under this component will be supported by ADPP, JGI, and FSC.

Output 3.1.1: *Capacity building and operational support to the MNP Park staff, and collaborating agencies, for effective management of the MNP, law enforcement, and caretaking of confiscated wildlife, including capacity building support for the establishment of the Chimpanzee Sanctuary.*

This output will focus on support to strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of Park staff and multi-agency collaborators, to effectively manage the Maiombe National Park and enforce the law, to address threats related to illegal activities. Capacity building and operational support will be provided to the MNP Park staff, and collaborating agencies, for effective implementation of the MNP management plan, with the guidance of the National Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (INBC) at MINAMB, regarding the MNP management needs and priorities.

Interventions under this output will include institutional and technical support to strengthen the capacities of the park staff and collaborating agencies in Cabinda Province (the army, national police, border police, the forestry development institute (IDF), customs, immigration, prosecution, and judiciary) to enforce the law for the MNP protection.

This output will be based on the multi-agency collaboration already established for the protection of the MNP and will include joint multi-agency training workshops, on selected aspects of law enforcement, including training required for the deployment of the selected conservation technologies, to be introduced. Training workshops will also include aspects of governance, gender and inclusive stakeholder engagement. Women's participation in the training workshops will be encouraged (as much as possible within the constraints of the existing gender composition of the MNP staff and collaborating agencies).

Capacity-building support will also be provided for the caretaking of confiscated wildlife, and the establishment of the Chimpanzee Sanctuary, including training of selected relevant provincial staff (e.g., wildlife caretakers and veterinarians), through collaboration with the JGI Tchimpounga Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Center in the Republic of Congo.

Output 3.1.2: *Deployment of Conservation technologies including appropriate communications network, vigilance and data collection technologies, among others*

Interventions under this output will include institutional and technical support to strengthen the capacities of the park staff and collaborating agencies in Cabinda Province (the army, national police, border police, the forestry development institute (IDF), customs, immigration, prosecution, and judiciary) to enforce the law for the MNP protection, including deployment and utilization of conservation technologies (e.g., digital radio or other appropriate communications network, vigilance and data collection technologies, etc.). The INBC will be consulted to identify the conservation technologies required and the support needed from the project to ensure deployment and effective utilization.

Output 3.1.3: *Completion of a strategic analysis and plan for adequate long-term financing for the MNP, designed to meet the desired level of park management (and initial financing mobilized)*

The implementation of the MNP management plan for effective management of the park requires substantial financial resources with a long-term commitment, to address essential gaps (e.g., human resources, human capacity and competencies, infrastructures, equipment, operational costs, etc), well beyond the scope of this project. The project will therefore help ensure the sustainability of the MNP's management, through the completion of a strategic analysis and plan for adequate long-term financing for the MNP, to be designed to meet the desired level of park management, as well as initiate mobilizing finance, in collaboration with existing and planned initiatives, and seeking further partnerships.

COMPONENT 4: Knowledge management and transboundary coordination

OUTCOME 4.1.: Strengthened coordination, learning, and sharing between the GEF-8 Congo Basin Angola Project and initiatives at the Local, National and Regional levels (the Congo Basin with emphasis on the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative - MTI)

Target 4.1: *Angola Congo Basin project coordinating, learning and sharing with at least 2 initiatives in the MTI landscape and at least 1 initiative in the broader Congo Basin (through the Congo Regional Coordination Project led by UNEP).*

This output will focus on supporting strengthening transboundary and regional coordination and collaboration, addressing threats of transboundary nature, to improving the conservation of the whole Maiombe forest landscape, between Angola, DRC, the Republic of Congo and Gabon, through support to the implementation of the MTI strategic plan, and to leverage the project's impact to regional and global levels, through knowledge management and exchange. Support from the Congo Regional Coordination Project (RCP) led by UNEP will be needed to facilitate these meetings as well as bring in the participation of institutions with projects in the Maiombe Ecosystem in RoC, DRC and Gabon including those that are funded by the Bezos Earth Fund.

Interventions under this output will also support re-activating and enhancing transboundary dialogue for collaboration in the implementation of the MTI strategic plan, between the 4 countries sharing this landscape, with a focus on the strategic plan's Key Results Areas: legal and policy framework harmonization; institutional frameworks and a participatory approach; spatial planning and sustainable management of the joint landscape; sustainable local economic development; collaboration in law enforcement; awareness, education, and technical capacity building; ecological monitoring; and establishing financial sustainability. This intervention will include the development of agreed practical communication and collaboration protocols, including coordination mechanisms, joint capacity building and peer-exchange plan, the joint pursuit of funding opportunities, and the introduction of simple low-cost communication channels (e.g., WhatsApp group).

Other exchange visits may be supported through UNEP and other partners, e.g., for the participation of key stakeholders in the Maiombe transboundary technical dialogue meetings (organised by the Congo Regional Coordination Project), and exchange visits of decision makers and legislators between the MTI member countries. Participation of both women and men in these activities will be secured.

Lastly, it is expected that UNEP will sponsor a representative from Angola's marginalized and vulnerable groups within the local community, such as women, youth, the elderly, and people with special needs, to participate in the Congo Basin Regional Forum and/or other forums organized by the Critical Forests Integrated Programs. The implementation of interventions under this component will be supported by ADPP, CI, UNEP, FSC, JGI, and ICCF.

Output 4.1.1: A project Knowledge Management and Communications Strategy developed (including gender, equality and inclusion aspects)

A gender-sensitive and inclusive knowledge Management and Communications Strategy will be developed and implemented.

Output 4.1.2: Participation of Angolan participants in the Congo Basin 3-day Annual Forums organised by UNEP.

As part of the GEF-8 Congo Basin Integrated Program, the Angola Congo Basin Child Project is expected to actively participate in both virtual and in-person events organized by UNEP through the Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project. To support this involvement, the Angola Congo Basin Child Project will sponsor 10 Angolan officials (50% women) over 5 years (2 officials per year for 5 years), to participate in the three-day annual forum organized by UNEP.

Output 4.1.3: Learning and exposure visits facilitated with the Congo Basin Child Projects (and where applicable coordinated by the Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project)

The Angola Child Project will sponsor 10 Angolan officials (50% women) over 5 years (2 Angola officials attending each year for 5 years), to participate in Learning and exposure visits that could be organized by the Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project or the Regional Projects of the other Critical Forests Integrated Programs (IP) namely:

- The Guinean Forests of West Africa IP led by CI.
- Amazon IP led by the World Bank
- Indo-Malay IP -led IP by IUCN and FAO
- Meso America IP led by IUCN.

The Angola Child Project could also opt to sponsor Angola officials to participate in learning and knowledge exchange visits to any of the child project countries under the above-mentioned 4 Critical Forests IPs.

Output 4.1.4: Knowledge management products integrating gender, equality and inclusion aspects generated, and disseminated at local, national and regional levels (integrating lessons learnt and best case practices on traditional knowledge for natural resource management, and information on the project as a model for Nature-Based-Solutions)

Knowledge products that incorporate gender, equality, and inclusion aspects will be developed and distributed at local, national, and regional levels. These gender-sensitive knowledge products will include lessons learned, best practices on

traditional knowledge for natural resource management, and information about the project as a model for Nature-Based Solutions. They will be shared through various channels, including the Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project's platform/website as well as on the website of the 4 other Critical Forests Integrated Programme.

Output 4.1.5: *Transboundary dialogue for collaborative implementation of the MTI strategic plan between Angola, DRC, the Republic of Congo, and Gabon is re-activated and enhanced.*

This output will focus on supporting strengthening transboundary and regional coordination and collaboration, addressing threats of transboundary nature, to improving the conservation of the whole Maiombe forest landscape, between Angola, DRC, the Republic of Congo and Gabon, through support to the implementation of the MTI strategic plan, and to leverage the project's impact to regional and global levels, through knowledge management and exchange. Support from the Congo Regional Coordination Project (RCP) led by UNEP will be needed to facilitate these meetings as well as bring in the participation of institutions with projects in the Maiombe Ecosystem in RoC, DRC and Gabon including those that are funded by the Bezos Earth Fund.

Interventions under this output will also support re-activating and enhancing transboundary dialogue for collaboration in the implementation of the MTI strategic plan, between the 4 countries sharing this landscape, with a focus on the strategic plan's Key Results Areas: legal and policy framework harmonization; institutional frameworks and a participatory approach; spatial planning and sustainable management of the joint landscape; sustainable local economic development; collaboration in law enforcement; awareness, education, and technical capacity building; ecological monitoring; and establishing financial sustainability. This intervention will include the development of agreed practical communication and collaboration protocols, including coordination mechanisms, joint capacity building and peer-exchange plan, the joint pursuit of funding opportunities, and the introduction of simple low-cost communication channels (e.g., WhatsApp group).

Other exchange visits may be supported through UNEP and other partners, e.g., for the participation of key stakeholders in the Maiombe transboundary technical dialogue meetings (organised by the Congo Regional Coordination Project), and exchange visits of decision makers and legislators between the MTI member countries. Participation of both women and men in these activities will be secured.

Lastly, this project will sponsor the participation of representatives from Angola's marginalized and vulnerable groups within the local community, such as women, youth, the elderly, and people with special needs, to participate in the Congo Basin Regional Forum and/or other forums organized by the Critical Forests Integrated Programs. Nevertheless, it is also our expectation that UNEP, through the Congo Program, could also sponsor other selected marginalized groups as needed

COMPONENT 5: Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

OUTCOME 5.1.: An effective and gender-sensitive M&E system for the project

Target 5.1: 5 Annual Project Implementation Reports (PIRs) approved by CI-GEF and submitted to the GEF.

The component will facilitate setting up a project gender sensitive Monitoring and Evaluation framework which will enhance transparency and accountability; ensure effective resource allocation, provide quantifiable results that will promote adaptive management through learning from project successes and challenges; improve project performance by tracking indicators, and identifying effective tools to measure and analyze the progress of the interventions, as well as the progress made towards achieving the target outputs and outcomes. As part of M&E, the project will submit periodic technical and financial reports to the CI-GEF Agency. Additionally, the CI-GEF Agency will commission a Terminal Evaluation of the project.

Output 5.1.1.: *Periodic M&E reports submitted to CI-GEF Agency*

As part of M&E, the project is required to conduct periodic monitoring and prepare technical and financial reports. The generated reports will be submitted to CI-GEF and shared with other relevant stakeholders (Quarterly, PIR, MTR, and Terminal Evaluation report). This output will be achieved by the following activities:

- (i) **Inception workshop and report:** An inception workshop will be held to launch the project after which, an inception workshop report will be prepared and submitted to CI-GEF. At least 40% of the participants in the workshop will be women and youth.
- (ii) **Review monitoring and evaluation Framework:** The Project Management Unit (PMU) will review and update the monitoring and evaluation framework (**Annex K**) at the start of the project implementation and periodically as needed to ensure that the proposed targets and indicators are gender inclusive and realistic or proposed where they need to be adjusted.
- (iii) **Implement the monitoring and evaluation framework:** The agreed-upon monitoring and evaluation framework will be effectively and efficiently implemented.
- (iv) **The Biodiversity Tracking Tool** will be updated at the start of the project and the end when preparing to submit to the GEF.
- (v) **The Core Indicator sheet** will be updated and submitted to the GEF at the end of the project.
- (vi) **Other activities:**
 - Annual plan and Budget, Quarterly progress reports, and Annual progress and implementation reports (PIR) will be prepared by the PMU and submitted to CI-GEF for review and approval.
 - The Project Steering Committee Meetings will convene annually.
 - Financial audits will be conducted annually.
 - CI-GEF Project Agency will conduct Annual supervision missions.

Output 5.1.2.: *Independent evaluations conducted in accordance with the GEF and CI-GEF Evaluation Policies*

Conservation International General Counsel Office in close coordination with the CI-GEF Agency will recruit an independent Mid Term Reviewer (MTR) and Terminal Evaluator (TE) Consultant to assess project performance. This output will be achieved by the following activities:

- a. **CI's General Counsel Office, as an independent unit, will prepare the Terms of Reference and procure independent evaluators in coordination with the CI-GEF Agency.**
- b. **The MTR and Terminal evaluation will be undertaken with support from CI-GEF, PMU, the Executing agency, and all key stakeholders.** The PMU, executing agency and all key stakeholders including the Angola Operational Focal Point (OFP) will support the independent evaluation service provider by providing candid feedback about the project, participating in the virtual inception and validation workshop of the MTR and TE workshop, and providing input in the MTR Report and TE report.
- c. **CI-GEF submits the MTR and TE report to the GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO)**

Global Environmental Benefits

The project is expected to contribute to achieving the following GEF Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs): (a) Conservation and enhanced carbon stocks in forests; (b) Increased adoption of innovative management practices for carbon sequestration; (c) Conservation of globally significant biodiversity; (d) Reduction in forest loss and forest degradation; (e) Maintenance of the range of environmental services and products derived from forests; and (f) Enhanced sustainable livelihoods for local communities and forest-dependent people.

The project will support the conservation of a forest landscape, with global biodiversity and climate change mitigation importance, considering that the Maiombe forest forms the southern-western margin of the Congo Basin tropical rainforest and of the related flora and fauna species, including tracts of intact tropical forest landscapes, and with endangered and iconic species. The Maiombe forest landscape supports significant ecosystem services at the local, provincial and transboundary levels. The project will further contribute to carbon storage, through the conservation and restoration of the Maiombe forest ecosystems and biodiversity. The project will contribute to GEBs through the realization of the GEF core indicator targets below:

- a. Core Indicator 1: Improved management of **193,000 Ha of terrestrial protected areas** (the area of the MNP), including improved conservation of flagship species (forest elephant, western lowland gorilla, central chimpanzee), through improved law enforcement and through empowering local communities to deploy a holistic approach to HWC mitigation.
- b. Core Indicator 4: Sustainable landscapes through improved management practices in approximately **67,000 Ha (outside protected areas)**. This will be undertaken through a) local communities' empowerment for improved practices and adoption of resilient sustainable livelihoods resulting in decreased deforestation, sustainable resource use and decreased land degradation in at least 67,000 Ha (the size of the Maiombe landscape area West of the MNP) b) FSC Forest Management Certification which incorporates biodiversity considerations. Therefore, at least 100,000 Ha will be certified through the FSC Forest Management Certification. The specific location will be determined at the implementation.
- c. Core Indicator 6: Improved Forest conservation, which is expected to result in Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigation estimated at **11.39 million metric tons of CO₂e** (this is an initial rough estimate based on the EX-ACT tool and will be recalculated, based on data to be compiled at the Project inception phase).
- d. Core Indicator 11: Socio-economic benefits for local community members residing in the Angolan Maiombe landscape, in and around the MNP. The project aims to benefit directly at least at least **2,781 (48% women)** people through learning and knowledge-sharing events, improved practices and engagement in resilient and sustainable livelihoods, that will be disseminated in the population through the 'train the trainers' approach. In the long term, the whole population of local communities residing in and around the MNP (estimated at around 56,000 people, with 51% women), is expected to benefit from sustainable practices that will be initially supported through this project.

The project inception phase will include baseline data collection, including an update of the EX-ACT tool, which will serve as a basis for assessing progress in achieving the indicated global environmental benefits of the project annually and at the project end.

Stakeholders

The table below lists the relevant stakeholders at all levels, that will contribute to implementing the project, their respective contributions and role in the project implementation, and how will these stakeholders benefit from the project to ensure that global environmental benefits and/or adaptation benefits, will be enduring (co-benefits).

Table 4: Roles of stakeholders and how they will benefit from the project.

Stakeholder	Primary Role(s) Relevant to the Project	Benefit from Project
Intergovernmental Bodies e.g., ECCAS, COMIFAC etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These bodies bring together governmental agencies at the regional and national levels and can keep forest conservation high on national agendas and emphasize the importance of regional coordination and policy alignment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowledge exchange and coordination between regional initiatives to support effective governance of the Maiombe Forests/Congo Basin. - Participation in technical assistance and capacity building to strengthen transboundary collaboration. - Coordination/partnerships for innovative sustainable financing - Discussions regarding ongoing regional policy coordination mechanism - Collective participation in international policy forums - Contribution of co-financing - Serve as a link between the regional, national, and local levels, to influence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project aligns with the agendas of these bodies, e.g. forest conservation, land-use planning, strengthened transboundary coordination

Stakeholder	Primary Role(s) Relevant to the Project	Benefit from Project
	governance and decision-making processes at the regional and global levels	
<p>Multilateral Institutions (e.g. UNEP, World Bank, FAO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These organizations have funded the implementation of regional initiatives that can provide lessons learned and alignment/coordination with programs and financing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge exchange and coordination between regional initiatives to support effective governance of the Maiombe Forests/Congo Basin Coordination/partnerships for innovative sustainable financing Discussions regarding ongoing regional policy coordination mechanism Contribution of co-financing (TBD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds on current and past work programs. Strengthened coordination at the regional level. Opportunities for partnerships, and synergies which could mobilise/leverage additional financing for conservation and climate change interventions
<p>Bilateral Agencies (e.g. Bezos Fund, USAID, EU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These organizations have funded the implementation of regional initiatives that can provide lessons learned, alignment/coordination with programs and financing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge exchange and coordination between regional initiatives to support effective governance of the Guinean Forests Coordination/partnerships for innovative sustainable financing Discussions regarding ongoing regional policy coordination mechanism Contribution of co-financing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds on current and past work programs. Strengthened coordination at the regional level Opportunities for partnerships, and synergies which could mobilise/leverage additional financing for conservation and climate change interventions
<p>National Governments i.e., Angola, DRC, RoC, and Gabon sharing the Maiombe Forest as well as Governments of Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo DR, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe that also fall in the Congo Basin and have child projects in the Congo Basin IP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government agencies are key stakeholders in efforts ranging from direct work on the ground to national policy reform that is critical in the national and transboundary governance of the Biome: environmental protection and protected area management agencies, ministries of finance, land authorities, and agencies implicated in infrastructure development (e.g., roads, energy). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beneficiaries and contributors to the Congo Basin program's learning, knowledge exchange events and technical assistance Participation in technical assistance and capacity building to strengthen transboundary collaboration. Discussions regarding ongoing regional policy coordination mechanisms including policy coherence at the national and regional level. Collective participation in international policy forums e.g., Countries in the Congo Basin have one voice and standpoint in regional and international meetings and negotiations. Contribution of co-financing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection and Conservation of the Congo Basin Enhanced capacity for conservation, management, and sustainable financing Strengthened forest governance policies and regional policies coherence. Mechanisms for improved transboundary coordination Sustainable economic benefits for forested communities Leverage financing/access to financing for conservation and climate change interventions
<p>CSOs/NGOs (e.g. CI, ADPP, ICCF, BirdLife International, JGI, IUCN, WCS, Birdlife, TNC etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with international, national, regional, and local non-government and civil society partners focused on biodiversity conservation and sustainable commodity production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge exchange and coordination between regional initiatives to support effective governance of the Maiombe Forests and Congo Basin as a whole. Beneficiaries and contributors to the program's learning, knowledge exchange events and technical assistance Coordination/partnerships for innovative sustainable financing Discussions regarding ongoing regional policy coordination mechanism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection and Conservation of Maiombe Forests and Congo Basin as a whole Mechanisms for improved transboundary coordination Sustainable economic benefits for forested communities Opportunities for partnerships, and synergies which could mobilise/leverage additional financing for

Stakeholder	Primary Role(s) Relevant to the Project	Benefit from Project
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collective participation in international policy forums - Contribution of co-financing - Access to/ capacity building on new and innovative technologies, tools and practices - Serves as a link between the regional, national and local levels, to influence governance and decision-making processes at the regional and global levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conservation and climate change interventions
<p>Academia/Research Institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical support for project activities; opportunities for students, partners, and other stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowledge exchange and coordination between regional initiatives to support effective governance of the Maiombe Forests - Beneficiaries and contributors to the Angola Child Project and Congo Basin program’s learning, knowledge exchange events and technical assistance - Contribution of co-financing - Access to/ capacity building on new and innovative technologies, tools, and practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New data - Research opportunities. - Platforms for knowledge exchange
<p>Private sector e.g. Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several concessions and associations/ cooperatives operate in the region, with implications for forest management, economic development opportunities, and local livelihoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordination/partnerships for innovative sustainable financing - Collective participation in international policy forums - Participation in multi-stakeholder land-use planning - Support for monitoring and evaluation and knowledge exchange. - Contribution of co-financing - Access to/ capacity building on new and innovative technologies, tools, and practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunities for partnerships and engagement in multi-stakeholder dialogues around sustainability and land use planning. - Maintenance of ecosystem services that benefit operations.
<p>Local Communities with a focus on vulnerable and marginalized groups e.g., women, youth, elderly, people with specialized needs etc.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are traditional peoples and communities may be represented by regional organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beneficiaries and contributors to the Angola child project and Congo Basin program’s learning, knowledge exchange events and technical assistance - UNEP through the Congo Basin Regional Coordination project (RCP) will sponsor the participation of a representative (s) of marginalized groups from Angola (e.g., women, youth, people with specialized needs, elderly etc.) to participate in the Congo Basin Regional Forum. - Discussions regarding ongoing regional policy coordination mechanism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Represent the voices of marginalized and vulnerable groups from Angola in national, regional and international forums. - Access to technical assistance and capacity building - Opportunities for engagement in multistakeholder dialogues - Access to learning and knowledge exchange events - Access to financing for conservation and climate change interventions

Policy Coherence

The project aims to address threats to the integrity of the Angolan Maiombe landscape, and their drivers. One of the key drivers identified is inter-sectorial and institutional conflicts leading to a lack of mainstreaming of climate and

conservation considerations, as well as local community's rights and access to sustainable natural resource management, into the legislation and policy frameworks. Inter-sectorial and institutional conflicts are also reflected in conflicting legislative tools, and resource and land uses. There is, however, general political will to improve legislation for securing local communities' rights, access and engagement in sustainable management of natural resources. To address this key driver, the project aims to strengthen National policies, strategies and legislative tools and alignment of existing policies, by strengthening multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder collaboration for mainstreaming and prioritization of conservation and climate considerations, through a whole government approach, and participatory integrated overarching land and resource use planning.

Component 1 of the Angola Congo Basin Child Project seeks to promote an enabling legislative and policy environment for the governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest. To this end, policy analysis will be conducted to a) pinpoint conflicting and antagonistic policies and legislative frameworks that facilitate forest degradation and deforestation; b) identify gaps impeding policy coherence; c) identify entry points for integrating biodiversity conservation, Climate change aspects, gender, community access and rights etc. Subsequently, deliberate action will be undertaken in partnership with Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to mainstream these important priority aspects into selected policies and legislative frameworks. Consequently, the project will operationalize the Angola National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platform where discussions on how to foster effective governance of the Maiombe Forest Component of Angola will be discussed. These discussions will cover topics such as a) interventions required to achieve policy coherence; and b) approaches to eliminating incentives/enablers of forest degradation and deforestation in policies and legislative frameworks among others.

From a transboundary perspective, reviving the Maiombe Transfrontier Initiative (MTI) is critical for achieving transformative change at the national and regional levels. The Angola Child project with support from UNEP and CI, aims to revive the MTI and leverage this platform to convene the countries sharing the Maiombe Forest. This platform will be an avenue for Angola, DRC, Gabon, and the Republic of Congo to deliberate and agree on cross-sectoral approaches for effective governance of the Maiombe Forests, including interventions that can influence policies at National and Regional levels resulting in policy coherence as well as unlocking financing.

Achieving enhanced policy coherence and overall project success will depend on strengthening human, institutional, and technical capacities at both national and local levels. The Angola Child project design includes various activities aimed at this goal, such as providing capacity building for national and local government institutions and local stakeholders to mainstream aspects such as conservation, NCA, and climate change among others into legislative frameworks. Additionally, coordination with relevant national, regional, and global initiatives will further enhance capacities through learning and knowledge exchange. For this effect, at **National and Local Levels**, the project will collaborate closely with MINAMB, mainly through the Secretariat of Climate Action and Sustainability. The project will also collaborate closely with INBC, which is responsible for the Conservation Areas management in Angola, and with the MNP park staff, as well as with MINAGRIF, which is responsible for the conservation and management of forests outside the Conservation Areas, and in particular with the Institute of Forestry Development (IDF), at national, provincial and local levels. At the **Regional level**, the project will collaborate with the UNEP-led Congo Basin IP, the CI-Led Guinean Forests of West Africa IP, and the KBA Programme among others. The project will further collaborate with other initiatives and organizations operating in the Maiombe landscape in local, National and regional contexts, and will actively seek to establish further partnerships, support and long-term finance opportunities. Lastly, at the **Global Level**, the project will collaborate with the GEF's Critical Forests IPs (Amazon, Meso America, and Indo Malay) and other relevant initiatives.

The following project Outputs are aimed specifically at enhancing human, institutional, technical and financial capacities on National, Provincial and local levels, to strengthen the project's success and the sustainability of its impact:

- Output 1.1.3: Capacity building on policy transformation and compliance tools with an emphasis on mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and community access and rights.
- Output 2.3.2: Capacity building on Forest Certification.

- Output 2.4.2: Inclusive institutional and technical capacity of community forest governance structures strengthened and operationalized to sustainably manage resources and address HWC.
- Output 2.4.3.: Youth engagement among local communities in the Angola Maiombe landscape management, for improved knowledge and understanding of sustainable conservation practices and their role in a holistic HWC approach.
- Output 2.5.3: Local gender-responsive and resilient value chains supported, enhancing community capacities, whilst partnering with the private sector.
- Output 3.1.1: Capacity building and operational support to the MNP Park staff, and collaborating agencies, for effective management of the MNP, law enforcement, and caretaking of confiscated wildlife, including capacity building support for the establishment of the Chimpanzee Sanctuary.
- Output 3.1.3.: Completion of a strategic analysis and plan for adequate long-term financing for the MNP, designed to meet the desired level of park management.

The project is aligned with several National policies, strategic plans and legislation frameworks, in particular:

- **The National Development Plan (PDN, 2023):** Prioritizes sustainable development, climate action, and conservation.
- **The National Strategy for Climate Change (ENAC, 2017):** Establishes a vision for Angola's national policy for 2030, focusing on adaptation and mitigation, aligning with the Paris Agreement, and enhancing forest and biodiversity monitoring, as well as protected area management.
- **Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC, 2015):** Emphasizes biodiversity conservation for climate resilience and livelihood improvement.
- **National Climate Change Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA, 2011):** Highlights the impacts of climate change on biodiversity, forests, ecosystems, and agriculture.
- **The updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP, 2019-2025):** Targets the Aichi goals, aiming to halt biodiversity loss, enhance ecosystem resilience, reduce poverty, and improve well-being.
- **The Environmental Conservation Areas Act (2020, amended 2021 and 2024):** Includes a framework for local communities' engagement. The amendments define conditions that enable mining activities in Environmental Conservation Areas.
- **National Strategic Plan for a Network of Conservation Areas in Angola (PLENARCA, 2011):** Enhance biodiversity conservation, protected area management, resilience and human wellbeing.
- **Strategic Plans for a System of Protected Areas and Conservation Areas (PESAP, 2018, PESAC, 2018-2027, respectively):** aims to preserve biodiversity, ecosystem services, and cultural, natural, and landscape heritage through the conservation and restoration of species and natural habitats, with community engagement, with focus on ensuring socio-economic and financial sustainability and mobilizing investments to stimulate the local economy through activities that are compatible with the protection of natural resources, while also improving the quality of life for communities;
- **The National Forests, Wildlife and Conservation Areas Policy (2010):** Focuses on the conservation and protection of terrestrial biodiversity, economic strategic development through sustainable management of natural resources, forests, and Conservation Areas, mechanisms to facilitate the participation of local communities, private sector and civil society in sustainable development and management of forests and

natural resources, and benefit sharing, and mechanisms for strengthening institutional capacity for sustainable management of natural resources, forests and Conservation Areas;

- **The Forest and Wildlife Act (2017)**
- **A Decree to suspend the export of unworked wood for three years:** Promotes sustainable management of forest resources (approved in February 2023)
- **The Maiombe National Park (MNP):** Gazetted through a law approved in 2011, with an integrated management plan based on stakeholder consultation (2020).

The project is also aligned with Angola's commitments under several global Conventions, Multilateral and Environmental Agreements (MEAs), and regional initiatives, in particular:

- Angola is a signatory to all of the Rio Conventions: the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and to other environmental Conventions and MEAs (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), Ramsar Convention of Wetlands, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), Vienna Convention on Ozone Layer, and the Paris Climate Agreement, Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) among others;
- Angola was the 3rd country calling for the 4th protocol on wildlife crime under the UNTOC.
- Angola is a member of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and the SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) Network.
- Angola joined the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC) in 2021.
- The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) seeks to promote regional economic cooperation in Central Africa.
- Angola is the founding country of the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative (MTI), and a signatory to the MTI MoU since 2009. The MTI Strategic Plan was adopted by Angola, RoC, DRC and Gabon in 2013.

Innovation

The design of the project incorporates several innovative elements designed to enhance both environmental and community resilience.

Innovative resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods:

Firstly, by promoting innovative resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods, the project addresses the economic needs of local communities while reducing dependency on unsustainable practices. This approach fosters long-term environmental stewardship. Additionally, the project will update and expand the data and information base on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem in Angola, with a strong emphasis on stakeholder-integrated mapping of land cover, and current and planned land use, including freshwater resources, and gender considerations. This comprehensive data collection ensures informed decision-making and inclusive management practices.

Payment for Ecosystem services using the Conservation Agreements model:

The use of conservation agreements to promote sustainable resource use, including land use, represents another innovative strategy. These agreements formalize commitments to conservation practices by communities, ensuring that land use is both ecologically sustainable and beneficial to local communities. The project also aims to improve the management of the Angola Maiombe Forest through Forest Management Certification, integrating these practices into the broader land-use plan. This includes the implementation of Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefits (RILC),

which minimizes environmental damage and maximizes carbon sequestration. CI through the UNEP Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project will support Child Projects on work related to *Conservation Agreements*.

Innovative approaches to unlocking financing:

The project will employ innovative approaches to unlocking financing, ensuring the long-term sustainability of conservation efforts in the Maiombe Forests Transfrontier.

1. **Reviving the Maiombe Transfrontier Initiative (MTI)** can unlock financing and promote effective governance of the Maiombe forest in several ways:
 - a. **Cross-Border Collaboration:** By bringing together countries that share the Maiombe Forest—Angola, DRC, Gabon, and the Republic of Congo—the MTI fosters a collaborative approach to forest management. This collaboration can attract international donors and financial institutions interested in supporting regional initiatives with a broader impact.
 - b. **Policy Coherence:** The MTI provides a platform for harmonizing policies across borders, reducing conflicting regulations, and promoting consistent governance practices. Policy coherence can make the region more attractive to investors who seek stable and predictable regulatory environments.
 - c. **Resource Mobilization:** The MTI can facilitate joint proposals for funding from international organizations, such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Bezos Fund, the European Union, USAID etc. A unified approach increases the chances of securing large-scale funding that individual countries might struggle to obtain on their own.
 - d. **Capacity Building:** By sharing knowledge and resources, the MTI can enhance the capacities of participating countries to manage the forest sustainably. Strengthened institutions and better governance frameworks can, in turn, attract more funding by demonstrating a commitment to effective and transparent forest management.
 - e. **Public-Private Partnerships:** The MTI can promote public-private partnerships by creating an environment where businesses feel confident investing in sustainable practices. This can include ecotourism, sustainable logging, and other enterprises that align with conservation goals.
 - f. **Integrated Conservation Strategies:** The initiative can develop and implement integrated conservation strategies that address the root causes of deforestation and degradation, such as unsustainable agricultural practices and illegal logging. Comprehensive strategies that include community involvement and sustainable livelihood options are more likely to receive funding.
 - g. **Monitoring and Reporting:** The MTI can establish robust monitoring and reporting systems to track progress and ensure accountability. Transparent reporting on the use of funds and the impact of interventions can build trust with donors and investors, encouraging further financial support.
 - h. **Leveraging Existing Networks:** By tapping into existing networks of environmental and development organizations, the MTI can align with global initiatives and attract funding aimed at biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, and sustainable development.

2. **Completion of a strategic analysis and the development of a plan for securing long-term financing** for the MNP. This plan will be meticulously designed to meet the desired level of park management, addressing both immediate and future needs. By identifying and prioritizing financial requirements, the project will set a solid foundation for sustained park operations and conservation activities. Moreover, the initial mobilization of financing demonstrates the project's commitment to implementing these plans and provides a proof of concept to attract further investment.

3. **Collaboration with BirdLife International through the Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) Programme to map KBAs within the Maiombe forest ecosystem component of Angola.** This mapping exercise will identify critical areas that are essential for biodiversity conservation, providing a detailed and scientifically grounded basis for conservation priorities. The resulting data will be instrumental in making a compelling case to unlock investments and financing specifically targeted at preserving this unique biome. By highlighting the ecological significance of these areas, the project can attract funding from a variety of sources, including governmental bodies, international organizations, and private sector investors interested in biodiversity conservation.

4. **Support for establishing a Chimpanzee Sanctuary with the JGI Tchimpounga Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Center.** Capacity-building support will be provided for the caretaking of confiscated wildlife, and the establishment of the Chimpanzee Sanctuary, including training of selected relevant provincial staff (e.g., wildlife caretakers and veterinarians), through collaboration with the JGI Tchimpounga Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Center in the Republic of Congo. Specifically, women's participation in this training will be encouraged. This Output will assimilate lessons learned in Angola through the UNSFWS-funded project, "Building the Capacity of the Government of Angola in Countering Wildlife Trafficking in Cabinda Province".

The above-mentioned approaches not only ensure the financial sustainability of the MNP but also create a replicable model for other conservation projects. By strategically planning for long-term financing and leveraging detailed biodiversity data to attract investment, the project sets a precedent for how conservation initiatives can effectively mobilize the necessary financial resources using science whilst influencing policy.

Innovative approach to scaling up:

The Angola Project seeks to mainstream biodiversity conservation, climate change, NCA, gender, and local community access and rights in policies and legislative frameworks. In line with this, the support provided by the project to operationalize the Angola National-Provincial multi-sectorial, multi-stakeholder dialogue platform will be key in ensuring that government ministries, departments, agencies (MDAs), and other key stakeholders are convened and involved in the policy review, updating, and mainstreaming process. This will enable them to own and take leadership in the implementation of the updated gender-inclusive, climate-proof policies and legislative frameworks. There is potential for upscaling this approach to enable the review and updating of policies and legislative frameworks if the National-Provincial multi-sectorial, multi-stakeholder dialogue platform is capacitated to function effectively.

Innovative ways of enhancing National and Cross-Border learning:

In partnership with CI and UNEP through the Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project, the Angola project aims to revive The Maiombe Transfrontier Initiative (MTI) which will be critical in promoting innovation, learning, and knowledge sharing by facilitating cross-border collaboration among Angola, the Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Gabon. The MTI will create a platform for sharing best practices, research, and technological advancements in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. By bringing together diverse stakeholders, including government agencies, local communities, NGOs, and academic institutions, the initiative will foster a collaborative environment where innovative solutions, including financing solutions, can be developed and implemented. Additionally, it will enable the exchange of valuable knowledge and experiences, enhancing the capacity of all involved parties to address environmental challenges more effectively and sustainably. Lastly, it is anticipated that a representative of Angola's marginalized and vulnerable groups, such as women, youth, the elderly, and people with special needs, will be sponsored by UNEP to participate in the Congo Basin Regional Forum and/or forums organized by other Critical Forests Integrated Programs.

[ftnref1\[0\]](#) UNEP-GEF. 2024. Amazon Congo Critical Forest Biomes: The Congo Basin Integrated Program. Project Document

^[1] Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) Programme

<https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/#:~:text=The%20KBA%20Programme%20supports%20the,deepest%20parts%20of%20the%20oceans.>

^[2] Learn about Conservation Agreements: <https://www.conservation.org/blog/what-on-earth-is-a-conservation-agreement>

^[3] JGI Roots & Shoots (R&S) programme: <https://rootsandshoots.org/>

Institutional Arrangement and Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Please describe the Institutional Arrangements for the execution of this child project, including framework and mechanisms for coordination, governance, financial management and procurement. This should include consideration for linking with other relevant initiatives at country-level (if a country child project) or regional/global level (for coordination platform child project). If possible, please summarize the flow of funds (diagram), accountabilities for project management and financial reporting (organogram), including audit, and staffing plans. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

Project Duration: The project duration is 62 months. 6 months project implementation set up; Actual project execution 48 months, and 8 months Terminal Evaluation and closeout.

A. Execution Arrangements and Partners

Implementing Agency (IA):

Conservation International (CI-GEF) is the GEF Implementing Agency of this project. The overall role of the CI-GEF Implementing Agency includes technical and financial project oversight and supervision, assuring compliance of the project with GEF policies and procedures as well as monitoring and evaluation of the project activities. Finally, CI-GEF will make recommendations to optimize project performance and will arbitrate and ensure the resolution of any execution conflicts. Specifically, CI-GEF will undertake the following tasks:

- Facilitate interactions with the GEF.
- Coordinate and manage the relationship between the Angola Child Project and UNEP (Lead Agency of the Congo Basin Integrated Program). This also entails ensuring that the Angola Child project participates in events organized by UNEP through the Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project (RCP)
- Coordinate and manage the relationship between the Angola Child Project and other key GEF-funded Integrated Programs (IPs) such as the Guinean Forests IP, Indo-Malay IP, Meso-America IP, Amazon IP, Ecosystem Restoration IP, planet GOLD IP among others. This also entails ensuring that the Angola Child project participates in events organized by relevant IPs, especially the critical forests IPs.
- Provide technical and financial oversight to the Executing Agency (The Ministry of Environment of Angola (MINAMB) and Development Aid from People to People (ADPP^[1]) ADPP (The Executing Agency support partner).
- Oversee and monitor implementation of the project including reviewing quarterly technical and financial project reports, undertaking annual project site visits, and monitoring the implementation of and compliance with safeguards.
- Ensure that project management practices (technical, financial, and administration) comply with GEF requirements.
- Monitor the project's implementation and achievement of the project outputs, ensure proper use of GEF funds
- Review and approve procurement plans, budgets, and work plans.
- Quality assurance including ensuring that audits are undertaken by external auditors –
- Oversee preparation of the annual project implementation report (PIR) for submission to GEFSEC.
- Commission Mid-term and Terminal project evaluations.

Executing Agency (EA):

The Ministry of Environment of Angola (MINAMB), through the Secretariat of Climate Action and Sustainability, is the Executing Agency for this project.

The MINAMB (Secretariat of Climate Action and Sustainability) will guide and lead the day-to-day execution, administration, and monitoring of the project, facilitate knowledge sharing and meetings, information flow, and coordinate executing partners and stakeholders, including relevant Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). With support from ADPP, the MINAMB will be accountable to CI-GEF for the timely implementation of the agreed project results, timely reporting, and effective use of GEF resources for the intended purposes and in line with CI-GEF and GEF policy requirements. The specific role of MINAMB is outlined below:

- Guide overall project execution and delivery of outputs and outcomes.
- Ensure that project outcomes (both those directly implemented by the MINAMB and those implemented by executing partners) are achieved.
- Effective coordination of and between potential executing partners.
- Ensure Angola is represented in events organized by UNEP under the Congo Basin Integrated Program, as well as other important events including those organized by GEF Integrated Programs
- Monitoring and evaluation of project interventions.

- Ensure that environmental and social safeguards are adhered to and that the Environmental and Social Management Framework is implemented.
- Effective use of GEF resources.
- Amplify stakeholder engagement, learning, and knowledge sharing, and support ADPP to convene meetings/workshops.
- Maintenance of records of all project-related documentation.

National Project Director (NPD):

The Secretariat of Climate Action and Sustainability at MINAMB will appoint a Senior Government official as the National Project Director, who will provide overall strategic guidance in project governance, decision-making, and implementation. The NPD's primary responsibility will be to ensure that there is country ownership of the project and its results through involvement in decision-making and execution of project activities. Additionally, the NPD will ensure that the project produces the results specified in the Project Document to the required standard of quality and within the specified time and budget. In a nutshell, the NPD will ensure the overall responsibilities of MINAMB as the Executing Agency are realized by providing day-to-day guidance to the EA Support Partner (ADPP). Specific NPD's responsibilities will include:

- Ensuring alignment of the project activities with government policies and priorities.
- Nominate Angola representatives who will participate in events organized by UNEP and/or other important events.
- Liaise and coordinate with CI as needed.
- Represent the Government of Angola in the UNEP Congo Basin Integrated Program (Angola's point of contact in the Program)
- Securing coordination and support for project activities within MINAMB and with other government institutions.
- Ensuring the technical, logistical, administrative, and financial effectiveness of executing partners.
- Chairing the project steering committee.
- Reviewing the annual work plans and budgets, PIRs, and procurement plans before submission to CI and the PSC.
- Participate in procurement meetings, including where applicable, reviewing, and approving the procurement plans prepared by the project staff.
- Review and approve the preparation and dissemination of knowledge management products prepared by the project staff.

Executing Agency Support Partner:

The national organization Ajuda de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo (ADPP) will be the Executing Agency's Support Partner for the project. Under the supervision of the CI-GEF Implementing Agency, the ADPP's role can be summed as **Coordination, Communications and Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), and Reporting.**

With technical and financial oversight from CI-GEF, ADPP will support MINAMB (the Executing Agency) to manage the GEF grant and undertake the day-to-day project execution functions, including the related financial, operational and technical roles, support to the executing partners, hiring of the Project Management Unit and support staff, monitoring the implementation of the project, facilitate knowledge sharing and meetings, and information flow. Notably, ADPP will be responsible for managing selected project-related activities directly, managing sub-grants and contracts, project staff, and the use of project funds.

The EA Support partner (ADPP), through the Project Management Unit-PMU, will report technically and financially to CI-GEF by preparing and submitting the annual budget and work plan; quarterly financial and technical progress reports, the annual Project Implementation Report (PIR), an annual project progress. The summarized specific tasks of the ADPP include:

- a. Management of the GEF grant. CI-GEF will directly grant the Executing Agency Support Partner (ADPP) who will be responsible for managing sub-grants, contracts etc. based on the level of effort and tasks that have been agreed upon during the PPG Phase.
- b. Recruit and host the Project staff at its facilities in Landana, Cabinda, in proximity to the MNP.
- c. Responsible for the overall project coordination and ensuring that the key entities such as sub-grantees and service providers deliver efficiently and effectively.
- d. Support the PMU in undertaking finance and operational tasks such as procurement, grants management, and financial audits.
- e. Build the capacity of the Government staff, project staff, and partners on financial management and financial and technical reporting in order to ensure compliance with the GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards.
- f. Conduct due diligence (DD) of partners receiving grants. The DD should be in line with the GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards on partner institutions.
- g. Support the PMU to track and report on the materialisation of all co-financing.
- h. Guide the PMU to prepare procurement plans and obtain approval from MINAMB before submitting them to the GEF Agency (CI-GEF) for final review and approval.
- i. Guide the PMU to prepare all Terms of Reference and procurement packages and obtain approval from MINAMB before submitting them to the GEF Agency (CI-GEF) for final review and approval.
- j. Support the PMU to convene the Project Steering Committee and be the Vice Chair
- k. Ensure timely financial and technical progress reporting to CI-GEF by the PMU.
- l. Ensure financial auditing of the project is undertaken.

ADPP will also be responsible for the following direct technical execution tasks:

- a. Provide technical inputs across all Components.
- b. Provide overall project support and technical assistance to MINAMB to coordinate all the project partners and manage their output deliverables.
- c. Manage and report on grantee and consultant activities to MINAMB:
- d. Undertake Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the project and obtain approval from MINAMB before submitting the M&E reports to the GEF Agency (CI-GEF) for final review and approval. This task entails:
 - Prepare technical and financial periodic reports (e.g., annual work plans and budgets, technical and financial progress reports, and the annual Project Implementation Report (PIR) and obtain approval from MINAMB before submitting them to CI-GEF.
 - Safeguards monitoring and reporting to the GEF Agency (CI-GEF).
 - Organization and coordination of the Project Steering Committee (PSC).
- e. With guidance from CI-GEF, and the NPD, ADPP will be responsible for the day-to-day project management and overall coordination with UNEP through the Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project.
- f. Support the project staff to prepare and disseminate knowledge management products.
- g. Support MINAMB to execute Component 3 through providing technical assistance and supporting the management, and coordination of partners, grantees, and consultancies.
- h. With support from the project executing entities, amplify stakeholder engagement, learning, and knowledge sharing, and liaise with the NPD to ensure Angola is represented in important events including those organized by other GEF Critical Forests Integrated Programs
- i. Maintain records of all project-related documentation

Project Management Unit (PMU):

A **Project Management Unit (PMU)** will be recruited by ADPP with guidance from CI and the Angola Ministry of Environment (MINAMB), through the Secretariat of Climate Action and Sustainability. The PMU will be hosted at ADPP's offices in Landana, Cabinda, in proximity to the MNP.

With guidance from MINAMB (NPD), ADPP and the Project Steering Committee (PSC), the PMU will be responsible for day-to-day coordination and execution of project activities that will ensure overall effective and efficient project management and delivery. The Project staff will support ADPP as needed to deliver the tasks of the Executing Agency Support Partner.

The PMU will coordinate directly as needed with the CI-GEF Agency and will report to MINAMB. Additionally, the PMU will work closely with executing partners, external sub-grantees, and service providers. Overall, the PMU will supervise, monitor progress, and coordinate and support the executing partners and service providers as needed to ensure efficient and effective delivery of the project's target results.

As needed, consultants will be hired to provide technical assistance for specific tasks requiring expertise that cannot be undertaken by the Project staff and the executing partners identified at the PPG Phase. **International service providers will only be recruited where national capacities are insufficient.**

The specific roles of the PMU include:

- a. Secretariat for the Project Steering Committee (PSC) – Vice Chair and Rapporteur
- b. Procurement of all services, goods, and equipment
- c. Handling and safeguarding of the equipment.
- d. Financial management, disbursements, reporting and record-keeping.
- e. Project technical guidance, monitoring and reporting.
- f. Preparation and submission of all technical and financial reports.
- g. Monitoring and reporting the materialization of co-financing to CI-GEF.
- h. Actively coordinate the flow of inputs, procurement, outputs, and work streams to ensure the project runs smoothly and delivers the specified outputs and overall objectives.
- i. Organizing and facilitating workshops and travel.
- j. Identification of potential risks to project activities and implementation of mitigation measures to overcome them.
- k. Knowledge Management.
- l. Setting up, monitoring, and reporting implementation progress of environmental and social safeguards.
- m. Ensuring the smooth running of the project through continuous monitoring, coordination, and communication among partners, consultants, stakeholders, etc.
- n. Assisting in organizing and reporting on the Project Steering Committee (PSC) meetings.
- o. Maintenance of records of all project-related documentation
- p. Liaise with stakeholders to prepare and disseminate knowledge management products.
- q. Share project progress with the Angola GEF Operational Focal Point (OFP) e.g., via email, a copy of the bi-annual published reports and policy briefs detailing lessons learned, best case practices, challenges, and opportunities.
- r. Ensure Angola is represented in events organized by UNEP under the Congo Basin Integrated Program, as well as other important events including those organized by other GEF Integrated Programs

Structure of the PMU:

The PMU will be composed of staff listed below.

1. **The Project Executive Director (Full-Time)** will lead the project staff, acting as the primary representative for ADPP with MINAMB, CI-GEF, and other stakeholders, while building partnerships. Responsibilities include providing strategic direction, resource management, and supervision; supervising personnel; ensuring timely delivery of results; managing project requirements and deliverables; developing solutions to maintain progress; preparing annual work plans and quarterly technical reports; ensuring effective implementation of the safeguard plans; overseeing grant implementation; maintaining effective reporting and communication systems; ensuring resource efficiency; and leading transboundary collaboration efforts within the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative and the regional Congo Basin project. The detailed Terms of Reference are provided in **Annex H**.

2. **The Finance Officer (Part-time)** will lead all financial, operational, and administrative functions of the project to ensure efficient, cost-effective execution and compliance with GEF’s fiduciary standards. This position will provide administrative support, build capacity of the government and sub-grantees in finance and project administration, manage procurement and sub-grants, handle contracts, administer funds, standardise finance systems, prepare budget revisions, and generate financial reports. Additionally, this position will track and report the materialisation of co-financing, maintain accurate project financial records, and ensure that all partners deliver timely, quality financial reports. The detailed Terms of Reference are provided in **Annex H**.
3. **The Grants and Contracts Coordinator (Full-Time):** This position will lead the administration and management of grants and contracts and ensure compliance with all regulatory and financial requirements stipulated in the grant agreements and contracts while working closely with the Finance Officer and Project Executive Director.

The Project Support Team

The following team will support the PMU:

1. **ADPP Technical and Operations Advisor (Full-Time):** This position will encompass all of the support that ADPP will provide, through its technical and finance staff, to advise the project team and executing partners, and to guide the technical, financial and operational functions of the project, including reporting. The main responsibilities of ADPP’s advisory role are:
 - Guide and oversee the technical, financial, and operational delivery of the project and ensure that the project outcomes are achieved.
 - Provide guidance and support to the project, to ensure that the project is executed in a technically sound manner and lead the implementation of measures to address the challenges inherent in project implementation.
 - Guide coordination of the project implementation and activities, engaging with relevant stakeholders at all levels.
 - Assist in preparing TORs for national and international consultants and additional executing partners and experts.
 - Assist in guiding and reviewing all project technical and financial reports, implementation of project activities, and project deliverables prepared by staff, consultants, partners, and other experts.
 - Assist in the preparation, realization and reporting of the PSC meetings.
 - Assist in the development of the project’s communication, advocacy and knowledge-sharing plan.
 - Assist with the capacity-building activities supported by the project, including capacity-building activities for the Project staff, MINAMB, key stakeholders and project beneficiaries.
2. **A Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Officer (Full-time):** ADPP, in consultation with MINAMB and CI-GEF, will recruit an M&E Officer to develop and oversee the implementation of the project’s monitoring, evaluation, and learning system. The M&E officer will also liaise directly with CI-GEF’s M&E Lead and the M&E Lead of the UNEP Congo basin Child Project. The M&E Officer’s main responsibilities include creating a comprehensive monitoring and reporting system, overseeing its implementation, setting indicators and targets, obtaining baseline information, monitoring progress, coordinating with the UNEP Congo Basin IP M&E Lead as needed, providing training and capacity building on the M&E system for project staff, support staff, consultants, MINAMB, and ADPP and ensure the preparation and submission of quarterly project reports and annual GEF Project Implementation Reports.
3. **A Gender and Safeguards Specialist (Full-time):** A Gender and Safeguards Specialist will be recruited by ADPP, in consultation with MINAMB and CI-GEF. This position will ensure the project’s compliance with the GEF’s environmental and social safeguard requirements. The main responsibilities of the Gender and Safeguards Specialist are:

- Ensure that all the environmental and social safeguards are implemented as required.
- Update and fill out the gaps in the safeguards screening form within 6 months of the start of project implementation.
- As needed, update the safeguards plans as well as the GMP, SEP and AGM within 8 months of the start of project implementation
- Set up the required safeguard plans, GMP, SEP and AGM and ensure they are implemented, indicators monitored and reported quarterly and/or at a frequency required by the CI-GEF Agency
- Throughout project life, raise awareness about the AGM, record the grievances and ensure they are resolved etc.
- Throughout project life, provide refresher trainings and capacity building to the project staff, stakeholders, beneficiaries etc. on the project's safeguards plans, AGM, GMP, and SEP.

4. **Stakeholder Engagement and Field Coordinator (Full-time):** A Stakeholder Engagement and Field Coordinator will be recruited from Cabinda by ADPP, in consultation with MINAMB and CI-GEF, to lead the engagement of stakeholders and project beneficiaries in the project implementation at the local level. Recruitment within the project intervention area will be prioritized and fluency in the local languages will be a requirement. The main responsibilities of the Stakeholder Engagement and Field Coordinator are:

- Act as the main liaison contact between the project and the local communities, traditional leadership, MNP park staff, municipal administration, and other local stakeholders and beneficiaries of the project.
- Support the engagement of the local stakeholders and intended project beneficiaries in all on-ground project activities, as needed.
- Help the selection of adequate beneficiaries of specific project activities, in consultation with the local communities and relevant local stakeholders (traditional leadership, municipal administration, MNP staff, etc.), and aiming to maximize gender balance, equitability and inclusion.
- With support from the Executive Director and Gender and Safeguards Specialist, ensure the project's compliance with the GEF's environmental and social safeguard requirements, in the project's on-ground activities and with the engagement of local stakeholders.
- Support the Gender and Safeguards Specialist to undertake their tasks including socializing the safeguards plans, AGM, SEP and GMP at the local government and community level; updating and filling the gaps in the safeguards screening form, safeguard plans, AGM, SEP, GMP; Supporting monitoring of the safeguard indicators at the local level; support in the provision of training and capacity building of local level stakeholders and project beneficiaries on the environmental and social safeguard requirements as well as on the project's safeguard plans.
- Help integrate local and traditional knowledge, as well as develop knowledge products and disseminate the knowledge and lessons learned regarding gender, equality and inclusion
- Support the mapping and identification of a representative (s) from a marginalized and vulnerable group, and project beneficiaries to be sponsored by the Angola project and/or UNEP to participate in important events organized by UNEP through the Congo Basin Integrated Program and/or any other important events.

5. **Communications Officer (Part-time):** The main responsibilities of the Communications Officer are:

- Develop and oversee the implementation of a communication, advocacy and knowledge-sharing plan for the project.
- Liaise with the CI-GEF Agency communications lead as needed.
- Ensure that the communication, advocacy, and knowledge-sharing plan for the project includes integration of local and traditional knowledge in natural resources management, dissemination of information on the project as a model for Nature-Based-Solutions, and sharing of knowledge and lessons learned regarding gender, equality and inclusion etc.
- Lead the development and dissemination of the project's knowledge products and lessons learned.
- Establish and maintain a media and social media presence for the project.
- Support the project's transboundary communication in the framework of the MTI and regional project in the framework of regional communication in the framework of the regional Congo Basin project.

- Liaise with the CI-GEF Agency and the project team to establish a project repository to store all project-related documentation.
- Share the project's knowledge products with the UNEP Congo Basin IP Communications Lead/ upload the knowledge products on the Congo Basin platform established by UNEP.

The Project Technical Coordination Committee (TCC):

Role of the TCC: Day-to-day guidance and coordination of the PMU and project support staff

Frequency of meetings: Quarterly/As needed.

The **Technical Coordination Committee (TCC)** will comprise the key stakeholders involved in the Angola project execution drawing membership from MINAMB (NPD), INBC (MNP), ADPP, Ministry of Agriculture, JGI, ICCF, and FSC. CI will participate on a needs basis.

The Technical Coordination Committee will provide day-to-day overall guidance and coordination to the Project staff for the implementation of activities at the national and sub-national levels. The Technical Coordination Committee will be chaired by the MINAMB (NPD), the Vice Chair will be the Project Executive Director and the Rapporteur will be a representative from the project team.

Project Steering Committee (PSC):

Role of the PSC: Strategic overall guidance to the project

Frequency of meetings: Annually/As needed.

A Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be established to provide overall project oversight and strategic guidance. The PSC will ensure continued cohesion between the project and the mandate of MINAMB. It will also provide additional linkages and interactions with high-level policy components within the Government of Angola. The PSC will provide input and approve the annual work plans and budgets, review and approve any key project outputs, facilitate successful project execution, and intervene when conflicts within the project and/or between project partners arise.

The PSC will be chaired by the National Project Director (NPD), representing MINAMB, and will be comprised of representatives of the following additional institutions. ADPP will be the vice chair and a representative from the PMU will be a Rapporteur. The PMU will assist MINAMB in convening, organizing and reporting the PSC meetings.

The proposed PSC composition is provided below. At the start of the project, the PMU will work with MINAMB to finalize the list of PSC institutions; follow up with the respective institutions to appoint their representative to the PSC (and ensure at least 30% women representatives); work with the PSC members to prepare a ToRs of the PSC and agree on the frequency of the PSC meetings.

- MINAMB – Chair
- Vice Chair – ADPP
- Rapporteur - PMU
- The Secretariat of Climate Action and Sustainable Development (MINAMB)
- The Directorate of Climate Change (MINAMB)
- The National Institute of Biodiversity and Conservation (INBC, MINAMB)
- The Maiombe National Park (MNP, INBC, MINAMB)
- The Provincial Government of Cabinda
- The Municipal Administrations of Belize, Buco Zau and Cacongo
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Forests
- The Ministry of Social Action, Family and Women Promotion (MASFAMU)
- CSOs and representation of the local communities (to be indicated by the local communities)
- Representatives of the academia (Luanda and Cabinda)

- GEF Implementing Agency (CI)
- Angola GEF Operational Focal Point (OFP)
- Project executing partners (ADPP, FSC, JGI, ICCF, BirdLife International etc.)
- A representative from the Community, with a focus on project beneficiaries
- Representative of marginalized and vulnerable groups from the community
- NGOs

GEF Operation Focal Point (OFP):

The GEF Operational Focal Point (OFP) is the government official who is the principal point of contact for GEF-funded activities in their respective country, in this case, Angola. The OFP also serves as the country’s main contact point for the GEF Secretariat, GEF Agencies and stakeholders. Per the GEF guidelines, OFPs need to be informed, involved and consulted throughout the lifecycle of a GEF project including receiving updates on the details of project implementation, results and impacts. The Angola Congo Basin Child project will coordinate and involve the Angola OFP as follows:

- Invite the OFP to participate in the Project Steering Committee Meetings.
- Inform and consult the OFP about the planning, execution, and findings of the Mid-Term and Terminal Evaluation of the Project.
- Project Monitoring and Evaluation reports will be shared with the Angola OFP e.g., PIR, Project Mid-Term Evaluation Report, and Project Terminal Evaluation Report.
- Selected knowledge management products will be shared with the Angola OFP

Project Executing Partners:

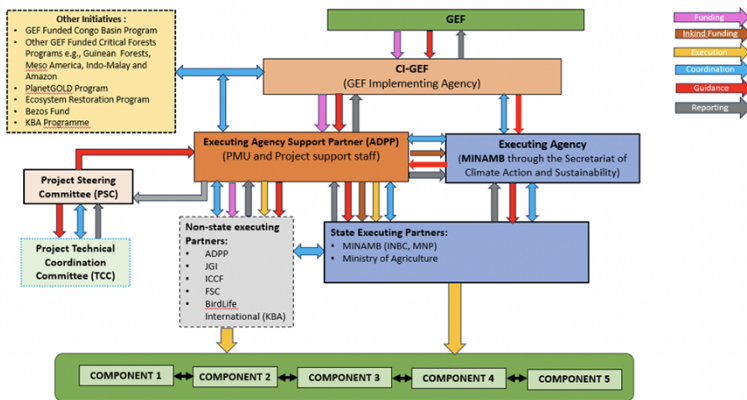
Project executing partners were identified during the PPG Phase in consultation with MINAMB. All sub-grantees will undergo financial due diligence before the grant agreement is signed and funds channeled to them. **Table 5** outlines this project’s Executing partners (sub-grantees), their roles, and rationale for their Inclusion in the project.

Table 5: Roles and rationale for the inclusion of project Executing partners/sub-grantees

Name of Organization/ Institution	Specify Role: (Grantee/Sub-grantee/Partner)	Specific Role	Rationale
MINAMB (Secretariat of Climate Action and Sustainability)	Executing Agency	As the Executing Agency the MINAMB, through the Secretariat of Climate Action and Sustainability, will provide overall guidance in the day-to-day running of the project. ADPP will support the MINAMB to undertake its EA functions.	The Executing Agency for this project represents the Government of Angola.
Development Aid from People to People (ADPP^[2])	1. Executing Support Partner 2. Executing Partner 3. Grantee	1. The Executing Agency’s Support Partner of the project, supporting MINAMB to manage the GEF grant and undertake the day-to-day project execution financial, operational and technical functions, including hiring the PMU and supporting the executing partners. 2. Lead Executing Partner for the implementation of Outputs 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 2.1.1., 2.1.3., 2.2.1., 2.2.2., 2.4.1., 2.4.2., 2.5.1., 2.5.2., 2.5.3., 2.5.4., 3.1.1 (Co-lead), 3.1.3., 4.1.1., 4.1.2., 4.1.3., 4.1.4., 4.1.5., 5.1.1., and 5.1.2., and support partner of all other	1. ADPP is a national organization, with a strong and well-recognized presence in Angola, including Cabinda, and a previous due diligence record. 2. ADPP has extensive experience in Angola, including Cabinda, strong national networks among climate actors, and a strong track record in leading activities with local communities engagement, for social, economic, and environmental support, including social inclusion and gender aspects. Specifically, ADPP has extensive experience in protecting communities’ rights, gender equality, communities’ local governance and sustainable livelihoods, strong national,

Name of Organization/ Institution	Specify Role: (Grantee/Sub-grantee/Partner)	Specific Role	Rationale
		<p>Outputs. ADPP will specifically support community organization training and empowerment, sustainable livelihoods, local-level governance, gender equality, knowledge management, and the project M&E. To complement technical capacity gaps, ADPP will seek technical support from CI, from the Congo Basin Integrated Program/Regional Congo Project (RCP) led by UNEP, and through the contracting of thematic consultants.</p>	<p>regional and international networks among climate and conservation actors and solid experience in building M&E capacity among local stakeholders.</p>
<p>The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)</p>	<p>Executing Partner (Sub-grantee)</p>	<p>Lead Executing Partner for the implementation of Outputs 2.3.1. and 2.3.2 for Forest Management Certification. FSC will also provide technical support for the execution of Outcomes 1.1, 2.1, 2.2., 2.4., 3.1, and 4.1, in the context of providing technical and capacity-building support to the use, management and protection of the Maiombe forest, and specifically as related to legislation, land-use planning, local communities' engagement and empowerment, park management, knowledge management and transboundary collaboration.</p>	<p>Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) will effectively coordinate with other partners by engaging in collaborative efforts and establishing synergies across various components of the Cognizant that this Project focuses on an Intact Forest, FSC's expertise and actions will seek to promote effective forest governance and protection. Below is an overview of the FSC's roles and responsibilities:</p> <p><u><i>Enhancing Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management</i></u></p> <p>- FSC certification has been shown to enhance biodiversity. FSC will Develop and operationalize national forest management standards and adapt them to local contexts. In the process of development of national forest management standards, a local standards development group will be selected, and extensive engagement and capacity building will be done on forest management principles and criteria that ensure forests protect and sustain biodiversity, are socially beneficial, and remain economically viable.</p> <p><u><i>Sustainable Financing and Private Sector Engagement</i></u></p> <p>- Strengthen capacity for verification and certification of climate & ecosystem services claims. The Claims can then be used for the mobilisation of payment of ecosystem services.</p>

Name of Organization/ Institution	Specify Role: (Grantee/Sub-grantee/Partner)	Specific Role	Rationale
			<p>- Engage with the private sector to address the supply forces that drive unsustainable practices</p> <p><u>Monitoring and Evaluation:</u></p> <p>- Contribute to impact verification of forestry practices on the environment, biodiversity, and communities..</p>
<p>BirdLife International (Key Biodiversity Areas Programme)</p>	<p>Executing Partner (Sub-grantee)</p>	<p>Lead Output 2.1.2</p>	<p>BirdLife International leads the Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) Programme which supports the identification, mapping, monitoring and conservation of KBAs to help safeguard the most critical sites for nature on Earth.</p>
<p>The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI)</p>	<p>Executing Partner (Sub-grantee)</p>	<p>Lead Executing Partner for the implementation of Outputs 2.4.3. and 3.1.2., and co-lead (with ADPP) for the implementation of Output 3.1.1, specifically youth engagement among local communities through the JGI Roots & Shoots (R&S) programme, and support to the park management through deployment of conservation technologies and capacity building for caretaking of confiscated wildlife and for the establishment of the Chimpanzee Sanctuary. JGI will also provide technical support for the execution of Outcomes.</p> <p>Outcomes 2.1., 2.2., 2.4., 2.5., 3.1. and 4.1., and specifically for integrated land-use planning, community engagement, and cross-border collaboration.</p>	<p>JGI is an organization with a recognized international track record and is supporting MINAMB through a signed MoU and specifically providing support for the MNP, mainly through cross-border collaboration with RoC within the context of the MTI, capacity building of Angolan park staff, and caretaking of confiscated apes, and related capacity building. JGI has also supported the development of the MNP Management Plan and the MTI Strategic Plan. JGI can provide considerable technical support based on its experience elsewhere.</p>
<p>The International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)</p>	<p>Executing Partner (Sub-grantee)</p>	<p>Lead Executing Partner for the implementation of Output 1.1.5., specifically for the engagement and capacity building of legislators for mainstreaming legislative frameworks. ICCF will also provide technical support for the execution of Outcomes 1.1., 2.5., and 4.1.</p>	<p>ICCF is an organization with a recognized international track record, specializing in advancing conservation governance by building political will, through a caucus model, empowering parliamentarians, and supporting knowledge sharing and exchange. ICCF has established collaboration with MINAMB and is establishing a conservation caucus among parliamentarians in Angola.</p>



[1] Ajuda de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo (ADPP): <https://www.adpp-angola.org/en/>

[2] Ajuda de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo (ADPP): <https://www.adpp-angola.org/en/>

Will the GEF Agency play an execution role on this child project?

If so, please describe that role here and the justification.

Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

Aiming to maximize synergies and efficiency and to minimize overlap, the project will be coordinated and will collaborate with other ongoing and planned initiatives and projects in the Maiombe forest ecosystems area in Cabinda Province, Angola, as well as with projects and initiatives addressing the project's themes of intervention in the wider national, transboundary and regional contexts. Wherever possible, the project's Outcomes and Outputs will be aligned with the other ongoing and planned initiatives and projects in this landscape.

A survey of all existing and planned projects in the Maiombe forest ecosystems area in Cabinda Province, and the Mayombe transfrontier initiative's area will be held during the inception phase of the project. It will aim to identify all the potential options and opportunities for collaboration, including potential for co-location, sharing of expertise, sharing staffing, developing joint strategies and action plans, etc. Options for collaboration with relevant projects and initiatives addressing the same thematic aspects addressed by this project, in the wider national, transfrontier and regional contexts, will also be explored.

Specifically, the project will collaborate with the following projects and initiatives, among others, to be explored:

- **GEF-8 Amazon, Congo and Critical Forests Integrated Program** whose goal is to “maintain the integrity of the globally important critical tropical forests in order to maximize multiple global environment benefits related to carbon and biodiversity”. The Angola Child Project will participate in events organized by the Congo Basin IP, Guinean Forests IP, Amazon IP, Indo-Malay IP, Meso Americas IP
- **ADPP**: The project will be coordinated with ADPP's support for local communities, sustainable development, social and gender inclusion, and education in Cabinda Province. The project will be hosted in ADPP's facilities in Cabinda Province, and the sharing of resources, including the engagement of ADPP's staff, will form part of ADPP's co-finance for the project.
- **FSC**: FSC's initiative of support for the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests of Angola (MINAGRIF), for the establishment of Forest Management Certification in Angola, affecting commercial forestry activities, will be coordinated with the relevant project activities. For this project, FSC will also liaise with MINAMB.

- **ICCF:** The project’s interventions at the national level, will be coordinated with the International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF), and specifically the project’s component aimed at addressing legislative and policy gaps, will be coordinated with ICCF’s interventions to strengthen legislation for conservation in Angola.
- **BirdLife International:** Leads the Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) Programme which supports the identification, mapping, monitoring and conservation of KBAs to help safeguard the most critical sites for nature on Earth.
- **MOSAP III:** The project will be coordinated with the *Angola Agricultural Transformation Project (MOSAP III)*, implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, with the support of the World Bank (WB) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), specifically in relation to the development of sustainable livelihoods and shift to sustainable cultivation best practice.
- **UNDP-GEF – Biodiversity GEF 6 Project:** The project will be coordinated with the UNDP-GEF Project “Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade and Human Wildlife Conflict”, implemented by INBC, and specifically with this project’s interventions aimed at strengthening the Maiombe National Park management and law enforcement capacity, as well as this project’s interventions addressing Human-Wildlife-Conflict in the MNP area.
- **The Game Rangers Association of Africa – Angola Chapter (GRAA – Angola):** a national NGO, supporting the rangers in all Angola’s National Parks, their activities, and their liaison with other governmental departments and international partners. The project can collaborate with GRAA Angola in activities related to the MNP rangers’ engagement.
- **Defensores Ecologicos:** a local NGO, operating in Cabinda, led by young forestry and agriculture students from the University of Cabinda, and engaging with the local communities. The project can collaborate with Defensores Ecologicos in activities related to the engagement of local communities.

Table On Core Indicators

Core Indicators

Indicate expected results in each relevant indicator using methodologies indicated in the GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework Guidelines. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
193000	193000	0	0

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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193000	193000	0	0
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Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Maiombe National Park (Parque Nacional do Maiombe)	555756392	National Park	193,000.00	193,000.00					

Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
67000	167000	0	0

Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares, qualitative assessment, non-certified)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
67,000.00	67,000.00		

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	100,000.00		

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

FSC Forest Management Certification

Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value or other forest loss avoided

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

Name of the OECMs	WDPA-ID	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
			100,000.00		

Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	4000000	0	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)	0	11390139	0	0

Indicator 6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions Avoided in the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	4,000,000			
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)		11,390,139		
Anticipated start year of accounting	2025	2025		
Duration of accounting	20	20		

Indicator 6.2 Emissions Avoided Outside AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) Sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.3 Energy Saved (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)

Total Target Benefit	Energy (MJ) (At PIF)	Energy (MJ) (At CEO Endorsement)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at MTR)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at TE)
Target Energy Saved (MJ)				

Indicator 6.4 Increase in Installed Renewable Energy Capacity per Technology (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	4,250	1,343		
Male	4,250	1,438		
Total	8,500	2,781	0	0

Explain the methodological approach and underlying logic to justify target levels for Core and Sub-Indicators (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

CORE INDICATOR 1: Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management.

Sub-Core indicator 1.2: Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness

The project is expected to support the improved management of 193,000 Ha of the Maiombe National Park (MNP) (WDPA ID: 555756392).

CORE INDICATOR 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectare): Target: 167,000 Ha

Sub-core indicator 4.1: Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity.

The project is expected to support sustainable land management of 67,000 ha west of the MNP (outside the MNP), which will be linked with improved management to benefit biodiversity, which will be achieved through capacity-building activities and facilitating the local community members to shift to climate-resilient sustainable livelihoods, including direct engagement in forest ecosystem conservation. The area under Sub-core indicator 4.1. overlaps the area under Sub-core indicator 4.3.

Sub-core indicator 4.2: Area of landscapes under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations.

The Angola Ministry of Agriculture has partnered with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) to certify various landscapes in Angola, including the Maiombe Forest. At least 100,000 Ha will be certified through the FSC Forest Management Certification while incorporating biodiversity considerations. The specific locations will be determined during the implementation phase. FSC certification has been shown to enhance biodiversity conservation². FSC will Develop and operationalize national forest management standards and adapt them to local contexts. In the process of development of national forest management standards, a local standards development group is selected, and extensive engagement and capacity building is done on forest management principles and criteria that ensure forests protect and sustain biodiversity, are socially beneficial, and remain economically viable.

Sub-core indicator 4.3: Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

The project is expected to support sustainable land management of 67,000 ha west of the MNP (outside the MNP). Improved sustainability of land management will be achieved through capacity-building activities and facilitating the local community members to shift to climate-resilient sustainable cultivation practices and other sustainable livelihoods, including direct engagement in forest ecosystem conservation. The area under Sub-core indicator 4.1. overlaps the area under Sub-core indicator 4.3.

Sub-core indicator 4.5: Terrestrial OECMs supported

Angola does not have areas that are formally recognized as OECM. Nevertheless, at least 100,000 Ha of terrestrial ecosystems will be certified through the FSC Forest Management Certification while incorporating biodiversity considerations. This is the same area reported under sub-core indicator 4.2.

CORE INDICATOR 6: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric ton of CO₂e)

Sub-core indicator 6.6: Carbon sequestered, or emissions avoided in the sector of Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (indirect)

Reduced forest degradation through forest conservation and improved protected area management, through this project, is expected to result in Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigation estimated at 11.39 million metric tons of CO₂e. This is an initial rough estimate from the EX-Act tool and will be recalculated after the Project inception phase, following the data and information base on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola updating and mapping (Outcome 2.1), and following the determination of specific activities to be carried out in relation to land-uses, forest management and cropland management, under Components 2 and 3. This initial rough estimate is based on an assumption that the project will reduce the level of forest degradation from low to very low in an estimated area of 100,000 ha of the full area of the Maiombe NP (193,000 ha).

CORE INDICATOR 11: People benefiting from GEF-financed investments disaggregated by sex (count)

The project will benefit directly at least 2,781 (48% women) through learning and knowledge-sharing events, and capacity building for improved livelihood sustainability and resilience and resilient livelihood activities. This number includes at least 2,000 members of the local communities (1,000 men and 1,000 women) that are expected to benefit from Conservation Agreements. Considering that while most of the traditional leaders of the communities are men, the cultivation and production activities are performed mainly by women, a target of 50% of women beneficiaries from the Conservation Agreements is an ambitious but achievable target. Moreover, deliberate action will be taken to secure women's participation in training activities and in the development and implementation of the Conservation Agreements. Training of local community members will be based on the "Train the Trainers" approach, aiming to benefit directly and indirectly at least 8,500 community members (around 15% of the population) by the project's end, with at least 50% women participants in training activities for best-practice cultivation and other sustainable livelihoods. The whole population residing in the MNP is estimated at 56,000 people (51% women, based on the National Institute of Statistics (INE), Angola, 2014. National Census). This whole population is expected to benefit indirectly and over time through the training of trainers. The direct beneficiaries among community members also include at least 30 community forest scouts (15 men and 15 women) who will be recruited, trained, and deployed to work with the MNP rangers, and at least 150 youth (including at least 50 girls) that will benefit from youth engagement activities. The 19 MNP existing staff (3 women and 16 men, including the Park Administrator and 2 confiscated wildlife caretakers), as well as at least 17 other people from agencies that collaborate with the MNP (25% women), will also be direct beneficiaries of the project's capacity building activities. The overall number of direct beneficiaries includes at least 95 officials (at least 34 women) who will benefit from project capacity-building activities.

In order to reach a high number of female beneficiaries, the project will put in place intentional and context-specific measures that address both structural and cultural barriers. Examples of the measures that will be put in place to increase the number of female direct beneficiaries are outlined below. Details are also in the Gender Action Plan.

- Setting gender-specific targets, and mandating a certain percentage of resources, training, and opportunities be allocated to women and girls.
- Providing capacity-building programs focused on empowering women with skills, leadership training, and access to financial and technical resources.
- Prioritize creating safe spaces for the participation of women and girls, ensuring their voices are heard, and engaging local communities in dialogues that challenge patriarchal norms.
- Ensure the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism (AGM) is widely disclosed whilst making sure that women feel safe and comfortable to raise grievances.
- Collaborating with female leaders, women's groups, and women-led SMEs to enhance outreach and ensure sustained, equitable benefits for women and girls throughout the project's lifecycle.
- Design a gender-sensitive knowledge management and communications strategy with a tailored action plan for reaching diverse audiences (including women and girls)
- Sponsor women and girls from the local community to participate in the events organised by the Congo Basin Integrated program

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Substantial	Risk: Unpredictable climate changes may negatively impact achieving the project Outcomes and their sustainability. The introduction of alternative resilient livelihood activities can be greatly affected by extreme weather events, which can disrupt initial implementation, damage infrastructure, and deplete resources. For example, severe storms, floods, and droughts can destroy crops, livestock, and facilities, making it difficult for communities to establish and maintain new livelihoods. Moreover, the need to prioritize immediate recovery and rebuilding efforts after such events can divert resources and attention from long-term livelihood development initiatives, undermining their success and resilience. Mitigation measures: The mitigation measures will be to ensure the project's interventions are resilient, and better planning with respect to the timing of introduction of alternative livelihoods, and field activities. Vulnerable areas will be identified, and project activities planned with climate resilience in mind.

<p>Environmental and Social</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Risks: 1. Safeguard screening was conducted during the PPG Phase categorizing the project as B, considering that, proposed project activities have the potential to cause adverse environmental and social impacts. However, the impacts are anticipated to be less adverse than those of Category A projects, site-specific, and mitigation measures can be designed more readily than for Category A projects.. A SEP, AGM, GMP and IPLCs plans were developed during the PPG phase. A Process Framework and a Community Health, Safety and Security Plan, will be developed during implementation phase. 2. Shift to sustainable livelihoods and practices may clash with the communities’ traditional practices and culture. 3. Project Outputs aimed at supporting resilient and sustainable livelihoods may be insufficient to incentivize the communities’ shift from unsustainable livelihoods and practices. 4. HWC (in particular HEC) mitigation is very complex and not always successful. Unsuccessful HWC mitigation can lead to community frustration and substantial risk to the implementation of other project Outputs aimed at enhancing communities’ engagement. 5. The risk of positive impacts of the project triggering negative impacts such as maladaptation, deforestation leakage i.e., improved forest protection/conservation in one area leading to more deforestation in other or new areas Mitigation measures: 1. Full-time Safeguards specialist to be part of the project staff. Safeguards Specialist (supported by the project team) to update the safeguards within 6 months after the start of the implementation phase. Safeguards Specialist (supported by the project team) to oversee the implementation of the safeguard plans during the implementation phase. Safeguards specialist to monitor and report on the progress of the safeguard indicators. 2. Activities related to supporting the shift to sustainable livelihoods and practices will be developed based on an in-depth consultation process with the local communities and their traditional leadership. 3. Project Outputs at the local level are focused on a strategic approach aimed at achieving an enduring impact that would be disseminated in the population over time. 4. Project Outputs at the local level (in particular, under Outcomes 2.1., 2.2. and 2.4), are aimed at empowering communities to address HWC through a holistic approach. 5. To mitigate these risks, the Angola Child project has developed environmental and social safeguards which were informed by in-depth safeguards screening at the PPG Phase. The safeguards screening as well as the safeguard plans will be validated by the PMU during the implementation phase. With respect to unintended consequences such as displacing deforestation from project areas to other areas, the key mitigation measures are the promotion of landscape-level planning and management approaches; support for efforts to enhance wider policy coherence and tracking this dynamic within M&E frameworks to trigger/inform adaptive management.</p>
<p>Political and Governance</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Risks: 1. Impacts of the post-conflict situation in Cabinda Province, and the risk of renewed conflict, can negatively impact the implementation of project Outputs achieving the project Outcomes, and their sustainability. • There may be a potential lack of political will to support the implementation of some</p>

		<p>project activities, particularly with respect to policy coherence and reduced access to resources by the communities and coordination with other stakeholders. Mitigation measures: 1. The project implementation will be closely guided by the Government of Angola, and the Provincial Government of Cabinda, to maximize responsiveness to political changes and risks. 2. post-conflict drivers of threats to the Angolan Maiombe landscape were integrated into the ToC design. • One of the mitigation measures undertaken at project design and will also be actioned at the implementation phase is the engagement and inclusion of decision makers and leadership at various levels including chiefdoms, local government and national government. • The National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platform that will be established and operationalized by this project will be integral in ensuring that all stakeholders are consulted and engaged.</p>
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Moderate	<p>Risks: 1. Inter-sectorial conflict and institutional conflicts, resulting in conflicting sectoral policy frameworks and legislation, with insufficient mainstreaming of climate and conservation considerations, form a substantial barrier to achieving the project’s Outcomes and Objective 2. Currently, local communities’ rights and access to natural resources are not secured legally. Legislation processes may be very long. Therefore, there is a risk of insufficient policy and legislative basis to enable achieving the project’s Outcomes that are based on improved communities’ access to sustainable management of natural resources. Mitigation measures: 1. The risk of inter-sectorial and institutional conflict, forming a barrier to mainstreaming climate and conservation considerations into policy and legislative frameworks, was integrated into the ToC design, and are addressed through project outcomes 1.1. and 2.1., focused on enhancing National-Provincial multi-sectorial-multi-stakeholder coordination for mainstreaming conservation and climate considerations into policy and legislative frameworks. 2. The project includes interventions to enhance adequate legislation. Interim measures will be put in place through consultations with the communities and with decision-makers at all levels.</p>
Technological	Substantial	<p>Risks: 1. Weak capacities for the management of the MNP (including technological capacities) form a barrier to achieving the project Objective and to sustainability. 2. Inadequate adoption of any relevant technology as part of the introduction of alternative livelihoods and effective management of the protected areas Mitigation measures: 1. The weak management capacities of the MNP are integrated into the ToC design, and addressed through Outcome 3.1, aimed at strengthening the institutional and technical capacity for effective management of the MNP, including the deployment of conservation technologies, and including design of a strategic plan for the MNP management substantive and long-term financing. 2. a. Comprehensive training and capacity-building programs to ensure communities understand and can effectively use the relevant technology. b. Involve local stakeholders in the planning, and selection of the technology and decision-making process</p>

		can enhance buy-in and adoption. c. Strengthening local institutions and ensuring consistent technical support can also help sustain the use of technology. Integrating traditional knowledge with modern technology and providing financial incentives or subsidies can encourage adoption. d. For effective management of protected areas, establishing clear regulations, fostering community-led conservation initiatives, and ensuring continuous monitoring and adaptive management practices are crucial.
Financial and Business Model	Substantial	1. Failing to secure continued long-term financial support after project completion, can risk the sustainability of critical Project Outcomes. As a mitigation, the project was designed to promote sustainability. All Outputs are designed to minimize dependency on external financial support. Some Outputs focus on establishing long-term policy and strategic planning frameworks, many Outputs focus on various aspects and levels of capacity building, and some Outputs are specifically aimed at establishing long-term financial sustainability, through enhancing capacities to establish financial sustainability at the local level, and establishing conditions to leverage substantive resource mobilization potential for this landscape. 2. Recruiting and training community scouts without securing their long-term employment and remuneration would induce a negative attitude of the communities toward the park. As a mitigation, The implementation of this activity will be conditioned, and the recruitment and training of community forest scouts will be pending securing a permanent source for their long-term funding, in advance.
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Substantial	Risks: 1. The insufficient capacity of the EA (MINAMB) for effective project management and delivery of project Outputs may be a barrier to achieving the project Outcomes and Objectives. 2. Limited capacity of the EA Support Partner (ADPP) to manage the many sub-grantees and contracts 3. Inconsistent and uncoordinated project implementation due to the lack of standardized procedures and understanding of GEF guidelines and operational modalities by the project team, executing partners and other key stakeholders Mitigations measures: 1. The project EA (MINAMB) will be supported by an EA Support Partner (ADPP), and specific project Outputs will also be supported by additional project technical support partners (JGI, FSC, ICCF), providing thematic expertise. 2. Dedicated/full-time Finance Officer and Grants and Contracts officer included as part of the project staff 3. An operations manual will be developed within 8 months of the start of project implementation. This manual will ensure that all team members and executing partners are aligned in their approach, reducing conflicts and communication breakdown hence enhancing the overall efficiency and effectiveness of project activities.
Fiduciary	Moderate	1. Insufficient capacity of the EA for effective financial management and procurements may be a barrier to effective project implementation. 2. Full Due diligence of the Executing partners was not conducted by ADPP/CI during the PPG Phase for this project specifically . Mitigation measures: 1.

		<p>The project EA (MINAMB) will be supported by an EA Support Partner (ADPP), including the project financial management and procurements, and guided by the IA (CI-GEF) Annual Financial reports submitted by the EA Support Partner (ADPP) will be audited annually by external auditors appointed by the Executing Agency and approved by CIGEF. 2. While CI has conducted due diligence on some of the partners based on other projects and they have managed restricted funding including GEF funds, the due diligence conducted by ADPP did not take place. This task will be completed within the first 6 months of the implementation phase. Financial Due Diligence will be conducted by ADPP (with support from CI) before granting to any selected partners. Granting will only be done when partners have met the requirements based on the financial risk assessment. The outputs of this assessment will be: a. Partners identified and their respective detailed ToRs defining their roles developed and approved by the GoA. b. Financial Due Diligence (FDD) of partner institutions conducted, and applicable mitigation measures put in place/captured in their respective grant agreements c. Grant Agreements signed (to include the mitigation measures from the FDD. d. Dedicated/full-time Finance Officer and Grants and Contracts officer as part of the project staff</p>
Stakeholder	High	<p>Risk: The risk would be stakeholder Resistance or Opposition - Stakeholder resistance or opposition can hinder project progress and create challenges for implementation. Additionally, the per the baseline assessment, there is limited engagement of local communities, marginalized and vulnerable groups in past projects Mitigation measures: • A Local Communities Plan and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) have been developed to guide the engagement of local communities as well as ensure active involvement of all stakeholders in project implementation. • The National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platform that will be established and operationalized by this project will be integral in ensuring that all stakeholders are consulted and engaged.</p>
Other		NA
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	

C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Explain how the proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies, including the specific integrated program priorities, and country and regional priorities, Describe how these country strategies and plans relate to the multilateral environmental agreements, such as through NDCs, NBSAPs, etc.

For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), please identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and explain how.

(max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

This project is anchored on the GEF-8 Amazon, Congo and Critical Forests Integrated Program whose goal is to “*maintain the integrity of the globally important critical tropical forests in order to maximize multiple global environment benefits related to carbon and biodiversity*”. It is against this backdrop that the UNEP-led Congo Basin Integrated Program, on which the Angola Child Project is anchored, founded the following objective: “*To improve the conservation and effective governance of critical landscapes in the Congo Basin Forest Biome that contribute to sustaining the health of the planet, the flow of vital ecosystem services, supporting green recovery and inclusive sustainable development initiatives*”. Notably, the Mayombe forest forms part of the Guineo-Congolian Forest Biome and is the centre of endemism. Most of the Mayombe forest is a secondary tropical rainforest, with tracts of primary forest classified as Intact Forest Landscapes, mainly in Angola, in the border areas between Angola (Cabinda Province) and the Republic of Congo.

The Angola Child Project's objective and interventions are designed to align with the Congo Basin Integrated Program's interventions with the expectation that the successful delivery of the project will contribute to the Program's target outcomes/results. On this basis, per the objective and targets of the Congo Basin IP, the interventions under the Angola Project will promote effective governance of the Maiombe Forests by achieving the below which are the foundation for the realization of regional outcomes under the Congo Basin Integrated program:

- A) **Congo Basin Program Outcome 1:** Enhance policies and regulatory frameworks that enhance conservation, forest carbon sequestration and effective forest governance in critical landscapes
 - Angola Project Outcome 1.1: Strengthened National and Provincial institutional coordination for the sustainable governance of the Maiombe Forest, prioritizing conservation, with climate-proof and gender-responsive-and-inclusive policy and legal frameworks
- B) **Congo Basin Program Outcome 2:** Promote sustainable forest-related value chains by empowering local communities, and forest-dependent people, and partnering with the private sector
 - Angola Project Outcome 2.1: Updated and expanded data and information base on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola (with emphasis on stakeholder-integrated mapping of land cover, and existing and planned land use and resource use, including freshwater resources, and with gender considerations)
 - Angola Project Outcome 2.2: Sustainable resource use (including land use) approved through conservation agreements.
 - Angola Project Outcome 2.5: Resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods
- C) **Congo Basin Program Outcome 3:** Implement strategic actions for reducing deforestation/forest degradation and restoring ecosystem services scaled up in multiple landscapes across participating countries.
 - Angola Project Outcome 2.4: Strengthened capacity of community structures for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilization and management of natural resources.
- D) **Congo Basin IP Program Outcome 4:** Mobilize resources to sustain conservation and forest carbon sequestration efforts through partnerships with the private sector.
 - Angola Project Outcome 2.3: Improved management of the Angola Maiombe Forest through Forest Management Certification and integrated into the land-use plan (including RILC - Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefit)
 - Angola Project Outcome 3.1: Strengthened institutional and technical capacity of Park staff and multi-agency collaborators for effective management and law enforcement in the Maiombe National Park
- E) **Congo Basin Program Outcome 5:** Improve national and regional inter-agency coordination on efforts to maintain forest resources, protect biodiversity, enhance forest management, and restore forest ecosystems through enhanced knowledge, technology exchange and financing
 - Angola Project Outcome 4.1: Strengthened coordination, learning and sharing between the GEF-8 Congo Basin Angola Project and initiatives at the Local, National and Regional levels (the Congo Basin with emphasis on the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative - MTI)

- A. **Congo Basin Program Outcome 6:** M&E systems for the GEF-8 Congo Basin IP and the GEF-7 Congo Basin IP Program are consolidated into one robust system and database to aggregate data, and track program results, outcomes and risks under both Integrated Programs
- Angola Project Outcome 5.1.: An effective and gender-sensitive M&E system for the project

Following the above, the Angola project therefore seeks to maintain the ecological integrity of the Maiombe forest ecosystems in Angola, and their carbon capture value, by addressing the main threats and core causes of biodiversity loss, including deforestation, illegal hunting and wildlife trade, unsustainable land and resource use, human-wildlife-conflict, and invasive plant species. It will do so through a holistic approach and inclusive participatory process with all key stakeholders.

Alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework:

The project alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), is detailed in Table 8 below, specifying which of the 23 KMGBF targets the project contributes to and identifying how specific Project Outcomes contribute to each of the specified KMGBF global target.

Table 8: Alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

GBFF Targets that are aligned with the project outcomes	Angola Project outcomes
<p>TARGET 1: Ensure that all areas are under participatory, integrated and biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land and sea-use change, to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance, including ecosystems of high ecological integrity, close to zero by 2030, while respecting the rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities</p>	<p><u>Outcome 2.1:</u> Updated and expanded data and information base on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola (with emphasis on stakeholder-integrated mapping of land cover, and existing and planned land use and resource use, including freshwater resources, and with gender considerations)</p>
<p>TARGET 3: Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing Indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.</p>	<p><u>Outcome 3.1:</u> Strengthened institutional and technical capacity of Park staff and multi-agency collaborators for effective management and law enforcement in the Maiombe National Park</p> <p><u>Outcome 2.4.:</u> Strengthened capacity of community structures for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilization and management of natural resources</p>
<p>TARGET 8: Minimize the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity and increase its resilience through mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk reduction actions, including through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches, while minimizing negative and fostering positive impacts of climate action on biodiversity.</p>	<p><u>Outcome 2.5.:</u> Resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods</p>
<p>TARGET 10: Ensure that areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed sustainably, in particular through the sustainable use of</p>	<p><u>Outcome 2.2:</u> Sustainable resource use (including land use) improved through conservation agreements.</p>

GBFF Targets that are aligned with the project outcomes	Angola Project outcomes
<p>biodiversity, including through a substantial increase in the application of biodiversity-friendly practices, such as sustainable intensification, agroecological and other innovative approaches, contributing to the resilience and long-term efficiency and productivity of these production systems, and food security, conserving and restoring biodiversity and maintaining nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services</p>	<p><u>Outcome 2.3:</u> Improved management of the Angola Maiombe Forest through Forest Management Certification and integrated into the land-use plan (including RILC - Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefit)</p> <p><u>Outcome 2.4:</u> Strengthened capacity of community structures for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilization and management of natural resources</p> <p><u>Outcome 2.5:</u> Resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods</p>
<p>TARGET 11 Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as the regulation of air, water and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature.</p>	<p><u>Outcome 2.2:</u> Sustainable resource use (including land use) approved through conservation agreements.</p> <p>-</p> <p><u>Outcome 2.5.:</u> Resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods</p>
<p>TARGET 13: Take effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and facilitating appropriate access to genetic resources, and by 2030, facilitating a significant increase of the benefits shared, in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.</p>	<p><u>Outcome 1.1.:</u> Strengthened National and Provincial institutional coordination for the sustainable governance of the Maiombe Forest, prioritizing conservation, with climate-proof and gender-responsive-and-inclusive policy and legal frameworks</p> <p>-</p>
<p>TARGET 14: Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.</p>	<p><u>Outcome 1.1.:</u> Strengthened National and Provincial institutional coordination for the sustainable governance of the Maiombe Forest, prioritizing conservation, with climate-proof and gender-responsive-and-inclusive policy and legal frameworks</p>
<p>TARGET 19: Mobilize \$200 Billion per year for biodiversity from all sources (focused on: leveraging private finance; stimulating innovative schemes such as payment for ecosystem services, green bonds, biodiversity offsets and credits, and benefit-sharing mechanisms, with environmental and social safeguards; enhancing the role of collective actions, including by Indigenous peoples and local communities, and including community-based natural resource management.</p>	<p><u>Outcome 2.2:</u> Sustainable resource use (including land use) improved through conservation agreements.</p> <p><u>Outcome 2.5.:</u> Resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods</p>
<p>TARGET 20: Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation, including through</p>	<p><u>Outcome 4.1:</u> Strengthened coordination, learning and sharing between the GEF-8 Congo Basin Angola Project and initiatives at the Local, National and Regional levels</p>

GBFF Targets that are aligned with the project outcomes	Angola Project outcomes
<p>South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, fostering joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capacities, commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the Framework.</p>	<p>(the Congo Basin with emphasis on the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative - MTI)</p>
<p>TARGET 22: Ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by Indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources, and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Outcome 1.1.:</u> Strengthened National and Provincial institutional coordination for the sustainable governance of the Maiombe Forest, prioritizing conservation, with climate-proof and gender-responsive-and-inclusive policy and legal frameworks</p> <p><u>Outcome 4.1:</u> Strengthened coordination, learning and sharing between the GEF-8 Congo Basin Angola Project and initiatives at the Local, National and Regional levels (the Congo Basin with emphasis on the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative - MTI)</p>
<p>TARGET 23: Ensure gender equality in the implementation of the Framework through a gender-responsive approach, where all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by recognizing their equal rights and access to land and natural resources and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity</p>	<p><u>Outcome 2.4:</u> Strengthened capacity of community structures for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilization and management of natural resources</p> <p>- <u>Outcome 4.1:</u> Strengthened coordination, learning and sharing between the GEF-8 Congo Basin Angola Project and initiatives at the Local, National and Regional levels (the Congo Basin with emphasis on the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative - MTI)</p> <p>- <u>Outcome 5.1:</u> An effective and gender-sensitive M&E system for the project</p>

Alignment with country and regional priorities:

The project is also well aligned with country and regional priorities, including Angola’s commitments under a number of conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements, ratified by Angola, as these commitments are reflected in national policies, strategies and plans (as detailed in the Policy Coherence section, above), and in particular:

- The National Development Plan (PDN, 2023);
- National Strategy for Climate Change (ENAC, 2017);
- Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC, 2015);
- National Climate Change Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA, 2011);
- The updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP, 2019-2025);
- National Strategic Plan for a Network of Conservation Areas in Angola (PLENARCA, 2011) and Strategic Plans for a System of Protected Areas and Conservation Areas (PESAP, 2018, PESAC, 2018-2027, respectively);
- The National Forests, Wildlife and Conservation Areas Policy (2010);
- The Environmental Conservation Areas Act (2020, amended 2021 and 2024).
- Angola’s commitments under several global Conventions and MEAs (UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD, CITES, CMS, Ramsar Convention, Vienna Convention, UNTOC, and the Paris Climate Agreement);
- Angola’s commitments under several regional MEAs (SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) Network and relevant SADC Protocols; COMIFAC, and the MTI MoU)

Consistency and Alignment with CI Institutional Priorities

The project is well aligned with CI's institutional priorities, in particular, the "Southern Cross" (2020)^[4]. The latter is a framework of four current institutional priorities, specifically: a) Sustainable Landscapes and Seascapes (SLS); b) Nature for Climate; c) Ocean Conservation at Scale, and c) Innovation in Science and Finance. The linkage between this project and CI's Southern Cross is provided below:

NATURE FOR CLIMATE:

CI is working towards supporting the world to "avoid 5+ gigatonnes (Gt) CO₂ emissions per year by preventing the loss of high-carbon ecosystems, with zero loss of all irrecoverable carbon by 2030". The Maiombe Forests is a high-carbon ecosystem hence this CI-Led Angola Project will enhance its effective conservation and governance and prevent its destruction resulting in zero loss of its irrecoverable carbon.

CI also seeks "to mitigate 5+ Gt CO₂ per year through restoration and sustainable management of natural ecosystems by 2030". Through this project, CI will support Angola to mitigate at least 11.39 million metric tons of CO₂e by 2030; ensure at least 67,000 Hectares of land (excluding protected areas) are under improved practices and ensure 193,000 Ha in Maiombe National Park are under improved management.

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES AND SEASCAPES

Under this focus area, CI seeks to protect essential ecosystems and unlock sustainable financing. The Maiombe Forest is part of the Congo Basin, which is a globally recognized critical ecosystem by virtue of being an Intact Forest Landscape hence CI's involvement in its conservation and governance is imperative and feeds into the objective of this focus area.

INNOVATION AND FINANCE:

CI proactively deploys targeted innovative solutions to complex and ever-changing environmental problems to achieve sustainable impact through systemic transformative change. CI will contribute to finding innovative solutions to unlocking financing as well as to learning and knowledge sharing. Additionally, Payment for Ecosystem Services using the Conservation Agreements model will be deployed through this project.

Rio Markers

The project interventions were designed to enhance climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation. On this basis, the Rio Marker is rated Principal 2 for both Mitigation and Biodiversity conservation. The justification is provided below:

The overall project targets which directly result in the GEBs are anchored on the Climate Change Mitigation and Biodiversity Conservation. For instance, the targets set for the creation and improved management of 193,000 hectares of terrestrial protected areas (GEF Core Indicator 1) and the implementation of improved practices over 167,000 hectares of landscapes (GEF Core Indicator 4) are crucial for climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation. Protected areas serve as vital carbon sinks. They also safeguard critical habitats, ensuring the survival of diverse species and maintaining ecosystem services hence fostering their protection, conservation and/or preservation. Improved land management practices, such as sustainable agriculture and forestry, enhance soil health, increase carbon sequestration, and reduce emissions from land-use changes. These practices help maintain biodiversity by preserving habitats and promoting ecological balance. Subsequently, the mitigation of 11.39 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalent (GEF Core Indicator 6) directly addresses climate change by significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This reduction contributes to global efforts to limit temperature rise and its associated impacts on ecosystems and human communities. Additionally, directly benefitting 2,781 people, with 48% being women (GEF Core Indicator 11), ensures that local communities benefit from and support these environmental initiatives. Empowering communities, especially women, fosters social equity and resilience, enabling them to actively participate in and sustain conservation efforts. This inclusive

approach not only enhances the effectiveness of climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation but also ensures that the benefits are widely shared and sustainable.

^[1] CI. 2020. Conservation International's Southern Cross

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

We confirm that gender dimensions relevant to the project have been addressed during Project Preparation as per GEF Policy and are clearly articulated in the child Project Description (Section B).

Yes

1) Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive-measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?

Yes

If the child project expects to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment, please indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:

Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;

Yes

Improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or

Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.

Yes

2) Does the child project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

We confirm that key stakeholders were consulted during Project Preparation as required per GEF policy, their relevant roles to project outcomes has been clearly articulated in the Child Project Description (Section B) and that a Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been developed before CEO endorsement.

Yes

Select what role civil society will play in the Project:

Consulted only; Yes

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes

Co-financier;

Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body ; Yes

Executor or co-executor; Yes

Other (Please explain)

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the Child project?

Yes

And if so, has its role been described and justified in section B “Child project description”?

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguards

We confirm that we have provided information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed child project or program, including risk screenings/ assessments and, if applicable, management plans or other measures to address identified risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex E).

Yes

Please provide overall Project/Program Risk Classification

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
	Medium/Moderate		

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described during Project Preparation in the Project Description and that these activities have been budgeted and an anticipated timeline for delivery of relevant outputs has been provided. This includes budget for linking with and participation in knowledge exchange activities organized through the coordination platform.

Yes

Socio-economic Benefits

We confirm that the child project design has considered socio-economic benefits to be delivered by the project and these have been clearly described in the Project Description and will be monitored and reported on during project implementation (at MTR and TER).

Socio-economic Context:

The Maiombe forest area in Angola has significant social, cultural and historical importance. The population size within the MNP area is estimated at 56,000 people (51% women), comprised mostly of descendants of the indigenous population. Most of this large population is unemployed and subject to extreme poverty, following decades of armed

conflict, and relies mainly on unsustainable use of natural resources for its livelihood, including unsustainable (slash-and-burn) cultivation practices. The livelihoods of the local communities in the MNP area are based mostly on subsistence cultivation, hunting, fishing, logging, and small-scale husbandry. More than half of the families in the MNP area engage in household cultivation for subsistence and small-scale local commercial use. The cultivation practice mostly used is the destructive slash-and-burn practice. Crops are used mostly for subsistence and small-scale commercial purposes. Limited engagement in small-scale artisanal mining was also reported. The water resources are essential for the communities' survival, however, they are subject to pollution through poor waste management.

The MNP area is shared between 3 Municipalities in Cabinda Province – it covers all the area of the Municipality of Belize, most of the area of the Municipality of Buco-Zau, and a small area in the Municipality of Cacongo. A large part of the population living now in the MNP has been residing there for generations before the Park was gazette. The main ethnic groups of the population residing in and around the MNP area are Ibinda, Balinji, Bassundi, and Yombe. Cultural, lingual, and ethnic affiliation between local communities in most of the southern part of the forest in Angola, Congo and DRC, increase the potential for cross-border collaboration.

Socio-economic benefits:

The project is expected to result in significant socio-economic benefits for local community members residing in the Angolan Maiombe landscape, in and around the MNP.

The Angolan Maiombe forest landscape has significant social, cultural and historical importance. An estimated population of 56,000 people resides in and around the MNP, in the Maiombe forest landscape in Cabinda Province, Angola. Most of this large population is unemployed and subject to extreme poverty, following decades of armed conflict, and relies mainly on unsustainable use of natural resources for its livelihood, including unsustainable (slash-and-burn) cultivation practices.

Extensive stakeholder consultations were held with local communities and other local stakeholders in the Maiombe forest landscape, throughout the development of the MNP management plan, which formed a basis for the design of this project's interventions, in particular at the local level. The local communities in this landscape were subject to decades of armed conflict and extreme poverty and their main livelihoods are to a large extent still reliant on unsustainable use of the natural forest resources. Communities consulted and their traditional leadership have expressed their will to receive capacity support to help them shift to sustainable practices and livelihood opportunities and to participate in forest protection and biodiversity conservation. They indicate Human-Elephant-Conflict and improved access to basic services, including education, and employment opportunities, as the highest priorities. These priorities will be addressed by the project.

Through improved conservation of the Angolan Maiombe forest landscape, the project will contribute to the well-being of the human population residing in this landscape, through improved climate security, water security, health, improved opportunities for food security through sustainable natural resource management and reduced health hazards and vulnerabilities.

Moreover, the project activities are aimed at producing direct socio-economic benefits to the resident population. The project aims to benefit directly at least 2,650 (1,250 women, 1,250 men and 150 youth, at least 30% female) local community members, through improved practices and engagement in resilient and sustainable livelihoods. Moreover, the project aims to benefit indirectly at least 8,500 community members (around 15% of the population, with around 50% female) by disseminating the improved practices and sustainable livelihoods in the population through the 'Train the Trainers' approach. In the long term, the whole population of local communities residing in and around the MNP is expected to benefit from sustainable practices that will be initially supported through this project.

In particular, Component 2 of the project is aimed at improving the conservation of the Angola Maiombe landscape, through stakeholder engagement and empowerment, with a focus on empowering local communities to engage in forest conservation and sustainable management, based on strategic and spatial participatory planning. Interventions under this component include participatory integrated resource and land use planning; conservation agreements; strengthening capacity of community structures for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilization

and management of natural resources; support for establishing resilient and sustainable livelihoods, and for addressing HWC (with a focus on HEC mitigation), through a holistic approach. The long-term sustainability of local forest governance and management structures will be further strengthened through youth engagement.

Specific interventions under this component will facilitate local stakeholders' engagement in forest conservation by mitigating threats related to the unsustainable use of natural resources, through building capacities (including the provision of basic equipment and supplies) to shift to sustainable livelihoods, practices and income-generating activities. Specific interventions for this effect will be selected through in-depth participatory consultations through coordination and collaboration with existing initiatives, and assimilating lessons learned elsewhere. Such sustainable activities may include, e.g.: agroforestry and conservation cultivation; beekeeping; small livestock sustainable husbandry (e.g., cane rats); indigenous tree nurseries; Non-Timber-Forest-Products (NTFPs) sustainable use, etc. Capacity building and basic equipment and supplies will also be provided to support HWC mitigation, and in particular to mitigate human-elephant-conflict (HEC), which is a major concern of the local communities in the Angolan Maiombe landscape, through a holistic approach and in collaboration with existing initiatives. Gender and inclusion considerations will be integrated into the implementation of these activities.

Interventions under this component will also include the updating/development and implementation of community-based disaster preparedness plans and early warning systems to mitigate the impact of natural disasters and climate-related hazards on agricultural production and supply chains reviewed, assessment of local commodity supply chains, support for local gender-responsive and resilient value chains to enhance community capacities (e.g., with equipment, alternative livelihoods, green financing products, including Green Insurance Products etc.) whilst partnering with the private sector, and the development of a Business Case for Investment in Adaptation and Resilience for the Angola Maiombe Landscape. Engagement of the local communities in innovative financing mechanisms, such as carbon credits, conservation bonds, FSC Ecosystem Services verified impact income and other payment for ecosystem services (PES) mechanisms.

The project will also support capacity building and engagement of 30 Community Forest Scouts (15 women and 15 men) to work in collaboration with the MNP staff, engage in education, raise awareness, and data collection, and act as liaison agents between the communities and the MNP and related authorities. To enable the long-term sustainability of this intervention the project will seek partnerships and opportunities for permanent funding of the Community Forest Scouts engagement.

The project will further support, through Component 1, the mainstreaming of gender and local communities' inclusive access and rights for the sustainable management of natural resources, in national and provincial policies and legislative frameworks.

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
CI	GET	Angola	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	Grant	3,114,564.00	280,311.00	3,394,875.00

CI	GET	Angola	Climate Change	CC IP Matching Incentives	Grant	1,038,188.00	93,437.00	1,131,625.00
Total GEF Resources (\$)						4,152,752.00	373,748.00	4,526,500.00

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Was a Project Preparation Grant requested? true

PPG Amount (\$) 150000

PPG Agency Fee (\$) 13500

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programmings of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
CI	GET	Angola	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	112,500.00	10,125.00	122,625.00
CI	GET	Angola	Climate Change	CC IP Matching Incentives	37,500.00	3,375.00	40,875.00
Total PPG Amount (\$)					150,000.00	13,500.00	163,500.00

Please provide Justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
CI	GET	Angola	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	3,517,500.00
Total GEF Resources					3,517,500.00

Focal Area Elements

Programmings Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
CFB Congo IP	GET	4,152,752.00	28114775
Total Project Cost		4,152,752.00	28,114,775.00

Confirmed Co-financing for the project, by name and type

Please include evidence for each co-financing source for this project in the tab of the portal

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	Conservation International Foundation	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	618345
Civil Organization	Society Jane Goodall Institute (JGI)	Grant	Investment mobilized	5500
Civil Organization	Society Jane Goodall Institute (JGI)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	188177
Civil Organization	Society International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	457128
Private Sector	Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	60000
Civil Organization	Society BirdLife	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	30000
Civil Organization	Society ADPP - Ajuda de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo.	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	415000
Recipient Government	Country The Angola Ministry of Environment	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	26340625
Total Co-financing				28,114,775.00

Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) has committed \$5,500 grant co-financing from US Cooperate partners, not related to the GEF. This flexible funding will cover licensing costs of using Esri ArcGIS Software and the cost of accessing Maxar very high-resolution satellite imagery monitoring habitats, human land uses, threats and informing the implementation of the project activities.

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENT

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Coordinator	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator		Orissa Samaroo		osamaroo@conservation.org
Project Coordinator		Charity Nalyanya		cnalyanya@conservation.org

Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):

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

Name of GEF OFF	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
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ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Please indicate the page number in the Project Document where the project results and M&E frameworks can be found. Please also paste below the Project Results Framework from the Agency document. For the Integrated Programs' global/regional coordination child project, please include the program-wide results framework, inclusive of results specific to the coordination child project. For any country child project, please ensure that relevant program level indicators are included.

Objective:	To improve conservation, ecological integrity and effective governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest ecosystems, whilst fostering resilient livelihoods and multi-level stakeholder engagement for sustainable development		
Indicator(s):	<p>A) Area of terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management (GEF Core Indicator 1). Target: 193,00 Ha</p> <p>B) Area of landscapes under improved practices (GEF Core Indicator 4). Target: 167,000 Ha</p> <p>C) Greenhouse Gas Emissions mitigated (GEF Core Indicator 6). Target: 11.39 million MtCO₂e</p> <p>D) Number of people benefiting directly from GEF-financed investments disaggregated by sex (GEF Core Indicator 11). Target: 2,781, of which 48% women (1,343 women)</p>		
Expected Outcomes and Indicators	Project Baseline for Outcome Indicators	End of Project Target for Outcome Indicators	Expected Outputs, with Indicators and targets
Component 1: Promoting an enabling legislative and policy environment for the governance of the Angola Maiombe Forest			
<p>Outcome 1.1.: Strengthened National and Provincial institutional coordination for the sustainable governance of the Maiombe Forest, prioritizing conservation, with climate-proof and gender-responsive-and-inclusive policy and legal frameworks.</p> <p>Indicator 1.1: Number of institutions actively coordinating at National and Provincial levels to sustainably govern the Maiombe forest, with climate-proof, gender-responsive and inclusive policy and legal legislative frameworks adopted and enforced.</p>	<p>Baseline 1.1: Weak coordination amongst institutions operating at National and Provincial levels in the management of the Maiombe Forest ecosystem.</p>	<p>Target 1.1: At least 10 institutions actively coordinating at the National and Provincial levels to sustainably govern the Maiombe forest, with climate-proof, gender-responsive and inclusive policy and legal legislative frameworks.</p>	<p>Output 1.1.1.: Analysis of policies, legal and legislative frameworks and enforcement capacities conducted to identify gaps for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender, and community access and rights.</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.1.: Number of analysis reports of existing relevant legislation and policy instruments, and enforcement capacities, indicating key gaps for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and community access and rights.</p> <p>Target 1.1.1.: One analysis report of existing relevant legislation and policy instruments, and enforcement capacities, indicating key gaps for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and community access and rights.</p>

		<p>Output 1.1.2: Biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and local community access and rights mainstreamed in policies and legislative frameworks.</p> <p><i>Indicator 1.1.2a: Number of policies and legislative frameworks, mainstreaming Biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and local community access and rights and strengthening compliance.</i></p> <p><i>Target 1.1.2a: At least two policies and legislative frameworks mainstreaming Biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and local community access and rights, and strengthening compliance, developed or strengthened and adopted.</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 1.1.2b: Number of legislative tools summarized, annotated and translated to the local language (Fyote) and disseminated to local-level stakeholders.</i></p> <p><i>Target 1.1.2b.: At least 2 key legislative tools summarized, annotated and translated to the local language and disseminated to local-level stakeholders.</i></p> <p>Output 1.1.3: Capacity building of key stakeholders on policy transformation and compliance tools with emphasis on mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and community access and rights</p> <p><i>Indicator 1.1.3: Number of people from National and Provincial levels, disaggregated by gender, trained on useful policy transformation tools for effective forest governance including mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and community access and rights.</i></p> <p><i>Target 1.1.3: 15 people (at least 5 women) from the National and Provincial levels, trained on useful policy transformation tools for effective forest</i></p>
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			<p><i>governance including mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and community access and rights.</i></p> <p>Output 1.1.4.: A National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platform for enhancing the mainstreaming of biodiversity, climate change, gender and community rights operationalized (with at least 30% women representation).</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.4.: <i>Number of National-Provincial multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms operationalized.</i></p> <p>Target 1.1.4.: <i>One National-Provincial Multi-sectorial multi-stakeholder dialogue platform operationalised (with at least 30% women representation).</i></p> <p>Output 1.1.5.: Legislators (of the National Assembly) engaged and their capacity strengthened on biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and local community access and rights mainstreaming legislative frameworks</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.5.: <i>Number of the National Assembly members trained and engaged in strengthening biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and local community access and rights mainstreaming legislative frameworks.</i></p> <p>Target 1.1.5.: <i>At least 10 National Assembly members (at least 4 women) trained and engaged in strengthening biodiversity conservation, climate change, Natural Capital Accounting, Forest certification, gender and local community access and rights mainstreaming legislative frameworks.</i></p>
Component 2: Improved conservation of the Angola Maiombe Forest through stakeholder engagement and empowerment			
Outcome 2.1.: Updated and expanded data and information base on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola (with emphasis on stakeholder-	Baseline 2.1: There is insufficient information on the Maiombe Forest	Target 2.1: One data and information base developed and mapped, on the Maiombe Forest	Output 2.1.1.: Participatory gender-responsive and inclusive integrated resource and land-use plans developed

<p>integrated mapping of land cover, and existing and planned land use and resource use, including freshwater resources, and with gender considerations)</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.: <i>Number of data and information bases developed on the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola (with emphasis on stakeholder-integrated mapping of land cover, land use and resource use with gender considerations)</i></p>	<p>ecosystem component of Angola.</p>	<p>ecosystem component of Angola.</p>	<p>and mapped for the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.1.: <i>Number of participatory gender-responsive and inclusive integrated resource and land-use plans, and spatial plans developed for the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola, with forest conservation prioritized and Area covered.</i></p> <p>Target 2.1.1.: <i>1 participatory gender-responsive and inclusive integrated resource and land-use plan covering at least 260,000 ha of the Maiombe Forest ecosystem component of Angola.</i></p> <p>Output 2.1.2.: <i>Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) mapped for the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola and integrated into the land-use plan.</i></p> <p>Indicator 2.1.2.: <i>Number of KBAs mapped in the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola and integrated into the land-use plan.</i></p> <p>Target 2.1.2.: <i>At least 3 KBAs mapped in the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola and integrated into the land-use plan.</i></p> <p>Output 2.1.3.: <i>Irrecoverable Carbon map with an accompanying detailed simplified assessment report for the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola developed and integrated into the land-use plan</i></p> <p>Indicator 2.1.3.: <i>Number of Irrecoverable Carbon maps with an accompanying detailed simplified assessment report for the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola developed and integrated into the land-use plan</i></p> <p>Target 2.1.3.: <i>At least 1 Irrecoverable Carbon map with 1 accompanying detailed simplified assessment report of the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of Angola developed and integrated into the land-use plan.</i></p>
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<p>Outcome 2.2.: Sustainable resource use (including land use) improved through conservation agreements.</p> <p><i>Indicator 2.2.a: Area under improved practices</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 2.2.b: Number of people at the landscape sustainably utilizing natural resources through conservation agreements</i></p>	<p>Baseline 2.2a: The area around the MNP is subjected to degradation through unsustainable practices.</p> <p>Baseline 2.2b: Unsustainable utilization of resources by local communities</p>	<p>Target 2.2a: At least 67,000 ha under improved practices</p> <p>Target 2.2b: At least 2,000 people (1,000 women and 1,000 men) sustainably utilizing natural resources, in terms of conservation agreements</p>	<p>Output 2.2.1: Land use plans for West of MNP adopted and jointly implemented by communities (men and women), government, the private sector and civil society.</p> <p><i>Indicator 2.2.1: Number of land use plans for West of MNP adopted and jointly implemented by communities (men and women), government, the private sector and civil society.</i></p> <p><i>Target 2.2.1: At least 10 land use plans for West of MNP adopted and jointly implemented by communities (men and women), government, the private sector and civil society.</i></p> <p>Output 2.2.2: Conservation Agreements signed and implemented by local communities (50% women), (with guidance from CI, the Provincial Government, and the Ministry of Environment)</p> <p><i>Indicator 2.2.2: Number of conservation agreements signed and implemented by local communities and number of people represented (segregated by gender)</i></p> <p><i>Target 2.2.2: At least 10 Conservation Agreements signed and implemented by local communities, with at least 2,000 people represented (1,000 women, 1,000 men)</i></p>
<p>Outcome 2.3.: Improved management of the Angola Maiombe Forest through Forest Management Certification and integrated into the land-use plan (including RILC - Reduced Impact Logging for Climate Benefit)</p> <p><i>Indicator 2.3: Area of the Angola Maiombe forest that is FSC-certified (managed to strict environmental, social, and economic standards) and integrated into the land-use plan</i></p>	<p>Baseline 2.3: No area in the Angola Maiombe forest is under improved management through forest management certifications</p>	<p>Target 2.3: At least 100,000 ha of the Angola Maiombe forest is FSC-certified (managed to strict environmental, social, and economic standards), integrated into the land-use plan and audited annually.</p>	<p>Output 2.3.1.: The Angola Maiombe Forest is FSC-certified</p> <p><i>Indicator 2.3.1: Number of forest management certifications</i></p> <p><i>Target 2.3.1: At least 1 Forest management certification (targeting at least 100,00 Ha of the Maiombe Forest area)</i></p> <p>Output 2.3.2: Capacity building on Forest Certification (Supported by FSC through the Congo Basin Regional Coordination project)</p> <p><i>Indicator 2.3.2: Number of people trained on forest management certification (segregated by gender)</i></p>

			Target 2.3.2: At least 40 people trained in forest management certification (at least 10 women)
<p>Outcome 2.4.: Strengthened capacity of community structures for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilization and management of natural resources.</p> <p>Indicator 2.4.: Number of community structures strengthened for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilization and management of natural resources (segregated by gender)</p>	<p>Baseline 2.4: Local communities are governed by governmental structures and through traditional leadership, but there are no specific local structures for effective forest governance</p>	<p>Target 2.4: At least 15 community structures established for effective local-level forest governance and sustainable utilization and management of natural resources (with at least 30% women representatives)</p>	<p>Output 2.4.1.: Local community forest governance and management structures assessed through a participatory process.</p> <p>Indicator 2.4.1.: Number of participatory assessments of local community forest governance and management structures</p> <p>Target 2.4.1.: One participatory assessment of local community forest governance and management structures</p> <p>Output 2.4.2: Inclusive institutional and technical capacity of community forest governance structures strengthened and operationalized to sustainably manage resources and address HWC, including the capacity building and engagement of Community Forest Scouts.</p> <p>Indicator 2.4.2: Number of local community forest governance and management structures (gender-responsive and inclusive) operational and sustainably manage resources and address HWC.</p> <p>Target 2.4.2: At least 15 community forest governance and management structures (with at least 30% women) operational and sustainably manage resources and address HWC.</p> <p>Output 2.4.3.: Youth engagement among local communities in the Angola Maiombe landscape management, through the JGI Roots & Shoots (R&S) programme.</p> <p>Indicator 2.4.3: Number of Roots and Shoots Clubs set up and operationalized to increase youth engagement.</p> <p>Target 2.4.3: At least 10 Roots & Shoots Clubs established and operationalised, with a total of at least 150 youth participants (at least 50 girls).</p>
<p>Outcome 2.5.: Resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods</p>	<p>Baseline 2.5: An estimated population of 56,000 people (51% women) reside in the Maiombe forest ecosystems component of</p>	<p>Target 2.5: At least 2,000 people (1,000 women and 1,000 men) sustainably utilizing natural resources, in terms of conservation agreements (possibly the</p>	<p>Output 2.5.1: Local commodity supply chains assessed, and local gender-responsive and resilient value chains supported, enhancing community</p>

<p>Indicator 2.5: Number of beneficiaries (disaggregated by sex) with resilient and sustainable alternative livelihoods</p>	<p>Angola. They are subjected to extreme poverty and their livelihoods are based mainly on unsustainable practices.</p>	<p>same beneficiaries under Outcome Target 2.2b)</p>	<p>capacities whilst partnering with the private sector</p> <p>Indicator 2.5.1a: Number of local commodity supply chains assessed.</p> <p>Target 2.5.1a.: At least 10 local commodity supply chains assessed.</p> <p>Indicator 2.5.1b: Number of direct beneficiaries (e.g., support for alternative livelihoods, training through Training of Trainers Approach, equipment, green financing products including Green Insurance Products etc.)</p> <p>Target 2.5.1b⁽¹¹⁴⁾: At least 500 (250 women, 250 men) direct beneficiaries and possibly the beneficiaries of Output 2.2.2 (2,000 beneficiaries of which 50% are women)</p>
<p>Component 3: Park management</p>			
<p>Outcome 3.1: Strengthened institutional and technical capacity of Park staff and multi-agency collaborators for effective management and law enforcement in the Maiombe National Park</p> <p>Indicator 3.1: Number of Hectares of protected areas with improved METT Score</p>	<p>Baseline 3.1: Insufficient capacity to effectively manage the MNP. The METT Score at the PPG Phase is 40 and this is provided in the Biodiversity Tracking Tool)</p>	<p>Target 3.1: 193,000 ha of protected areas with at least 70% improvement in METT Score (hence the target is reaching atleast 68 METT Score)</p>	<p>Output 3.1.1: Capacity building and operational support to the MNP Park staff, and collaborating agencies, for effective management of the MNP, law enforcement, and caretaking of confiscated wildlife, including capacity building support for the establishment of the Chimpanzee Sanctuary</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.1.: Number of trainees on Park management, law enforcement and caretaking of confiscated wildlife</p> <p>Target 3.1.1.: At least all 17 rangers of the MNP and at least 13 officers of collaborating agencies in Cabinda trained for effective Park management and law enforcement (including training on the new technologies introduced), and at least 2 veterinary doctors and 4 chimpanzee caretakers trained on caretaking of confiscated apes (Total is 36, with at least 25% women)</p> <p>Output 3.1.2: Deployment of Conservation technologies including appropriate communications network,</p>

		<p>vigilance and data collection technologies, among others</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.2a: <i>Number of conservation technologies introduced into the MNP and support its effective management.</i></p> <p>Target 3.1.2a: <i>At least 2 conservation technologies introduced into the MNP and support its effective management.</i></p> <p>Indicator 3.1.2b: <i>Number of patrols guided by information obtained from data collection tools/technologies introduced.</i></p> <p>Target 3.1.2b: <i>At least 30 patrols guided through using new tools/technologies introduced.</i></p> <p>Output 3.1.3.: <i>Completion of a strategic analysis and plan for adequate long-term financing for the MNP, designed to meet the desired level of park management (and initial financing mobilized)</i></p> <p>Indicator 3.1.3a: <i>Number of reports of costing scenarios for the MNP long-term management</i></p> <p>Target 3.1.3a: <i>One report of costing scenarios for the MNP long-term management</i></p> <p>Indicator 3.1.3b: <i>Number of Financing plans developed for the MNP (as a stand-alone or as part of a larger sustainable finance approach to Angolan protected areas)</i></p> <p>Target 3.1.3b: <i>One Financing plan developed for the MNP</i></p>
<p>Component 4: Knowledge management and transboundary coordination</p>		

<p>Outcome 4.1.: Strengthened coordination, learning and sharing between the GEF-8 Congo Basin Angola Project and initiatives at the Local, National and Regional levels (the Congo Basin with emphasis on the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative - MTI)</p> <p>Indicator 4.1: <i>Number of initiatives at various levels coordinating and sharing with the Congo Basin Angola Project</i></p>	<p>Baseline 4.1: Weak coordination, learning and sharing between projects and programs at various levels in the Maiombe Ecosystems landscape and the Congo Basin as a whole.</p>	<p>Target 4.1: Angola Congo Basin project coordinating, learning and sharing with at least 2 initiatives in the MTI landscape and at least 1 initiative in the broader Congo Basin (through the Congo Regional Coordination Project led by UNEP).</p>	<p>Output 4.1.1: A project Knowledge Management and Communications Strategy developed (including gender, equality and inclusion aspects)</p> <p>Indicator 4.1.1: <i>Number of Knowledge Management and Communications Strategies developed (including Gender, equality and inclusion aspects)</i></p> <p>Target 4.1.1.: <i>One Knowledge Management and Communications Strategies (including Gender, equality and inclusion aspects) developed and implemented</i></p> <p>Output 4.1.2: Participation of Angolan participants in the Congo Basin 3-day Annual Forums organised by UNEP</p> <p>Indicator 4.1.2: <i>Number of Angolan participants in the Congo Basin 3-day Annual Forums organised by UNEP.</i></p> <p>Target 4.1.2: <i>2 Angola participants in the Annual Congo Basin Forum (1 rep from the government of Angola and 1 rep from the PMU, both sponsored by the project [Total 10 participants (2 per year for 5 years, 50% female]</i></p> <p>Output 4.1.3: Learning and exposure visits facilitated with the Congo Basin Child Projects (and where applicable coordinated by the Congo Basin Regional Coordination Project)</p> <p>Indicator 4.1.3: <i>Number of Learning and Exposure Visits</i></p> <p>Target 4.1.3: <i>At least 5 learning and exposure trips (1 trip per year, 2 representatives from the Government of Angola per year, [Total 10 participants (2 people per year for 5 years), 50% women]</i></p> <p>Output 4.1.4: Knowledge management products integrating gender, equality and inclusion aspects generated, and disseminated at local, national and regional levels (integrating lessons learnt and best case practices on traditional knowledge for natural resource management, and information on the</p>
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			<p>project as a model for Nature-Based-Solutions)</p> <p>Indicator 4.1.4: <i>Number of policy briefs, fact sheets and storytelling videos (integrating gender, equality and inclusion aspects) prepared and disseminated by the end of the project.</i></p> <p>Target 4.1.4: <i>At least 5 policy briefs, 5 fact sheets and 5 storytelling videos integrating gender, equality and inclusion aspects prepared and disseminated by the end of the project.</i></p> <p>Output 4.1.5: Transboundary dialogue for collaborative implementation of the MTI strategic plan between Angola, DRC, the Republic of Congo and Gabon is re-activated and enhanced.</p> <p>Indicator 4.1.5a: <i>Number of Angolan participants in the Maiombe transboundary technical dialogue meetings (organised by the Congo Regional Coordination Project)</i></p> <p>Target 4.1.5a: <i>At least 2 Angolan participants in the Maiombe transboundary technical dialogues annual meetings (1 trip per year with 2 representatives from the Government during 3 days for 5 years, [Total 10 participants (2 people per year for 5 years), 50% women</i></p> <p>Indicator 4.1.5b: <i>Number of communication and collaboration protocols to support the implementation of the MTI strategic plan developed and implemented.</i></p> <p>Target 4.1.5b: <i>One communication and collaboration protocol to support the implementation of the MTI strategic plan developed and implemented.</i></p> <p>Indicator 4.1.5c: <i>Number of simple low-cost communication channels introduced.</i></p>
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Target 4.1.5c: At least 1 simple low-cost communication channel introduced (e.g., WhatsApp group)

Indicator 4.1.5d: Number of exchange visits of decision makers and legislators between the MTI member countries (supported by ICCF and UNEP)

Target 4.1.5.d: At least 4 exchange visits of decision makers and legislators between the MTI member countries (at least one in each country, supported by ICCF)

Component 5: Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)			
<p>Outcome 5.1.: An effective and gender-sensitive M&E system for the project</p> <p><i>Indicator 5.1.: Number of gender-sensitive M&E systems established and implemented for the project.</i></p>	<p>Baseline 5.1: No M&E framework for the Project</p>	<p>Target 5.1: 5 Annual Project Implementation Reports (PIRs) approved by CI-GEF and submitted to the GEF.</p>	<p>Output 5.1.1.: Periodic M&E reports submitted to CI-GEF Agency</p> <p><i>Indicator 5.1.1.: Number of periodic M&E Reports submitted to CI-GEF Agency.</i></p> <p>Target 5.1.1.: 20 Quarterly technical and financial reports; 2 Biodiversity Tracking tool (METT); 1 Core Indicator worksheet</p> <p>Output 5.1.2.: Independent evaluations conducted in accordance with the GEF and CI-GEF Evaluation Policies</p> <p><i>Indicator 5.1.2.: Number of Mid-Term Evaluation and Terminal Evaluation Reports</i></p> <p>Target 5.1.2.: One Mid-Term Evaluation and One Terminal Evaluation Report approved by CI-GEF and submitted to the GEF</p>

[1] To avoid double counting beneficiaries, target 2.5.5 will report zero in case the 500 and 2000 people are the same as the beneficiaries from output 2.2.2 or any other outputs

ANNEX D: STATUS OF UTILIZATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

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

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed
Consultant-ProDoc Development	70,698.00	55,807.00	14,891.00
Personnel Level of Effort-Project Design Coordination	32,592.00	2,282.79	30,309.21
Travel, Meetings, Workshops and supplies e.g., banners etc.	46,710.00	15,362.03	31,347.97
Total	150,000.00	73,451.82	76,548.18

ANNEX E: PROJECT MAP AND COORDINATES

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Maiombe	-9.2667	21.2333	145,678

Location Description:

Maiombe National Park

Activity Description:

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where project interventions are taking place as appropriate.



ANNEX F: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS DOCUMENTS INCLUDING RATING

Attach agency safeguard datasheet/assessment report(s), including ratings of risk types and overall project/program risk classification as well as any management plans or measures to address identified risks and impacts (as applicable).

Title

20230527_ CI GCF_GEF ESS Screening Form_GEF8 Angola

20240617_Stakeholder Engagement Plan

20240617_Accountability and Grievance Mechanism

20240517_Gender Mainstreaming Plan

20240617_ Indigenous Peoples Plan

20240615 CI GEF second ESS Screening Report Angola

ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Please upload the budget table here.

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)								Sub-Total	M&E	PM C	Total (USD eq.)	Responsible Entity (Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency) [1]
		Component 1	Component 2					Component 3	Component 4					
		Outcome 1.1	Outcome 2.1	Outcome 2.2	Outcome 2.3	Outcome 2.4	Outcome 2.5	Outcome 3.1	Outcome 4.1 KM					
	Personnel - Stakeholder Engagement and Field Coordinator – (F/T)	9,801	9,801	9,801	9,801	-	19,602	39,204	-	98,010	-	-	98,010	ADP
	Personnel - Project Technical and Operational Lead – (F/T)	62,403	50,073	50,886	50,886	50,886	49,368	69,053	-	383,555	13,613	28,793	425,961	ADP
	Personnel - Finance Manager - (P/T)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	86,273	86,273	ADP
	Personnel - Grant and Contracts Officer (F/T)	22,869	19,602	-	-	-	-	22,869	-	65,340	-	-	65,340	ADP
	Personnel - Communications Officer - (P/T)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54,350	54,350	-	-	54,350	ADP
	Personnel - Gender and Safeguards Specialist - (F/T)	19,820	13,874	13,874	11,892	-	23,784	15,560	-	98,804	-	-	98,804	ADP
	Personnel - M&E officer - (P/T)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	72,600	-	72,600	ADP
	Contractual Service - Yearly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49,000	49,000	ADP

Personnel and Professional Services	Financial Audit of the project													
	International Consultant - Conservation Agreements Consultant	-	-	14,652	-	-	-	-	-	14,652	-	-	14,652	ADP P
	International Consultant - Gender and Safeguards Consultant, including time spent on various activities outlined in Gender Action Plan	10,670	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,670	-	-	10,670	ADP P
	International Consultant - Integrated Participatory Land-Use Planning and GIS Mapping Consultant.	-	24,222	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,222	-	-	24,222	ADP P
	International Consultant - Irrecoverable Carbon Mapping Consultant	-	10,725	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,725	-	-	10,725	ADP P
	International Consultant - Law enforcement training for park staff and collaborating partners	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,667	-	29,667	-	-	29,667	ADP P
	International Consultant - International Strategic Landscape Advisor	31,931	31,931	31,931	31,931	31,931	31,931	-	-	191,586	-	-	191,586	ADP P
	International Consultant - Livelihood and HEC Thematic Expert	-	-	-	-	-	69,630	-	-	69,630	-	-	69,630	ADP P
	International Consultant - Local Commodity Supply Chains Assessor	-	-	-	-	-	7,150	-	-	7,150	-	-	7,150	ADP P

<i>International Consultant - Local Communities Governance Structures Analyst and Capacity Building</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,652	-	14,652	-	-	14,652	ADP P
<i>International Consultant - Mid-Term Review (MTR) - International consultant</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,000	-	35,000	ADP P
<i>International Consultant - MNP Financing Planner</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,300	-	14,300	-	-	14,300	ADP P
<i>International Consultant - Policy Transformation and Compliance Tools Thematic Consultant/Trainer</i>	10,725	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,725	-	-	10,725	ADP P
<i>International Consultant - Project Knowledge Management and Communications Strategist, including gender and safeguards aspects</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,875	17,875	-	-	17,875	ADP P
<i>International Consultant - Terminal Evaluation (TE) - International consultant</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,000	-	35,000	ADP P
<i>National/Local Consultant - Community Scouts Trainers</i>	-	-	-	-	-	19,932	-	-	19,932	-	-	19,932	ADP P
<i>National/Local Consultant - Conservation</i>	-	-	12,672	-	-	-	-	-	12,672	-	-	12,672	ADP P

Agreements Consultant													
National/ Local Consultant - Integrated Participatory Land-Use Planning and GIS Mapping Consultant.	-	22,752	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,752	-	-	22,752	ADP P
National/ Local Consultant - Irrecoverable Carbon Mapping Consultant	-	9,900	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,900	-	-	9,900	ADP P
National/ Local Consultant - Law enforcement training for park staff and collaborating partners	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,760	-	23,760	-	-	23,760	ADP P
National/ Local Consultant - Livelihood and HEC Thematic Expert	-	-	-	-	-	75,504	-	-	75,504	-	-	75,504	ADP P
National/ Local Consultant - Local Commodity Supply Chains Assessor	-	-	-	-	-	9,900	-	-	9,900	-	-	9,900	ADP P
National/ Local Consultant - Local Communities Governance Structures Analyst and Capacity Building	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,672	-	12,672	-	-	12,672	ADP P
National/ Local Consultant - Local Community Guides	-	2,750	2,750	-	-	-	5,500	-	11,000	-	-	11,000	ADP P
National/ Local Consultant - MNP Financing Planner	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,900	-	9,900	-	-	9,900	ADP P

<i>National/ Local Consultant - Policy Transformation and Compliance Tools Thematic Consultant/Tr ainer</i>	2,200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,200	-	-	2,200	ADP P
<i>National/ Local Consultant - Policy Transformation and Compliance Tools Thematic Consultant/Tr ainer</i>	4,950	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,950	-	-	4,950	ADP P
<i>National/ Local Consultant - Project Knowledge Management and Communicati ons Strategist, including gender and safeguards aspects</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,550	11,550	-	-	11,550	ADP P
<i>Service Provider/ Local - Translation Services for written material and interpretation (Fyote)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,320	1,320	-	-	1,320	ADP P
<i>Land use planning multi- stakeholder meetings</i>	-	-	16,280	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,280	-	-	16,280	ADP P
<i>Car hire with a driver for all project activities in Cabinda Province (2)</i>	55,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	55,000	-	-	165,000	-	-	165,000	ADP P
<i>Community in-situ meetings, consultations and training activities (1)</i>	-	13,200	13,200	-	26,400	-	13,200	13,200	13,200	79,200	-	-	79,200	ADP P

Travel, Meetings and Workshops	<i>Gender and safeguard training for core project staff and key stakeholders (1 session, year 1, 5 days. 30 participants, Cabinda)</i>	13,200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,200	-	-	13,200	ADP P
	<i>Inception Workshop (Includes 1st year PSC)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,850	-	14,850	ADP P
	<i>Monitoring and Evaluation visits</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36,575	-	36,575	ADP P
	<i>Multi-agency joint training workshops for improved MNP management</i>	-	-	-	-	-	63,690	-	63,690	-	-	-	63,690	ADP P
	<i>National/Provincial multi-sectorial platforms</i>	46,200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46,200	-	-	46,200	ADP P
	<i>Participation in regional/international meetings and other relevant forums, promotion of the project</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	44,682	44,682	-	-	-	44,682	ADP P
	<i>Project Steering Committee</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,000	17,000	ADP P
	<i>Training for community scouts and Park Rangers</i>	-	-	-	-	27,830	-	-	27,830	-	-	-	27,830	ADP P
	<i>Transboundary technical coordination meetings</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	39,402	39,402	-	-	-	39,402	ADP P
<i>Micro-grants to local communities to strengthen</i>	-	-	-	-	340,725	340,725	-	-	681,450	-	-	681,450	ADP P	

Grants and Agreements	project sustainability													
	Sub-grant BirdLife: Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) mapping and training	-	-	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	150,000	-	-	150,000	ADP
	Sub-grant FSC: Forest Management Certification	-	-	-	217,207	-	-	-	-	217,207	-	-	217,207	ADP
	Sub-grant ICCF: Policy and legislation analysis and development and legislators training	255,728	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	255,728	-	-	255,728	ADP
	Sub-grant: JGI: Youth Engagement / Training on caretaking of confiscated wildlife / Conservation technologies deployment and training	-	15,632	15,632	-	81,716	26,439	361,698	52,393	553,510	-	-	553,510	ADP
Equipment	Computers (5) and IT equipment	1,875	1,875	1,875	1,875	1,875	1,875	1,875	1,875	15,000	-	15,000	ADP	
	Field supplies kit to park rangers and scouts	-	-	-	-	13,500	-	-	-	13,500	-	-	13,500	ADP
Other Operating Cost	Office telephone, internet expense and office supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,684	16,684	ADP
	Preparation of communication/ dissemination tools (brochures, posters, etc.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,560	21,560	-	-	21,560	ADP
Grand Total		547,372	237,337	344,553	334,592	585,863	686,840	752,600	258,207	3,747,364	207,638	197,750	4,152,752	

Foot-
notes

1

In-situ meetings, consultations, and training activities are conducted to facilitate: integrated land-use planning, establish conservation agreements, enhance local-level governance, promote sustainable livelihoods and Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) mitigation strategies, improve park management practices, and incorporate local knowledge into a comprehensive knowledge management plan.

Two-day workshops are scheduled annually over the course of three years (year 2, 3 and 4), with an anticipated engagement of 400 participants per topic.

- 2 Vehicle rental services, inclusive of a professional driver. The costs for maintenance and fuel are encompassed within the service package.
- 3 Other Operating costs or indirect costs are incurred during the grant period to support the grant's core deliverables against the grant outcomes. CI conducted due diligence of ADPP and verified that there is a Cost Policy and that those indirect or other operating costs are auditable. These costs have been allocated across the expense categories using a consistent "best practices" methodology and are excluded from grants and agreements as well as evaluation consultancies.

Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

ANNEX I: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS

From GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF.