

GEF-8 REQUEST FOR CEO CHILD ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

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General Child Project Information

Child Project Title

Biodiversity Conservation through Nature-based Solutions as Pillars of the Blue & Green Economy in the Union of Comoros.

Region	GEF Project ID
Comoros	11261
Country(ies)	Type of Project
Comoros	FSP
GEF Agency(ies)	GEF Agency Project ID
UNDP	9541
Project Executing Entity(s)	Project Executing Type
General Directorate of Environment and Forests	Government
GEF Focal Area (s)	Submission Date
Multi Focal Area	6/27/2024
Type of Trust Fund	Project Duration (Months)
GET	60
GEF Project Grant: (a)	Agency Fee(s) Grant: (b)
8,460,547.00	761,448.00
PPG Amount: (c)	PPG Agency Fee(s): (d)
200,000.00	18,000.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	Total Co-financing
9439995	98,663,790.00

Project Sector (CCM Only)

AFOLU

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
Significant Objective 1	Significant Objective 1	Significant Objective 1	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 BGI project addresses the Comorian economy's unsustainable use of natural resources contributing to the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services, poor organic waste management, and the country's vulnerability to climate change. It aims to use protected areas as drivers of sustainable development in the Union of Comoros, catalyzing the transformation of the food and tourism sectors as pillars of the Blue & Green Economy through nature positive action, decision-making and investments. Component 1 will mainstream nature-based solutions into development and planning processes across the tourism and food economic sectors through improved governance, budgetary and financial action. Under this component, the project will integrate ecosystem services values in national and sectorial accounting through NCA and ESV diagnostic studies. Under component 2, and with support from enhanced international and regional cooperation through the BGI GCP, the project will focus on building capacities with the aim to identify and confirm most promising NbS investments for support, and then provide specific support in the 2 target sectors (tourism and food sectors), together with ecosystem restoration investments to enhance ecosystem services provided by NPs. Component 3 will enable mainstreaming cross-cutting issues of knowledge management and gender and People with Disabilities (PWDs) inclusiveness into other project components and outputs, with support from the GCP as a key element of the knowledge management approach. Component 4 is dedicated to project monitoring and evaluation.

This project is part of and will contribute to the BGI integrated Programme which objective is to facilitate nature-positive development and reduce ecosystem degradation in SIDS by valuing nature and applying NbS with specific application to the food, tourism, and urban sectors.

Child Project Description Overview

Project Objective

Using protected areas as drivers of sustainable development in the Union of Comoros, catalyzing the transformation of the food and tourism sectors as pillars of the Blue & Green Economy through nature positive action, decision-making and investments

Project Components

Component 1. Mainstreaming nature-based solutions into development and planning processes across the tourism and food economic sectors through improved governance, budgetary and financial action.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,818,000.00	12,050,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1.1. Natural capital is compiled and integrated into public policy information systems and political processes to better inform nature-positive decision-making.

Indicator 9 (aligned with IP indicator 1.1.2): Number of natural capital assessments, ecosystem valuations, tools and mechanisms embedded into national fiscal policies/ economic accounts.

Outcome 1.2 Governance systems improved at the national and sub-national level for nature-positive NbS and gender-responsive planning in the tourism and food sectors (agroforestry and fisheries).

Indicator 10 (aligned with IP indicator 1.2.1): Number of policies, legislation & strategic planning frameworks endorsed to integrate NbS, nature-climate integrated development, and/or improved sector planning into key economic sectors in a gender-responsive approach.

Outcome 1.3. Strengthened and coherent enabling environment that incentivizes private sector investment in scalable sustainable NbS across the tourism and food sectors, which supports the growth of the Blue and Green Economy.

Indicator 11 (aligned with IP indicator 1 1.3.2): Number of new blue and/or green innovative finance mechanisms actively incentivizing nature-positive/NbS investments

Output:

Output 1.1.1: Available data on environmental statistics, natural resources and ecosystem assessments, as well as ecosystem services valuation, are gathered, reviewed, and integrated into a gender-sensitive online database accessible to public agencies

Output 1.1.2: Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) modules developed following UN SEEA international standard and prioritized to align with national planning

Output 1.1.3: Improved capacity of decision makers and natural resource managers to value ecosystems services and operationalize NCA and ESV.

Output 1.2.1 Enhanced availability, quality, and accessibility of scientific data and assessments to support evidence-based decision-making and the sustainable implementation of NbS and gender-responsive planning through multi-sector approaches in the tourism and food sectors.

Output 1.2.2 Revised and updated sectoral development strategies, policies and framework with NbS and gender responsive planning mainstreamed, integrated at national and sub-national levels through a multi-sectoral and participatory approach.

Output 1.2.3 Improved capacity among decision-makers to understand the value of NbS as the foundation of human well-being, system interactions through multi-sectoral programming, and its potential to attract private investment for the development of the green and blue economy in Comoros.

Output 1.3.1 Improved policy framework that negates unsustainable activities by the private sector across key sectors supported by Comoros terrestrial and marine ecosystems.

Output 1.3.2 Incentive mechanisms in place that enhance private sector investment in NbS through carbon finance, PPPs, tax breaks, nature-positive subsidies and investments, certification and concessions.

Component 2. Implementation of scaled and sustainable NbS in key ecosystems in terrestrial and marine PAs supported by private investment in the tourism and food sectors

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
5,203,664.00	74,655,514.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2.1. Improved capacities of local communities and businesses of the targeted protected areas to monitor NbS activities, expand market opportunities to access private sector investment, and implement scaled sustainable Nature-based Solutions

Indicator 12 (aligned with IP indicator 2.2.1): % of beneficiaries and partners surveyed that report increased capacity to execute innovative NbS at seascape and landscape levels, disaggregated by gender, sector, youth, IP, vulnerable people

Outcome 2.2 Nature based solutions scaled and implemented in key ecosystems supporting the tourism and food systems through inclusive, gender sensitive and multi-sectoral approaches.

Indicator 13 (aligned with IP indicator 2.1.1): Number of NbS 'replication-ready' pipeline NbS projects with measurable outcomes and targets to conserve biodiversity and preserve ecosystem health and ecosystem services.

Indicator 14 (aligned with IP indicator 2.1.2): % of the NbS investments that empower women participation (women hold senior management role, enterprise owned by women, women are >50% workforce, or products and services are specifically benefit women).

Indicator 15 (aligned with IP indicator 2.3.1): Number of private sector partnerships created at the domestic, regional and global levels to provide catalytic and investment capital at scale to accelerate the adoption of proven nature-based solutions.

Output:

Output 2.1.1 Improved market baselines and gaps on NbS opportunities across the food and tourism sectors in the local communities determined through feasibility assessments and market analysis to inform blue and green value chains in the 6 NPs for the two sectors.

Output 2.1.2 Local businesses and community empowered and able to access private sector finance for inclusive landscape/seascape planning, natural resources management, and integrated, multi-sectoral development through support to the development of business models and plans that improves their ability to attract investment in the green and blue economy.

Output 2.1.3 Local community capacity (incl. women and youth) strengthened to ensure assessment of natural resource stock, surveillance and activity monitoring in the target areas of intervention.

Output 2.2.1 Enhanced NbS for food security and sustainable fisheries through (i) implementation of fisheries management plans to restore coastal and marine ecosystems (mangroves, coral reefs, beaches) which boost fish stocks, (ii) implementation of, and capacity building for, local authorities, businesses, and fishers on scaled circular organic waste management practices (organic waste collection from tourism, chicken stock etc.), strengthened sustainable fishing techniques and access to alternative fish species through behavioral change and management plans and (iii) scaled and enhanced biogas/biofertilizer production, composting technologies, (supporting soil augmentation for reforestation and agroforestry) and cold chain infrastructure and fish processing technologies to reduce post-catch losses, further supported by private sector investments.

Output 2.2.2 Strengthened NbS through integration of agroforestry and sustainable food systems ensuring protected areas allow for economic activities by (i) restoring agroforestry and forest ecosystems (native species) in degraded areas within the 6 National Parks to restore soil fertility (supported by biofertilizer, Output 2.2.1), improve water storage, and reduce coastal erosion which enhances food production and advances tourism potential, (ii) development of agroforestry systems producing high-value products (e.g., organic food, cosmetics) for local and tourism markets, and (iii) inclusive and gender-sensitive capacity building for farmers and local communities to change behaviors towards more climate-smart agricultural practices (e.g. composting, mulching, agroforestry, hedging) and sustainable land management, strengthening watersheds/waterways and reducing negative impact on marine ecosystems.

Output 2.2.3 Strengthened economic empowerment through development of nature-positive sustainable eco-tourism to advance economic opportunities in local communities through (i) Enhanced development of eco-friendly tourism infrastructure in the 6 National Parks (e.g., hiking trails, beaches, nature-watching, lodges), and (ii) inclusive and gender-sensitive capacity building for local communities to develop and manage eco-tourism businesses through implementation of tourism plans and activities.

Component 3. Inclusive and Gender-Sensitive Knowledge Management and Partnership Building to Advance Nature-Based Solutions at Local, National, Regional, and Global Levels.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
783,000.00	7,135,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 3.1 Technical knowledge and lessons learned from the project's experiences are compiled, evaluated, and translated into knowledge products that are inclusive and gender sensitive.

Indicator 16 (aligned with IP indicator 3.2.2): End users' assessment of the relevance, accessibility, usefulness and impacts of the knowledge products, tools and guidelines

Indicator 17 (aligned with IP indicator 3.2.3): Number of good practices and gender sensitive lessons learned identified, documented and disseminated by the child projects & GCP.

Outcome 3.2 Positive synergies and inclusive partnerships are built with existing regional and global partners/actors, to drive collaboration and leverage additional resources to invest at scale on NbS in Comoros

Indicator 18 (aligned with IP indicator 3.2.1): Number of new partnerships leveraged to increase (scale up) and expand (scale out) nature-positive development, including NbS.

Output:

Output 3.1.1 Establishment of comprehensive and robust knowledge management and learning framework and system that support tracking, documenting, and sharing lessons learned from the project.

Output 3.1.2 Gender sensitive communication, awareness and advocacy strategy that focuses on engaging key stakeholders (CSO, private sector, local communities, academia), policy makers and the broader public to ensure support for the NbS solutions and enhance interest in replication and scaling.

Output 3.2.1 Entry points for partnerships and knowledge sharing nationally, regionally, and internationally identified with an inclusive action plan determined and enforced for improved coordination and leveraging of partnership opportunities and additional resources.

Output 3.2.2 Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building by engaging with existing regional and international platforms (BGI GCP, GLISPA, and PANORAMA), including participation in thematic hubs, communities of practice, networks, conferences, and virtual events.

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
253,000.00	125,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 4.1. Integrated, gender-sensitive and inclusive project M&E is implemented.

Indicator 19 (aligned with IP indicator 3.1.1): Number of program milestones achieved as per the established M&E plan, demonstrating alignment with management and coordination standards

Output:

Output 4.1.1 Comprehensive M&E framework developed that ensures inclusive M&E, defines roles and responsibilities, includes monitoring of the indicators that are inclusive and align with GEF indicators in the Project Results Framework; monitoring of project risks and Social and Environmental Safeguard; data sources and periodic reporting requirements (PIRs, other); and independent evaluations (MTR, TE).

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1. Mainstreaming nature-based solutions into development and planning processes across the tourism and food economic sectors through improved governance, budgetary and financial action.	1,818,000.00	12,050,000.00
Component 2. Implementation of scaled and sustainable NbS in key ecosystems in terrestrial and marine PAs supported by private investment in the tourism and food sectors	5,203,664.00	74,655,514.00
Component 3. Inclusive and Gender-Sensitive Knowledge Management and Partnership Building to Advance Nature-Based Solutions at Local, National, Regional, and Global Levels.	783,000.00	7,135,000.00
M&E	253,000.00	125,000.00
Subtotal	8,057,664.00	93,965,514.00
Project Management Cost	402,883.00	4,698,276.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	8,460,547.00	98,663,790.00

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

Current situation

Comoros is an archipelago located in the Indian Ocean, off the coast of East Africa and North-West of Madagascar. It is composed of four islands – Ngazidja (also known as Grande Comore), Mwali (or Moheli), Ndzuani (also known as Anjouan) and Mayotte. While the first three islands make up the Union of the Comoros ('Comoros' thereafter), Mayotte is a French overseas department. The Comoros is densely populated, with about 465 inhabitants per km². About half of the 800,000 population lives on Ngazidja, where the Union's Capital, Moroni, is also located. Comoros, Small-Island Developing State (SIDS), is ranked 156 out of the 191 countries and territories rated under the Human Development Index in 2021^[1]. Key socio-economic indicators include: 42% of the country's population falls under the national poverty line and 23.5% is in extreme poverty; 44% of the population is moderately or severely food insecure. The incidence of poverty varies from one island to another and is typically higher in Ndzuani's rural areas. Population growth has averaged 2.4% since 2010

with a fertility rate of 4.3 children per woman. The population, 54% of which is under 20, is predicted to increase by 50% by 2035^[2]. The Comorian economy is poorly diversified and among the most food-import dependent in the world. Owing to its volcanic soil, the conditions in Comoros are highly favorable to agriculture, which accounts for 70.4% of land use^[3]. Agriculture is the leading sector in terms of provision of jobs, represented 35.5% of the national GDP in 2021^[4] and over half of the country's export revenues^[5]. The sector is divided between (i) familial subsistence rainfed agriculture and (ii) commercial agriculture. Familial subsistence rainfed agriculture occupies 80% of the rural population which produces mainly maize, cassava, bananas, taro, potatoes and coconuts. Commercial agriculture is based on three cash crops – vanilla, ylang ylang and cloves – which constitute the bulk of the country's exports. Agriculture in Comoros is mainly rainfed and is characterized by unsustainable farming practices dominated by slash-and-burn techniques and monoculture cropping for cash-crops. With an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) 86 times the size of the Comoros land mass^[6], fishing is also an important component of the primary sector since it accounts for nearly a quarter of agricultural GDP and contributed to 7.5% of the national GDP. The sector employs around 5% of the active population^[7]. The fisheries sector can be divided into three categories: (i) subsistence, (ii) artisanal, and (iii) commercial. Most of the fishing is small-scale and falls into the first two categories. Small-scale fishing by domestic vessels focuses on coastal waters and high-value demersal species like snappers and groupers. Industrial fishing is exclusively conducted by a foreign tuna fleet further from the coast and with no landing in Comoros^[8]. There are other underexploited resources such as lobsters, cephalopods, sea cucumbers and bivalve mollusks. Considering the limited availability of agricultural land, fisheries is a key element of food security in Comoros^[9]. The industrial sector is virtually inexistent^[10] while the tertiary sector contributes the most to economic activities in Comoros and is led by commerce and public-sector services. However, this sector of services is largely characterized by its informality. In contrast to other countries in the south-western Indian Ocean, the tourism sector remains at an embryonic stage in Comoros, contributing to merely 3.4% of national GDP, although its potential for nature-based tourism (NBT) is considerable. Main constraints to tourism, and to NBT in particular, include poor hotel quality and a lack of adequate transport infrastructure. Roads are in unsafe conditions, inter-island connectivity is dangerous or expensive, port infrastructure is insufficient^[11]. The lack of waste management is an additional challenge for the development of tourism in Comoros. Indeed, solid waste management in Comoros is a significant issue as most of the waste generated is mismanaged and waste generation is expected to increase considering the demographic trends. There is virtually no household collection service outside of the capital Moroni and waste is typically disposed of in unsanitary and environmentally harmful ways, either simply dumped out in the environment or burnt, which releases chemical and fine particles. Yet, more than half of the waste generated by households is organic waste and could thus theoretically be recovered but recycling systems and initiatives are underdeveloped, mostly informal and operate on a local scale^[12]. The Comoros as part of the Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands biodiversity hotspot is characterized by high levels of endemism and are endowed with unique ecosystems, including coral reefs, mangroves, and forests that host many emblematic, threatened, or migratory species. The proposed project targets the country's 6 national parks. As described in Annex E, the 6 National Parks gather the bigger share of Comoro's natural capital and are representative of the natural ecosystems of the Comoros. For example, the island of Mwali – which is almost entirely covered by Mwali National Park - for instance is one of the world's largest nesting sites for the marine turtles and is home to the IUCN red-listed Livingstone's fruit bat (*Pteropus livingstonii*) and the *Eulemur mongoz* lemur. The Coelacanth National Park is home to the famous coelacanth, an endangered 'living fossil' of global scientific interest. Together, the 6 National Parks gather the main habitats representative of the country (see Annex E for details on each national park). Natural resources are critical for supporting the country's economy and

the livelihoods of the population, in particular in the 6NPs, which include a large proportion of the country's coastal areas, fishing zones, and (agro)forests, all facing important degradations, which directly impacts the food (fisheries and agriculture) sector and tourism potential of the country. Almost 40% of national GDP is generated based on land, sea or nature inputs^[13]¹³. Focusing on the 6 NPs – which are the most critical zones of the country for ecosystem services – to scale-up NbS, has the potential to embark the entire economy into a more sustainable pathway. However, the unsustainable use of natural resources is contributing to the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services, with a direct impact on communities' livelihoods and well-being. It is estimated that 57% of arable land is degraded^[14]¹⁴ and that most demersal fish stocks in shallow waters are overexploited^[15]¹⁵ posing significant threats to food security. Reef habitats are degraded, jeopardizing the provision of coastal protection services and undermining the resilience of most of the population who lives along the coast. Deforestation and forest degradation are widespread leading to soil erosion, land degradation, watershed degradation and biodiversity loss. Deforestation in Comoros is primarily caused by agricultural expansion led by the subsistence activities of the rural poor. Unsustainable practices are compounded with the effects of climate change, to which Comoros is particularly vulnerable being ranked 157 (out of 185) in the ND-GAIN Index. It is both highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change and in great need of improvements in its readiness to cope with the effects of climate change^[16]¹⁶. Because of its geographical position and poor economic development baseline, the country is structurally vulnerable to meteorological hazards but since the 1990s, there has been an increase in the frequency and intensity of storms, floods, landslides, and droughts that have caused extensive human and material damages^[17]¹⁷. For example, in April 2019, Comoros was hit by Tropical Cyclone Kenneth during which 80% of farms, 63% of crop plants and 35% of cash-crops were destroyed^[18]¹⁸. The costs of climate-related impacts are estimated to reach more than USD 800 billion by 2050^[19]¹⁹. Indeed, climate change triggers more frequent and intense storms, floods, and droughts. Overall, it is estimated that more than half of the population lives in at-risk areas^[20]²⁰.

Underlying drivers of environmental degradation in the project context

Demographic pressure on natural resources, through over-exploitation of these resources and destruction due to uncontrolled urbanization. Comoros population has increased by 35% between 2007 and 2022. Its average population density reached 441 inhabitants per square kilometer in 2021 (World Bank), and is actually far higher in coastal zones, in particular in Anjouan. Consequently, pressures on ecosystems and natural resources have increased to very high levels in recent years. In addition to population growth, **unsustainable livelihoods** causing deforestation, marginal agriculture, land degradation, depletion of fish stocks, damage to coral reefs and other marine ecosystems, loss of biodiversity and coastal erosion through sand mining. This results in an increased vulnerability of ecosystems and the people living in them, as well as an increasing dependence on imported food, equipment and consumer goods.

Poor freshwater availability due to overexploitation and saltwater intrusion: as in many SIDS, freshwater availability in Comoros is a major issue. Although the country benefits from important rainwater amounts, the capacity of soils to actually store this water is limited. Added to overexploitation, land degradation and erosion, and the effects of climate change (changes in rainfall patterns, heat, sea level rise), many permanent rivers have disappeared, in particular in Anjouan, and ground water is subject to saltwater intrusion.

Poor waste management system causing severe pollution of terrestrial and marine ecosystems and significant threat to human health. In the absence of reliable waste management systems in the 3 islands, most waste are dumped into nature. Whereas several initiatives have taken place (e.g. in Moroni, or in some villages) to collect and sort waste, the 3 islands are missing technical solutions and investments that would turn organic waste into a valuable resource.

Exposure and vulnerability of communities and critical economic infrastructure to climate change and disaster risk. Comoros are increasingly affected by increases in temperature, the growing impacts of tropical cyclones, storm surges, droughts, changing

precipitation patterns, sea level rise (SLR), coral bleaching and invasive species
Weak natural resource governance at central and local government level with ineffective legal and regulatory frameworks to implement the conventions ratified by the country or national laws. Whereas numerous laws and regulations related to natural resource management and environmental protection are in place, enforcement is a major issue. Within National Parks, initiatives to arrest offenders have taken place, and police services are often supportive in assisting NPs' teams. However, the judiciary system strongly lacks awareness and capacities to adequately back or support these enforcement initiatives, resulting in poor credibility of the overall enforcement system.

Invasive alien species (IAS) have devastating impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems in Comoros, including of island endemic species and causing overall biodiversity loss. In particular, species like *Acacia auriculiformis* can be found in the 3 islands, in particular in the semi-arid forests of coastal zones where it competes with endemic species like *Mimusops comorensis*, *Diospyros comorensis*, *Urtea humblotii*, among others. *Listsea glutinosa* and *Clidemia hirt* are also present in the 3 islands, while *Psidium cattleianum* and *Hedychium flavescens* are mostly problematic in Ngazidja.

Scenarios - Climate Change Impacts

The Comoros are highly exposed to climate hazards, and climate projections indicate that in the future the country will suffer from more extreme heat, and will encounter a high probability of cyclone intensification and erratic regional cyclone routes, with the expected frequency of damaging tropical cyclone winds having more than a 20% chance of potentially-damaging wind speeds in the next 10 years. Projected sea level rise under the scenarios RCP4.5 and RCP8.5 indicates an increase of sea-level of respectively +27cm and +28cm. This is expected to exacerbate storm surges, coastal flooding, and erosion.

Rainfall variability and trends
 Rainfall is unevenly distributed across the islands, and annual rainfall patterns vary within the same island. The best-watered regions are those located in the south-west of the archipelago and on the mountain slopes, and conversely the least-watered are in the east and north-east of the archipelago. Annual rainfall varies between 1,000 and 5,000 mm on the three islands due to differences in altitude and winds.

A downward trend in annual rainfall of 247mm was recorded between 1981 and 2019, representing a 15.7% decrease in rainfall over 39 years. In particular, the lengthening of the dry season has repercussions on agriculture, involving a shorter rainy season and the use of irrigation for long-term crops, particularly in the north of Ngazidja and Ndzuani. The Comoros are extremely vulnerable to the amplification of rainfall variability linked to climate change, as the country has very few watersheds and aquifers, and low natural water storage capacity; moreover, the rural population is almost entirely dependent on rainwater harvesting. Future rainfall projections: Based on SSP1 2.6, SSP2 4.5 and SSP5 8.5, the Third National communication on Climate Change concludes that rainfall will generally decrease by 2100 compared with the baseline situation (1981-2019)^{[21][21]}. Projections anticipate a decrease in annual rainfall of 63.3 mm per decade for the 'pessimistic' RCP8.5 scenario. Furthermore, the Climate Change Policy, Strategy and Action Plan (2015) anticipates i) a decrease in rainfall from June to August (dry season), on a seasonal scale; ii) an increase in rainfall from December to February (wet season), iii) an increase in rainfall which will be partially offset by the decrease in rainfall from June, July to August^{[22][22]}.

Temperature variability and trends
 As a tropical island country, Comoros is one of the hottest archipelagos in the south-west Indian Ocean basin. Despite the small size of the islands, temperatures vary greatly from one place to another and from one season to another. Temperatures peak in March and fall to a minimum in August. Between 1981 and 2019, the mean annual temperature rose significantly and systematically, from 26.1°C in 1981 to 27.2°C in 2019, an increase of 1.1°C in 39 years. Using SSP1 2.6, SSP2 4.5 and SSP5 8.5 to analyse future trends, the Third national communication on climate change concludes that for the period 2015-2100, under the three emission scenarios, projections show a rising trend in temperatures compared with the reference situation (1981-2010)^{[23][23]}. The increase is particularly significant in the case of the more pessimistic scenario SSP5 8.5, for which temperatures in the Comoros will rise by +0.4°C in 2025 and +3.7°C in 2100, i.e. an increase of 0.28° per decade. For all three scenarios, hot days and nights will be more frequent, ranging between 30-60% for the year 2060, compared with 44-92% for the year 2090, and cold days and nights will be less frequent^{[24][24]}.

Future sea temperature projections^[25]
²⁵Regardless of the emission scenario, the average sea surface temperature anomaly is projected to increase by 2100. In the SSP5 8.5

scenario, sea surface warming will occur at a rate of 1°C per decade. The rate of sea surface warming is about half that expected under the SSP5 8.5 scenario (0.5°C per decade). Warming of the Indian Ocean could result in warmer ocean currents in the Mozambique Channel, acidification of the south-western Indian Ocean basin and the disappearance or migration of certain species.

Climate change impacts

As a result of its geographical position and these variations in temperature, water and sea temperatures, the Union of the Comoros is exposed to several climatic hazards:

- **Rising sea levels, which cause the disappearance of certain plant and animal species, flooding of coastal towns, coastal erosion and salinisation of the soil and water tables.** Sea levels in the Indian Ocean region have risen between +1 and +6 mm/year since 1992. Climate projections predict a rise in sea level of 0.18m in 2060 and 0.56m in 2090 (SSP5 8.5), i.e. a rise of 4mm per year. Sea level rise will affect some areas of the islands more than others.
- **Drying out of the atmosphere due to the reduction in annual rainfall and the lengthening of the dry season.** This leads to a reduction in the length of the rain-fed crop season, degradation of arable land and a reduction in watercourses and lake surfaces, as well as insufficient groundwater resources.
- **Increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events (cyclones, floods and torrential rain, landslides).** Over the last thirty years, there has already been an increase in the frequency and severity of storms, floods and landslides.
- **Increase in cyclone intensity.** The Comoros are under the influence of cyclones and tropical storms that originate in the south-western basin of the Indian Ocean. Compared with previous decades, their intensity has increased, amplifying the socio-economic and environmental impact of each event, especially as the population is ill-prepared to cope with this hazard.
- **Flooding.** Two main types of land flooding affect the country: slow flooding, known as extensive flooding, following a long period of rainfall; and flash flooding, following a violent storm lasting one or two days of heavy rain on dry ground. Mwali and Ndzuani are the most affected by this hazard, given the advanced state of erosion of their soils, which are more impermeable. As a result, there is more run-off than in Ngazidja, where the basalt soils are more conducive to infiltration.
- **Landslides.** Landslides have become a frequent occurrence in the Comoros archipelago, particularly in Ndzuani, due to both more intense rainfall events and deforestation.

The country's vulnerability to climate change is also linked to poverty, which is more prevalent in rural areas, unemployment, which particularly affects young people and women, and high demographic growth. Current poverty levels and gender inequality directly affect the resilience of rural populations, who do not have the capacity to cope with the new climate conditions, including climate variability, climate extremes and foreseen long-term changes. Rural populations highly depend on natural resources, which is exacerbated by isolation in a SIDS context. Women, the youth and People With Disabilities (PWDs) have been identified during the project preparation as particularly vulnerable to climate change. Women are also key actors for improving climate resilience, as they are heavily involved in cooperatives and associations, have better access to credit, and play an important role in marketing fish, vegetable products and milk, to name a few examples.

Systems that need to be transformed

Drivers of environmental degradation targeted through this program are impacting food, urban and natural systems. The fisheries, agriculture, tourism and waste sectors are both contributors to and victims of the degradation of these systems in Comoros and therefore need to be transformed towards sustainable, resilient, and nature-positive outcomes.

The agricultural sector is characterized by unsustainable practices such as slash-and-burn which leads to land degradation, soil fertility decline, and lower yields which in turn fuels deforestation and forest degradation. Agriculture in Comoros is also largely

rainfed, with only 1% of arable land being irrigated^[26]^[26]. In addition to soil degradation and the effects of climate change, low agricultural productivity can be attributed to limited knowledge and capacities related to enhanced climate-adapted agricultural techniques, small farm sizes, low levels of transformation and commercialization, competition from imported produce, and the low levels of public investments. As a result of these challenges, the domestic agricultural sector is unable to sustain the needs of a growing population and the importation of basic foodstuffs is ever increasing^[27]^[27]. To overcome these challenges, there is a need to develop an ambitious national climate-smart and resilient agricultural policy that promotes knowledge generation. Smallholders' organizations must be strengthened and trained in sustainable agricultural practices. In parallel, degraded land areas must be restored, and Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) widely adopted to improve yields and food security.

In the fisheries sector, unsustainable practices have led to coastal resource depletion and marine habitat destruction. Enforcement of legal and regulatory frameworks must be strengthened to not only improve fish stocks but contribute to Comoros relationship to the EU as the latter had prohibited exports from Comorian fisheries to the EU based on its insufficient efforts to fight illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. Furthermore, the fishing fleet should be modernized to allow for the safe and sustainable exploitation of offshore fisheries. Investment in physical market infrastructure, transport and renewable energy infrastructures would be essential to improve the sector's productivity. The development of the fisheries sector needs to be seen in the broader context of a 'blue economy' approach. In accordance with the NDC, marine and coastal ecosystems, including coral reefs, should benefit from restoration activities.

Tourism in Comoros is a largely untapped economic development opportunity although the NBT potential is tremendous given the archipelago's natural beauty. Between 1996 and 2020, the number of international tourist arrivals oscillated between 20,000 and 30,000 per year, with a peak in 2019, of which diaspora tourists make up more than 50%^[28]^[28]. This is in stark contrast with Comoros neighboring countries Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles where tourism accounts for roughly 40% of national GDP. The development of tourism in Comoros is hampered by the limited air connection with direct flights only to seven countries^[29]^[29], it is highly costly, especially during the high season when the French Comorian diaspora travels, driving the prices up and deterring other travelers. Once in Comoros, the lack of organized tourism activities (hikes, scuba diving, historical tours) and appropriate transportation infrastructures on and between islands undermines the country's touristic potential. Key levers to unlock tourism include (i) increasing quality accommodation options, (ii) improving inter-island connectivity, and (iii) strengthening environmental management and in particular waste management. Tourism is a sector of choice to develop public-private partnerships (PPP) as the private sector can play a key role in developing the sector.

Comoros could benefit from its new membership of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), which will increase trade openness and reduce trade costs, and from participation in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), which could promote growth and diversification of exports, attract investment and accelerate growth. More specifically, the tourism and fisheries sectors could benefit from WTO membership and the AfCFTA thanks to lower prices for imported products, improved import standards and larger markets for exported products (world Bank, 2023).

Finally, the waste management system in Comoros must be holistically restructured and the implementation of Comoros Emerging Plan (PCE)'s integrated waste management structural project would need to be supported. The sector critically lacks a legal framework as well as a comprehensive solid waste management strategy which would take stock of waste management facilities and identify priority investments. As part of this strategy, the government should aim to create an enabling environment for circular economy to thrive. Given the constrained public budget, the private sector needs to be engaged and incentivized to participate in waste management. At present, there is limited interaction between local and national authorities and private stakeholders. It is also paramount to continue raising awareness on waste management among the population although this has to be done hand in hand with increasing the number of collection points.

Problem statement

The problem this project seeks to address is the extensive ecosystem degradation in Comoros National Parks and cities and the poor attractivity of NbS investments towards public and private sector institutions.

Baseline in the absence of the project

The weak capacities for adaptation and ecological resilience in the project's target areas have a particularly negative impact on the management of natural resources, agriculture, land management, and waste management due to a lack of sustainable means of subsistence, knowledge of resilient practices, inappropriate technological resources and poor dissemination of innovations available locally and in similar SIDS contexts. Under the baseline scenario, national and regional/island-level institutions will continue to inadequately address nature in decision-making, with uncoordinated and poorly planned sectoral strategies, unsuitable fiscal policies and underestimated values of ecosystem services, thus not considering the cost of ecosystem degradation in development planning and not adequately implementing integrated nature-based solutions to address the drivers of environmental degradation. Investments in nature-based solutions will remain limited to pilot experiences, with limited scaling up to reach bigger impacts, meaning that biodiversity and ecosystem services will continue to be degraded and lost, further affecting the people whose subsistence depend on them, in particular women, PWD and the youth. In the absence of the project, national engagement in blue and green economy will remain minimally coordinated with regional / global fora and institutions, keeping the Comoros away from collectively scaling-up and developing global partnerships that will further advance resilient, blue and green SIDS. This will remain insufficient investments in nature-positive decision making and solutions that support the environment.

Incremental cost reasoning

The BGI GEF project aims to enhance synergies and coherence across interventions within the protected area network, leading to more effective conservation of globally significant species and their critical habitats while also promoting nature-based economic development. Through successful implementation, the project will mitigate environmental degradation caused by the food and tourism sectors, strengthen multisectoral policies and governance frameworks that promote nature-positive decision-making, and reduce impacts from these sectors. It will also enhance the enabling environment for mobilizing domestic resources and attracting private sector financing to support nature-positive actions and expand nature-based solutions. Additionally, the project will integrate Comoros into a SIDS learning network, fostering capacity building, knowledge exchange, and collective action to influence regional governing bodies to incorporate nature into development and policy frameworks. Without the GEF's support, ecosystem degradation in Comoros is likely to persist and even escalate due to growing tourism and food demands, further eroding the vital ecosystem services these environments provide.

Outcomes to achieve changes to baseline

To change the baseline, the following outcomes need to be achieved through the BGI IP's integrated systems approach.

- To address the current siloed and fragmented approaches to addressing environmental degradation, Component 1 will focus on the enabling environment for private sector investment in NbS, through capacity building, valuation of natural capital and ecosystem services, integration of nature into development policies and planning of key economic sectors, and improved legal and institutional frameworks to attract carbon finance. This project will achieve a Strengthened enabling environment for incentivizing private sector investment in NbS in the tourism, urban and food sectors, supporting the Blue & Green Economy (Outcome 1).
- Component 2 will focus on the implementation of nature-based solutions at landscape and seascape level in the 6 National Parks and the 3 main cities of Comoros, supporting the tourism, food, and urban sectors, achieving Outcome 2: NbS implemented in key economic sectors to support the conservation of biodiversity, strengthen climate action, and generate sustainable local blue and green jobs

- Component 3 will focus on coordination with the BGI Global Coordination Programme (GCP) and other child projects under the program, knowledge management, and upscaling of lessons learned support through partnerships at local, national, regional and global levels (Outcome 3).
- Component 4 will be dedicated to monitoring and evaluation of the project results (Outcome 4).

Key Barriers to overcome and enablers to achieve the outcomes

To reach the above three 3 outcomes, the project will aim to overcome the following key barriers.

Barriers to the integration of nature into development and fiscal policies and planning of key economic sectors (Component 1):

- Barrier 1. Lack of awareness from political stakeholders of how natural capital approaches can be helpful to decision making. Consequently, the country lacks a strong governance framework to ensure the successful implementation of the natural capital approaches and their sustainability. The enabling environment also requires policies and regulations that prioritize nature-positive investments, which is currently not the case in Comoros. Natural capital remains undervalued or overlooked in investment decisions, and the short- and long-term negative impacts of business activities on ecosystems and biodiversity are not properly accounted for. In addition, unclear regulatory frameworks and the lack of knowledge on natural capital also create uncertainty for investors and businesses looking to make nature-positive investments.
- Barrier 2. Insufficient availability of local and high-resolution data, a further barrier to the uptake and integration of the value of nature into decision-making through ecosystem services valuation (ESV) and natural capital accounting (NCA). This includes a lack of data overall for monitoring, managing, maintaining, and valuing ecosystems. Insufficient data results in decision-makers lacking the necessary information to make informed decisions that take into account the value of nature.
- Barrier 3. Limited local expertise and skills on natural capital approaches and ecosystem services valuation make it difficult to secure participation and support from local partners and stakeholders. ESV and NCA require specific expertise that needs to be developed locally to ensure consistency and sustainability of the process.
- Barrier 4. Lack of appropriate legal and institutional frameworks for private investments in carbon-related projects, limiting private long-term financing of NbS. Initiatives to attract carbon finance in Comoros are limited by the absence of a specific legal and institutional frameworks as required under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

Barriers to the implementation of nature-based solutions at landscape and seascape level in key ecosystems supporting the tourism and food sectors (Component 2) include:

- Barrier 5. Limited institutional and financial capacities to implement and coordinate large NbS investments, including in National Parks. Weak planning and management capacities of public institutions – including as regards law enforcement - limit the scaling out of existing NbS interventions in key ecosystems supporting the tourism and food sectors, and results in limited impacts of past and ongoing initiatives, weakening local populations buy-in on these approaches. In addition, the lack of public funding made available to support the sustainable management of natural resources undermines the continuity and sustainability of piloted interventions, as well as local communities' confidence in public sector inventions
- Barrier 6: Limited capacity to engage in the blue/green-economy for NbS-based businesses. Local inland and coastal communities still rely heavily on single sources of income, predominantly agriculture or fisheries, which can also be supplemented by products from unsustainable value chains (e.g. mangrove charcoal and sandmining), thereby making them particularly vulnerable to climate shocks and disasters.

This reliance on limited sources of income is also resulting in the overexploitation of natural resources and degradation of ecosystems, which is further increasing the communities' vulnerability. Alternative climate-resilient livelihoods are very limited, as are the human, systemic and individual capacities to engage in the blue/green -economy for NbS businesses.

- **Barrier 7.** Comoros suffer from the very weak involvement of the local private sector in nature-based investments promoting the sustainable use of natural resources. Due to the lack of knowledge and expertise on the potential of NbS, the perceived risks for private investors in Comoros results in very limited private sector development and initiatives, causing unemployment and low economic growth. According to the World Bank, the Comoros have been trapped in low growth for over 40 years, with average growth of around 2.6% over the period 1980-2022, and an estimated poverty rate of 39.8% in 2022. Over the period 2000-2019, private investment represented less than 8% of GDP, on average, in the country, which is very low compared to other countries in the region.

Barriers to collective action and scaling up (Component 3) include:

- **Barrier 8.** Inadequate cohesive action at the regional level with neighboring countries to share experience, expertise, and to attract private sector for scaling (up and out) for transformational change. At the national level, there are limited opportunities to create partnerships with the private sector that can sufficiently catalyze the investment needed to support scaling and replication of nature-positive NbS at the scale needed for transformational change.

To address nature-positive decision-making and NbS in Comoros, several **enablers** can be used to improve the integration of the value of nature into decision-making and improve NbS outcomes. These enablers include: making governance and legal reforms; improving equity and gender considerations; building human resource capacity; increasing finance and risk transfer mechanisms; supporting education and awareness programmes; and demonstrating the direct benefits of NbS on ecosystems and communities when implemented at scale.

This project, as part of the BGI Integrated Programme, will directly address the identified drivers of environmental degradation by focusing on investments in NbS at scale, supporting and attracting private investment and long-term financing in close cooperation with other countries involved in the IP. Addressing those drivers requires a collective action from SIDS and this IP is an opportunity for Comoros to build synergies with other countries and benefit from regional and international experience in similar contexts.

Stakeholders

The National Directorate for Environment and Forest (DGEF) will act as the lead national agency and will coordinate with other key institutions, including the National Agency for National Parks (ANPN), other directorates under the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock, Tourism and handicraft (MAPETA): the General Directorate of Tourism (DGT), the General Directorate of Fisheries Resources (DNRH) and the National Directorate of Agricultural Strategies and Environment (DNSAE). Other important ministries to coordinate with are all members of the proposed Technical Committee for Blue Green Islands (see description under section B- Institutional Arrangements), in particular the Ministry of for National Education, Teaching, Scientific Research, Training and Professional Integration (MENERSFIP) and the Ministry of Finance, Budget and Banking sector (MFBSB). In addition, the National Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and the Environment (INRAPE) and the National Agency for Integrated Waste Management (ANAGID) will be key partner of the project implementation. The DGEF will also work closely with private sector representatives (including the Union of Comoros Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Handicrafts (UCCIA)) within the tourism, agriculture, fisheries, and other sectors, especially with regard to participatory approaches to NbS interventions in those sectors; data generation, collection and monitoring (in particular through Component 1); and mobilizing finance to promote impact investments in NbS. Specifically, those include tourism facilities and companies (e.g. the 'Adore Comores' agency), private firms with specific interest in one of the sectors (e.g. the Majiriha firm, interested in waste management and biogas), and well-established NGOs (e.g. Mahari, 2mains). The project will also make use of national and local frameworks for community engagement and involvement of Comoros' NGO and CSO communities, working hand-in-hand with village and fishers associations. **By ensuring equitable and effective participation in decision-making related to biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, land rehabilitation and climate change adaptation and mitigation by local communities, the project will contribute to increasing leadership and decision-making**

opportunities for people living in and depending on protected areas, in particular for women and the youth, recognizing their crucial role as leaders and key actors in action towards biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, **ecosystem management, land rehabilitation and climate change adaptation and mitigation.**

By incentivizing private sector investment in NbS, specifically in the target areas of the project, the project stakeholders will favor nature-based and nature-positive economic development (for example, through sustainable fishing practices to sustainably manage fish resources, and protect marine ecosystems, eco-tourism development, protection of beaches and forests, conservation of sea-turtles) and as such, contribute to the conservation of globally significant biodiversity.

Landscape of investments, lessons learned and alignment with country priorities

Several ongoing UE, WB, AFD, GEF and GCF projects in Comoros are foundational for this project: the “Green and Blue Pact”, “Network of Protected Areas”, “Ensuring climate Resilient Water Supply”, ‘Strengthening Comoros’ resilience to disaster risks related to climate change and variability’, ‘Climate resilience of value chains and agricultural systems in the Comoros’ projects, already demonstrate Comoros’ commitment to sustainably manage its natural resources. The proposed project builds on the experiences and lessons learned from these ongoing projects to define its strategy for inclusive and equitable engagement of all stakeholders. It requires the systematic identification and consultation of a wide range of stakeholders, including local communities, civil society organizations, government agencies and private sector actors. The results of the gender-responsive analysis of the value of ecosystem services will facilitate the consideration of gender-based perspectives at all stages of project implementation: including when developing policies, identifying blue and green value chains in selected sectors, engaging communities, setting up technical and financial mechanisms to facilitate investments, sharing knowledge and evaluating results. The project will contribute to systemic change by aligning with ongoing inter-sectoral initiatives including the ‘Emerging Comoros Plan’, to support decisions around the conservation, sustainable use and management of marine and coastal ecosystems and resources. UNDP’s Accelerator Lab will provide opportunities to capture and utilize knowledge specific to the SIDS context and for cross-learning and broadening stakeholder engagement in the tourism, food and urban sectors. The project is also aligned with the integrated approach to systemic challenges emphasized in the overall program, as it will support systemic transformation through enhanced biodiversity and natural resource by valuing natural capital and with nature-positive development decision-making; utilize nature based solutions across the agroforestry, **fisheries, and tourism** sectors to reduce ecosystem degradation and increase ecosystem restoration; and unlock additional sources of finance to support NbS interventions over the long run.

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[28] The World Bank, 2023

[29] These are Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mayotte, Reunion and Tanzania.

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

The objective of the BGI-IP is to transition to a Blue and Green Economy in the Comoros through nature positive action and decision-making in the **tourism, and food sectors**. This aligns with the ultimate objective of the BGI IP framework to "demonstrate the transformational potential of incorporating the value of nature into decision-making and using innovative nature-based solutions to achieve development and MEA goals". It also will be cognizant of regional and Global Coordinated Project (GCP) related BGI-IP matters of importance, as opposed to it solely being an independent national project.

Intervention sites

The project targets the country's 6 national parks (NPs), as described in the table below. Detailed descriptions of the 6 NPs are provided in Annex E.

Table 1. The 6 national parks of Comoros

Name	Island	Area covered	IUCN Category	Terrestrial of Marine Protected Area (MPA)	Date of creation
Mitsamiouli-Ndroude NP	Ngazidja	2,314 ha	Cat VI	MPA	23 May 2022
Coelacanth NP	Ngazidja	9,276 ha	Cat VI	MPA	23 May 2022
Karthala NP	Ngazidja	26,214 ha	Cat VI	Terrestrial	23 May 2022
Shissiwani NP	Ndzuani	6,497 ha	Cat VI	MPA	23 May 2022
Mont Ntringui NP	Ndzuani	7,914 ha	Cat VI	Terrestrial	23 May 2022
Mwali NP	Mwali	27,687 ha of terrestrial and 36,675 ha of marine area	Cat VI	Both terrestrial and MPA	19 April 2001 (MPA), extended on 21 November 2015 to include terrestrial PA

Five NPs are still new NPs, while the Mwali NP was created some time ago already and has benefitted from specific support and gained experience over this period. The Mwali Biosphere Reserve encompasses the entire land and marine territory of Mwali, and was designated by UNESCO in 2020.

Intervention logic and key assumptions

The Theory of Change (ToC) designed for this project has been depicted in Figure 1. Importantly, it is well-aligned with the program's ToC. It supports almost all of the GEBs identified in the BGI ToC, including: Increased area and improved management of marine & terrestrial PAs; landscapes and seascapes under improved practices for biodiversity; CO2 emissions avoided; increased forest cover; restored landscapes; marine fisheries exploited at sustainable levels.

The causal pathways (TL) in the causal pathways are used to achieve the proposed project outcomes. These TLs are embedded throughout the programme components and outcomes (as described below), and include Governance and Policies (TL1); Financial Leverage (TL2); Multi-stakeholder Dialogue (TL3); and Innovation and Learning (TL4). Transformation levers are essential for transformation and sustainability of the Comoros BGI-IP especially to deliver effective and meaningful pathways to ensure food (agriculture/fisheries) and tourism matters are addressed in a sustainable manner. UNDP's Accelerator Lab will also be used to provide opportunities to capture and utilize knowledge specific to the SIDS context and for cross-learning and broadening stakeholder engagement in the **tourism and food sectors**. The private sector will have a critical role to play in enhancing value chains and providing investment pathways that provide positive economic and environmental benefits. A particular focus on embracing circular economy principles (where bio-waste in Comoros is seen as a valuable input rather than mere refuse) shall be made to help the BGI-IP Child Project to foster a sustainable urban ecosystem while addressing waste management challenges faced in Comoros. Throughout the project, collaboration between government bodies, the private sector, and communities represents a core ingredient to harness various opportunities that may support Comoros towards the development of comprehensive strategies for effective bio-waste **treatment**.

The project aims to catalyse the transformation of **tourism and food** sectors as pillars of the Blue & Green Economy in the Union of Comoros through investments in nature-based solutions at landscape and seascape level in preserved and resilient key ecosystems. It does this through a range of activities, which are supporting outputs. Underlying the ToC are several assumptions, which must be fulfilled in order for the project to successfully achieve its objective. These are:

- A1: National and local authorities promote NCA and carbon finance initiatives
- A2: National and local authorities provide institutional support for the implementation of NbS
- A3: Communities, including women, youth and vulnerable groups, such as PWD (People with Disabilities), are duly involved in implementation (in particular through NP management teams) and support interventions and adopt NbS during or after the term of the project
- A4: Adverse socio-economic circumstances (e.g. time poverty of women) are mitigated to ensure equitable opportunities for different groups, including women, to engage in viable nature-based businesses
- A5: Local and regional private sector is willing to engage in nature-based businesses and share experience, responding to national and global markets needs
- A6: All stakeholders involved in the project actively contribute to social and environmental safeguards and gender action plan implementation

The proposed Theory of Change (ToC) of the project (Figure 1) highlights the relationships between activities, outputs, outcomes, and the main impact that the project seeks to contribute to. It illustrates the logical path from the problem statement, through the identified barriers to the intended project results to overcome those barriers (outputs leading to the 3 outcomes to achieve the project objective).

Component 1 will enhance understanding of ecosystem services values in Comoros through Natural Capital Accounting and ESV studies and ensure that this information is integrated into national and sectorial accounting. To integrate nature into development and fiscal policies and planning of key economic sectors, Governance and Policies (TL1) and Multi-stakeholder Dialogue (TL3) will be crucial as it requires changes in policy and legislative frameworks. Component 1 will also establish the enabling environment for innovative financing mechanisms (TL4: Innovation and Learning) that unlock private capital investment. Indeed, Financial leverage (TL2) is also essential to nature positive investment and domestic resources mobilization. **Component 2** will identify, scale and apply NbS in the **tourism and food sectors** to promote gender-responsive economic empowerment, environmental sustainability and flows of ecosystem services and to avoid further natural resource degradation. The ToC illustrates that Financial Leverage (TL2) and Innovation and Learning (TL4) are two key transformation levers necessary to bring NbS to scale in the **food and tourism sectors**. Indeed, private sector engagement and innovative financial mechanisms are required for scaling up and out NbS. Necessary governance and policy reform to improve availability and access to finance will be carried out through Component 1. Multi-stakeholder Dialogue (TL3) will also be a key lever for transformational change in the implementation of NbS at scale. **Component 3** will ensure that effective gender mainstreaming, M&E and knowledge management processes are integrated throughout the project activities. It will also link with regional and global initiatives to build and capture knowledge developed to support roll out of actions and sharing of knowledge across the Indian Ocean and contribute to the Blue and Green Islands Global Coordination Program (GCP). Financial Leverage (TL2) from regional and international collaborations will be key to the upscaling of NbS in in Comoros, while Multi-stakeholder Dialogue (TL3) and Innovation and Learning (TL4) are a crucial aspects of project coordination, collective action, knowledge management and effective capacity building to support NbS at scale. **Component 4** will ensure that effective M&E is implemented throughout the project duration, including the monitoring of the implementation of the Gender and PWDs action plans based on comprehensive analyses to promote an inclusive approach to the implementation of NbS in the blue & green economy value-chains and the monitoring of the social and environmental safeguard management framework. It also includes the preparation of a project exit strategy.

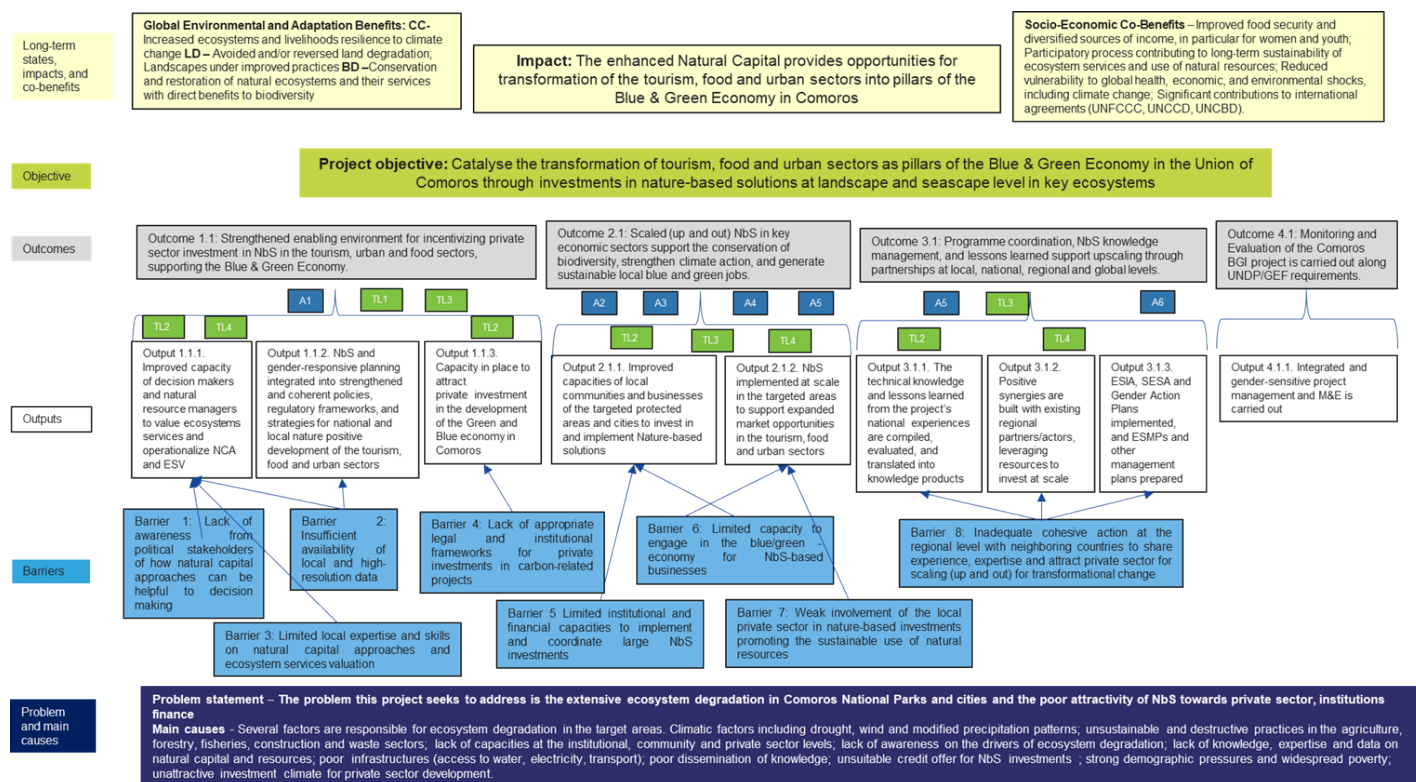


Figure 1. Project Theory of Change

Description of project components

Component 1: Mainstreaming nature-based solutions into development and planning processes across the tourism and food economic sectors through improved governance, budgetary and financial action.

Outcome 1.1. Natural capital is compiled and integrated into public policy information systems and political processes to inform nature-positive decision-making better.

Natural capital assessments and approaches involve quantifying, mapping, and valuing stocks of natural capital and flows of ecosystem services to economies and people. These approaches contribute to inform the design and implementation of policies as well as develop greater policy coherence and efficiency of investments in biodiversity and ecosystems.

This outcome will make important progress in Comoros regarding Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) and Ecosystem Services Valuation (ESV), which will help policymakers prioritize conservation efforts and make informed decisions about land use, conservation, and sustainable development. A robust NCA system in Comoros will enable a holistic view of the complex interdependencies between different sectors and natural systems. This perspective is crucial for developing cross-sectoral policies and strategies that harmonize economic development with environmental sustainability. By making these connections clear, NCA helps ensure that Comoros' future development plans not only contribute to national prosperity but also preserve the unique natural heritage that underpins the well-being of its people and the resilience of its ecosystems.

The Comoros has some data on the environment, natural resource management, and ecosystems, which will be used for NCA. However, the data is not consistent across all the islands of the archipelago, and there is a need to improve national statistical production skills. The NCA in Comoros will build upon previous work conducted in Mwali NP through the ComptaBio Regional Project (closed in 2023) funded by French international cooperation. During this project, there was progress in developing five biophysical and monetary accounts, with the land use and water accounts being completed for Mwali. Although a monetary valuation of ecosystem services was started, it was not finished. However, this work has laid the foundation for NCA, which can be scaled up across the 6 NPs. In addition, it has built some capacity amongst local stakeholders who have been trained in NCA, which can be further expanded upon. However, overall, the efforts are still limited in scale, and there is a need to enhance national skills and knowledge in natural capital approaches.

All activities falling under Outcome 1.1 will involve engaging a wide range of stakeholders in an inclusive manner, with a focus on gender sensitivity. The NCA requires a multi-sectoral approach that involves engagement with multiple stakeholders. As a result, the stakeholders to be involved in this process will be numerous and will include DGEF, the General Planning Commission, the Central Bank of Comoros, the National Institute for Statistics, the Economic and Demographic Studies Department, the National Civil Aviation and Meteorology Agency, the National Centre for Fisheries Control and Surveillance, the National Agricultural Statistics Department, the Directorate of Tourism and Craft, CRDEs, NPs, the University of Comoros, and others (refer to Annex H for further details). *Output 1.1.1* will focus on the integration of environmental statistics, natural resources data, and ecosystem services valuation into an open-source online database in Comoros, which aims to transform the valuation of natural assets and integrate it into economic and budgetary frameworks. This will support increased budget allocations for conservation efforts and safeguarding the country's natural heritage. Through a review of existing national information sources, the project will create an accessible, gender-sensitive repository focusing on critical sectors such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and tourism. The goal is to foster a deeper

understanding of ecosystem service valuations and bolster Comoros' efforts toward sustainable development and resilience against climate change. The activities under this output will comprise of:

- **Activity 1.1.1a:** Establish an NCA multi-sectoral committee made up of political, institutional, and practitioner stakeholders to support the identification of key data availability, prioritize NCA modules based on National priorities, inform the development of a gender-sensitive and user-friendly information management system for ESV and NCA data.
- **Activity 1.1.1b:** As an essential component of establishing an NCA system in Comoros, the project will carry out a policy coherence review that identifies gaps and necessary policy, regulations, and NCA policy-related components.
- **Activity 1.1.1c:** Collect baseline data through a review of existing reports, studies, and other available data, ensuring existing ESV studies and data are included.
- **Activity 1.1.1d:** Carry out a data gap analysis for missing information and develop a plan to address the data gaps.
- **Activity 1.1.1e:** As identified in the gap analysis, the project will develop the necessary environmental statistics needed to build an NCA system.
- **Activity 1.1.1f:** Plan a management and information system for environmental data in Comoros (in particular cartographic and statistical data) by training national stakeholders, ensuring gender sensitivity and accessibility for public agencies.

Output 1.1.2 will use the information from output 1.1.1 to compile Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) modules that are compliant with the international standard UN System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA). Based on National priorities and available data, the project will prioritize the development of NCA modules. The selected module(s) will be piloted (including blue carbon accounts). Under this output, GEF investment will be used in close coordination with support from the BGI GCP to develop these approaches. The SEEA is an international statistical standard that uses a system approach to bring together economic and environmental information to measure the contribution of the environment to the economy and the impact of the economy on the environment. ESV work will also focus on identifying linkages with NbS. For the NCA system, ESV assessments using high-quality available should be used for piloting case studies that can effectively demonstrate outcomes. The following activities will be carried out:

- **Activity 1.1.2a:** Select local pilot case studies to demonstrate where good resolution data on natural ecosystems (e.g., forests, fisheries) exist and to begin pilot applications of NCA modules. This could be geographical or sectoral case studies or ecosystems relevant to the key sectors.
- **Activity 1.1.2b:** Prioritize NCA modules for development (e.g., land accounts, ecosystem extent, and accounts, water accounts, biomass provision, carbon sequestration, aquatic resources, tourism accounts), identifying key linkages to nature-based solutions (NbS) and ecosystem services.
- **Activity 1.1.2c:** Conduct a study on the economic/monetary value of the services provided by Comoros' natural ecosystems and their contribution to the country's economy. The study will include an assessment of the state of ecosystems (and fisheries) and drivers/pressures/factors for unsustainable use/degradation. The information gathered will feed the natural capital accounts and support the management plans to be developed under Outcome 1.2. It will also demonstrate the importance of natural resources for the national economy and the well-being of its inhabitants and advocate for improved governance and decision-making processes.
- **Activity 1.1.2d:** Pilot the proposed NCA modules, including local-scale systems for fisheries, forests, and land use. Gather lessons learned and develop recommendations for national replication.

Output 1.1.3 will strengthen capacity building for compiling and analyzing the necessary gender-sensitive data for NCA module development. The project will focus on enhancing key stakeholders' data collection, analysis, and management skills, such as relevant government agencies (MAPETA, MINEDD, MoF, etc.),

research institutions (University of Comoros, INRAPE), and others. This will include the appropriate organization of data within the National online NCA Database, ensuring that gender-sensitive approaches are applied. The initiative will provide targeted training and technical support to relevant stakeholders, ensuring that gender considerations are integrated at every stage of NCA module development and that the data is systematically compiled and maintained over time. The NCA multi-sectoral committee (Activity 1.1.1a) will be integral to Outputs 1.1.2 and 1.1.3 decision-making. The following activities will be deployed:

- *Activity 1.1.3a:* Organize training sessions for stakeholders and NCA practitioners on compiling environmental statistics and systematically integrating them into the NCA system.
- *Activity 1.1.3b:* Facilitate learning visits to more advanced statistical offices in NCA and environmental statistics, enabling knowledge exchange and best practice sharing.[1]
- 30 • *Activity 1.1.3c:* Through participatory, gender-sensitive processes, establish the preferred information system for supporting environmental statistics and NCA compilation over time, ensuring gender-balanced participation at all levels.
- *Activity 1.1.3d:* Strengthen the capacity for data compilation and analysis by organizing regular workshops on using the NCA database, focusing on gender-sensitive data organization.
- *Activity 1.1.3e:* Establish a stakeholders' network actively engaged in applying NCA data in various policy uses (e.g., creating indicators, planning, and investment strategies), in particular through the BGI GCP, to ensure participatory and inclusive decision-making processes.

Outcome 1.2. Governance systems improved at the national and sub-national level for nature-positive NbS and gender-responsive planning in the tourism and food sectors (agroforestry and fisheries)

The work conducted under Outcome 1.1. will inform the review and update of existing development strategies, policies, and regulatory frameworks at national and local levels, as well as develop management plans that integrate NbS and gender-responsive planning principles under Outcome 1.2. The project will use inclusive stakeholder and multi-sectoral approaches to conduct policy gap analyses to understand the barriers that might prevent the integration of NbS in policies for the target sectors and enhance their alignment with each other. Based on these analyses and recommendations, the project will support the updating of existing policies or the elaboration of new policies and plans, reinforcing the capacity of national and local leaders to integrate NbS and gender-responsive planning in their strategies. Currently, the country lacks in-depth studies to plan the sustainable use of natural resources, as is the case with marine – fish – resources. Such studies, accompanied by scientifically established resource management plans, are necessary for the sustainable implementation of NbS. Participatory processes (engaging women, youth, vulnerable groups, and PWDs) will be used to inform resource users (fishers, farmers, tourism professionals) of the production potential of the studied ecosystems and the rules to set to ensure they can benefit from these resources in the long term while preserving ecosystem services.

Output 1.2.1 will use the information from the NCA to focus on enabling better integration of NbS in the tourism and food sectors, with a strong emphasis on gender-responsive approaches. This includes filling gaps in governance frameworks, regulatory structures, and policy coherence, ensuring that the sustainable implementation of NbS aligns with gender inclusivity. Activities under this output will improve the knowledge base for policy-making, allowing stakeholders to make evidence-based decisions, particularly in tourism, agroforestry, fisheries, and marine resources management. Activities will include:

- *Activity 1.2.1a:* Carry out gap assessment to identify needed coherence of the governance framework for the integration of NbS and gender-responsive planning in the tourism and food sectors and develop policy briefs and recommendations. The gap assessment will address inconsistencies in current governance frameworks to better integrate NbS and gender-sensitive planning across the tourism and food sectors. The aim is to create a

coherent structure that supports NbS, ensuring that economic growth in these sectors can occur sustainably while promoting gender equality. Policy briefs and recommendations will be developed to guide reforms and ensure NbS are mainstreamed into sectoral strategies.

- *Activity 1.2.1b:* Conduct a regulatory assessment for Agroforestry to understand the barriers to the implementation of NbS with regard to the Forest Law. Agroforestry has significant potential to support NbS, particularly in food security and land restoration efforts. However, legal and regulatory barriers, especially in relation to the Forest Law, often limit its implementation. This regulatory assessment will identify these barriers and recommend ways to revise policies and laws to support agroforestry as a core NbS practice, which can increase resilience in the food sector.
- *Activity 1.2.1c:* Conduct a policy gap analysis to identify the barriers that might prevent the integration of NbS in the development policies for the marine resources sector, starting with a review of the Fisheries Code. The marine resources sector is crucial for Comoros, particularly in terms of food security and livelihoods. This policy gap analysis will focus on identifying and addressing barriers in the integration of NbS within marine resource development, starting with a review of the Fisheries Code. Recommendations will be made to ensure that policies promote sustainable practices and protect ecosystems while enhancing the livelihoods of those who depend on marine resources, particularly women and marginalized groups.
- *Activity 1.2.1d:* Building on Outcome 1.1, update the scientific assessment study of the stock of fish resources realized at the regional level under IOC (looking at tuna, bonito, octopus, sea cucumbers, lobsters, prawns, and mangrove crabs) and establish sustainable management plans for each of the 4 MPAs. A participatory process will involve local resource users, including women, youth, vulnerable groups, and PWD, to establish fishing calendars that align with biological rest periods, promoting the recovery of fish populations and ensuring sustainable livelihoods. This approach will build on successful examples from Mwali and Coelacanth National Parks.
- *Activity 1.2.1e:* Launch a study on the potential of the Comoros seaweed industry: seaweed is successfully cultivated and sold in nearby countries like Madagascar and Tanzania, especially by women farmers. In Tanzania, in addition to providing many women with livelihoods, seaweed farming presents an alternative to overfishing, which helps sustain the region's fish stocks. When farmed well, seaweed aquaculture has the potential to be ecologically restorative and provide invaluable ecosystem services. This activity will assess the potential for seaweed farming in Comoros, exploring its viability as a new value chain that could attract private investors.^[2] The study will evaluate the ecological and economic benefits of seaweed aquaculture, with the goal of creating a sustainable industry that supports local communities and provides ecosystem services, such as habitat creation and nutrient cycling, while reducing fishing pressures.

Output 1.2.2 focuses on updating and refining sectoral strategies and policies to embed NbS and gender-responsive planning across the tourism and food sectors (agriculture and fisheries). The aim is to ensure that national and sub-national development plans are aligned with sustainable, nature-positive practices and promote inclusive decision-making that reflects the needs and contributions of all stakeholders, including women, local communities, and vulnerable groups. The activities under this output will drive an integrated approach where sectoral plans not only address environmental and biodiversity conservation but also promote socio-economic resilience through a multi-sectoral systemic approach, with NbS playing a central role in achieving sustainable livelihoods and ecosystem restoration. The integration of NbS at both national and local levels ensures that decision-making is based on a clear understanding of sector-specific challenges, as well as broader ecological and socio-economic goals.

- *Activity 1.2.2a:* Update existing development strategies with local authorities and communities to integrate NbS in the planning of key sectors, ensuring coherence and addressing sectoral challenges. This activity

involves engaging local authorities and communities in an inclusive and gender-sensitive manner in revising existing development strategies to mainstream NbS into tourism, agriculture, forestry, and marine resources management, all of which impact the food and tourism industries. By fostering collaboration with local stakeholders, the activity ensures that development plans reflect the realities of each sector while promoting sustainability. A key focus will be on identifying local challenges and opportunities for implementing NbS effectively, ensuring that the benefits are shared across communities, including women and vulnerable groups.

- *Activity 1.2.2b:* Based on the new Tourism Code adopted in 2023, prepare eco-tourism development plans for each of the six NPs to coordinate and ensure coherence of NbS investments at the NP level and nationally. The updated Tourism Code provides a foundation for developing eco-tourism plans tailored to each of the six NPs. This activity will ensure that tourism development aligns with NbS, fostering sustainable use of natural resources while boosting local economies. The plans will focus on creating eco-tourism opportunities that support conservation and livelihood diversification, with special attention to gender-sensitive initiatives that empower local women and communities (including youth and PWD). The SESA will assess the environmental and social impacts.
- *Activity 1.2.2c:* Prepare reforestation plans for each of the three terrestrial NPs to support coherent and efficient NbS investments in reforestation activities while promoting sustainable livelihoods. Reforestation is a critical NbS for addressing land degradation, enhancing biodiversity, and mitigating climate change. This activity focuses on creating reforestation plans tailored to each NP's specific needs. These plans will restore ecosystems and provide sustainable livelihood opportunities through community involvement in reforestation efforts. The SESA will evaluate the effectiveness of these reforestation activities in the first year, ensuring that they contribute to both environmental and social resilience.
- *Activity 1.2.2d:* Develop marine spatial plans for the four Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to conserve globally significant biodiversity and coordinate NbS investments in fisheries, mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass beds, and beach restoration. Marine spatial planning is essential for ensuring the sustainable management of marine resources and ecosystems. This activity will create spatial plans for the MPAs that prioritize conservation and the sustainable use of fisheries and other marine resources. The plans will integrate NbS investments in ecosystem restoration, such as mangrove and coral reef rehabilitation, which are vital for protecting biodiversity and supporting livelihoods, particularly in coastal communities. As with other activities, the SESA will assess the social and environmental impacts of these plans in the first year.

Output 1.2.3 will improve decision-makers' capacity to understand the value of NbS as the foundation of human well-being and its potential to attract private investment to develop the green and blue economy in Comoros. This output is focused on elevating the understanding of NbS and how benefits from NbS activities can be leveraged for economic development and human well-being. It will highlight the importance of NbS not only for environmental sustainability but also for creating opportunities within the green and blue economic sectors. The capacity-building efforts will be multi-dimensional, targeting national and local decision-makers across the target sectors. Training and knowledge-sharing initiatives will be implemented to illustrate how NbS can enhance ecosystem services, mitigate climate change impacts, protect biodiversity, **rehabilitate landscapes**, and simultaneously create economic opportunities for local communities in a systemic way that creates benefits across multiple sectors. These efforts will also explore gender-sensitive and socially inclusive approaches to ensure that the benefits of NbS are equitably distributed. Furthermore, this output will showcase how investments in the green and blue economies—sectors that rely on sustainable use and management of natural resources—can deliver returns while also contributing to ecosystem health and resilience. Through capacity building, it will encourage the exploration of financing mechanisms, such as public-private partnerships, that promote NbS investments, particularly in eco-tourism, sustainable fisheries, marine resource management, and other sectors. The activities will be two-fold:

- *Activity 1.2.3a:* Organize capacity-building workshops for decision-makers on the economic, social, and environmental benefits of NbS and their role in human well-being and sustainable development. This activity will involve a series of workshops aimed at key government officials, policymakers, and stakeholders across various sectors. The training sessions will highlight how NbS contribute to biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, ecosystem management, landscape rehabilitation and socio-economic benefits, especially in the context of the green and blue economies. The workshops will also address the importance of integrating gender-sensitive approaches into NbS planning and implementation.
- *Activity 1.2.3b:* Facilitate cross-sectoral dialogues between government, private sector, and civil society on the role of NbS in economic development and private investment opportunities. This activity will focus on organizing multi-stakeholder dialogues that bring together government representatives, private investors, development partners, and civil society organizations. The aim is to explore NbS as a catalyst for sustainable development in Comoros, emphasizing the economic returns and potential for private sector engagement in the green and blue economies. These discussions will ensure alignment between public policy goals and private investment interests while also addressing gender-responsive and inclusive economic growth strategies.

Outcome 1.3. Strengthened and coherent enabling environment that incentivizes private sector investment in scalable sustainable NbS across the tourism and food sectors, which supports the growth of the Blue and Green Economy.

The integration of nature's value and ecosystems into domestic expenditure, including public and private investments and lending policies related to the food and tourism sectors, is essential to prevent ecosystem degradation. In this outcome, activities are focused on improving the enabling environment for coordinated public and private sector investment in NbS. Aligning with outcome 1.2, this involves policy, regulation, and enforcement reforms to discourage unsustainable activities by private sector investors and lenders in key sectors supported by Comoros' terrestrial and marine ecosystems while also enhancing opportunities for blended finance approaches like public-private partnerships (PPPs) to build investor confidence. This can be enhanced by collective bargaining initiatives, as promoted, for example, by the Comoros Integrated Waste Management Alliance and by the BGI GCP itself. A strengthened enabling environment for financing around nature-integrated development will ensure: i) domestic nature positive financing is increased and negative financing decreased, and ii) private sector capital and financing are unlocked through private sector engagement and innovative finance mechanisms.

Comoros will need to establish a detailed Article 6 strategy and a policy framework to help the country identify the mix of mitigation interventions, policies, and measures that could meet its NDC pledge, forming an integral component of the country's overall climate strategy. Comoros has been involved in carbon finance activities, primarily through a European private company in partnership with the French NGO Noé Conservation. However, this process has brought attention to significant gaps in Comoros's current institutional and legal framework, which hinders the country's ability to effectively accommodate and attract carbon finance. Article 6 of the Paris Agreement allows countries to voluntarily cooperate with each other to achieve emission reduction targets set out in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Under Article 6, a country (or countries) can transfer carbon credits earned from the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to help one or more countries meet their climate targets. Article 6 plays a crucial role in incentivizing climate action by facilitating the exchange of carbon credits and promoting global cooperation in achieving emission reduction targets. Countries intending to engage in cooperative activities under Article 6 need to establish their own robust institutional and governance framework at the domestic level to make informed decisions systematically. Putting such a framework in place provides policy clarity to market

players (both domestic and international) who are interested in engaging with the country^{[3]31}. The context for setting institutions and approval procedures at the domestic level is fundamentally rooted in the country's national climate strategy and its NDC. The governance arrangements can include a high-level and multi-sectoral decision-making body with overall authority to design and oversee the program and international cooperation; an executive body that would develop and approve rules based on the overall regulatory environment and mandate; an administrator to execute the rules and guidance on a day-to-day basis; and a technical committee to provide technical advice and inputs to all of the other bodies^{[4]32}.

Activities under this outcome will connect with the UNDP Platform for Voluntary Bilateral Cooperation^{[5]33} and build on existing institutions.

Output 1.3.1 will aim to improve policy frameworks that negate unsustainable activities by the private sector across key economic sectors (tourism and food) supported by Comoros terrestrial and marine ecosystems. This will need to be aligned with the enhanced policies across the sectors from outcome 1.2 and focus on reforming and improving policy frameworks to deter unsustainable private sector activities in key sectors reliant on Comoros' terrestrial and marine ecosystems. While fisheries and tourism can gain from NbS, these sectors also have a significant impact on the country's natural resources, and current practices contribute to environmental degradation and may have a counter-effect on any NbS implemented. The aim is to foster an enabling environment that shifts private sector stakeholders' behaviors toward practices that support NbS. This output will lay the groundwork for a sustainable green and blue economy by targeting policies that govern private sector engagement. Activities involve:

- **Activity 1.3.1a:** Develop a targeted investment guide for private sector actors, showcasing the potential of NbS in supporting sustainable investments in the green and blue economy sectors. A comprehensive investment guide will be created detailing opportunities for private sector engagement in NbS-related initiatives in Comoros. This guide will focus on sectors like eco-tourism, sustainable fisheries, marine restoration, and reforestation. It will provide data and case studies demonstrating the profitability and sustainability of NbS investments alongside recommendations for attracting investment, including gender-inclusive and socially responsible practices that produce multi-sectoral benefits across communities.
- **Activity 1.3.1b:** Launch a diagnostic study to assess government subsidies, financial mechanisms, and budget allocations with nature/climate negative impacts and provide guidance and tools to repurpose and eliminate nature/climate negative financing
- **Activity 1.3.1c:** Develop a national strategy for the development of the green and blue economy that supports policy and regulatory reforms to incentivize nature-positive private sector investment, including tax breaks, nature-positive subsidies, certification, and concessions, and establish a public-private partnership (PPP) framework to invest in NbS. The SESA will assess this, which will be prepared within the first year of project implementation.

Output 1.3.2 Incentive mechanisms in place that enhance private sector investment in NbS through carbon finance, PPPs, tax breaks, nature-positive subsidies and investments, certification and concessions. This output focuses on creating financial and regulatory mechanisms that attract private sector investments in nature-based solutions (NbS) in Comoros. By establishing a strong incentive framework, the output seeks to harness the potential of carbon finance,

public-private partnerships (PPPs), and various financial tools like tax breaks and nature-positive subsidies to encourage environmentally sustainable investments.

- **Activity 1.3.2a:** Create an incentive framework to attract financial transfers in NbS for personal private investment from members of the Comorian diaspora in their communities of origin.
- **Activity 1.3.2b:** Support the establishment of the necessary legal and institutional frameworks surrounding a carbon finance framework that aligns with Article 6 requirements, involving government, non-government, and private stakeholders. This inter alia includes:
 - Establish a high-level decision body with overall authority to design and oversee the program and international cooperation (the “policy coordination and oversight” functions).
 - Establish an executive body that would develop and approve rules based on the overall regulatory environment and mandate.
 - Nominate an administrator to execute the rules and guidance on a day-to-day basis.
 - Establish a technical committee to provide technical advice and inputs.
 - Set up and implement a step-by-step approach for article 6 transactions.

Component 2: Implementation of scaled and sustainable NbS in key ecosystems in terrestrial and marine PAs supported by private investment in the tourism and food sectors.

Conserving biodiversity and enhancing private sector investment in climate-resilient blue and green value-chains requires well-functioning ecosystems and an attractive natural capital. Currently in Comoros, poor organic waste management, limited offer for visitors to discover the islands and degraded landscapes are limiting private sector investments in, for example, tourism activities. Scaling-up and out NbS that have proved efficient at pilot scale can significantly contribute to overcome natural capital degradation in Comoros, but this requires strengthened capacities, regional cooperation and specific support to private initiatives, ensuring a multi-sectoral approach that engages women, vulnerable groups and PWDs.

Under this component, and with support from enhanced international and regional cooperation through the BGI GCP, the BGI project will first focus on building the capacities of local communities, associations and businesses active in the 6 NPS or directly benefiting from the NPs ecosystem services with the aim to identify and confirm most promising NbS investments for support, through the preparation of business plans and market assessments. Specific support will then be activated in the 2 target sectors (tourism and food sectors), together with ecosystem restoration investments to enhance ecosystem-services provided by NPs.

The focus on the food and tourism economic sectors will center around the systematic linkages between sustainable agricultural practices, restoration of land and marine ecosystems, and improved organic waste management and usage and resulting benefits and impacts for communities and local economies. By implementing NbS related to agroforestry, reforestation, and coastal ecosystem restoration, the project aims to strengthen the resilience of both the food and tourism sectors. Agroforestry techniques, such as planting trees to restore soil fertility and reduce coastal erosion, will enhance agricultural productivity while promoting more sustainable farming methods and generating more attractive areas for coastal tourism. Simultaneously, the restoration of critical marine areas, such as mangroves, coral reefs, and beaches, will not only protect biodiversity but also support local fisheries and eco-tourism, key contributors to the economy. Improved organic waste management practices, including the conversion of agricultural and tourism organic waste into biogas and bio-manure, can produce natural fertilizers to nourish both land-based and coastal ecosystems, further supporting food systems and enhancing environmental restoration.

These activities will foster long-term economic opportunities while improving livelihoods by linking sustainable ecosystem management to community well-being. Restored ecosystems, both terrestrial and marine, will become more resilient to environmental challenges, offering reliable sources of food and eco-tourism attractions. By managing organic waste efficiently, such as using biogas byproducts as fertilizers, the project creates a circular economy where ecological restoration is supported by sustainable resource use. Agroforestry in upland farming areas will stabilize soils, preventing erosion that harms coastal waters and

marine life, while reforestation in degraded areas like Grand Comore will protect freshwater springs and reduce sedimentation in lagoons. Through this integrated approach, the project ensures that conservation efforts protect the environment and generate sustainable, locally driven economic benefits that enhance food security and tourism opportunities.

With regards to cross cutting themes, behavioral and attitude change by the public and private sector will be fostered through capacity building, technical support, knowledge and learning sharing to demonstrate how scaling of NbS can lead to socio-economic benefits, sectoral environmental benefits and reduced degradation, as well as financial investment potential. Public-private partnerships that promote investment by the private sector, incentivized by effective policies and regulations, will catalyze investment in NbS at scale. The project will tap into the resources and information available through the Global Coordination Project's Nature-based Solutions (NbS) Accelerator and Technical Assistance Facility to further the development of high-quality nature-integrated NbS projects proposed. NbS applied will also mainstream gender concerns, PWD, youth and people specifically affected by the establishment of NPs into interventions, ensuring they are gender-responsive and that socio-economic benefits are equitably targeted and shared. Scaled NbS, supported by private sector engagement and innovative financial solutions, will reduce environmental degradation, strengthen environmental resilience to climate impacts, and build social and economic resilience through strengthen livelihoods and access to financing at the local, sub-national, national, and regional levels. Environmental security will be addressed through scaled long-term NbS action supported by private sector engagement and financing, which will reduce environmental impacts to food production, to marine food systems, as well as by NbS supporting nature-positive changes in the tourism and food sectors.

Outcome 2.1. Improved capacities of local communities and businesses of the targeted protected areas to monitor NbS activities, expand market opportunities to access private sector investment, and implement scaled sustainable Nature-based Solutions.

Under this outcome, GEF investment will be used to ensure local communities, associations, institutions and private companies have the necessary knowledge and capacities to invest in the scaling up and out of sustainable NbS interventions to the benefit of nature and the people, as well as ensure proper monitoring and surveillance of activities. ANPN local teams, community/fisher/women associations and local private investors need entrepreneurial and technical support to design viable projects and access funding (e.g. through blended finance).

Output 2.1.1 aims to improve market baselines and gaps in NbS opportunities across the food and tourism sectors in the local communities. This will be determined through feasibility assessments and market analysis that can help inform the two sectors' blue and green value chains in the 6 NPs.

- **Activity 2.1.1a:** Conduct a Gap assessment covering the existing technical and financial capacities of local businesses, authorities and CSOs to implement NbS. This will include a mapping process of SMEs and associations with the potential to invest in NbS in the target areas. The assessment will include considerations regarding safeguards and the capacity of local communities and businesses to operate according to UNDP SES. This activity will benefit from the work planned by UCCIA Innovlab with support from the UNEP/GEF EbA project under formulation that plans to incubate new SMEs in the blue/green economy. The BGI project team will mobilize potential project holders to enroll and coach them into this up and out-scaling process of their activity.
- **Activity 2.1.1b:** In parallel, conduct market assessments to identify blue and green value chains in the 6 NPs, focusing particularly on opportunities in:
 - Ecotourism.
 - Climate-smart agriculture and agroforestry for food security and high value-added products.
 - Sustainable fisheries.

- Circular economy for the management of organic waste.

Output 2.1.2 Local businesses and communities empowered and able to access private sector finance for inclusive landscape/seascape planning, natural resources management, and integrated, multi-sectoral development through support to the development of business models and plans that improves their ability to attract investment in the green and blue economy. This empowerment is crucial for ensuring the sustainability and further upscaling of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) activities. By developing strong business models and plans, communities will be better positioned to attract investment in the green and blue economies, securing the financial resources needed to sustain NbS interventions over the long term. Furthermore, enhancing their ability to access private-sector finance will enable the continued implementation and expansion of NbS efforts, such as ecosystem restoration, climate resilience initiatives, and sustainable resource management, thereby creating resilient local economies that support both environmental conservation and livelihood improvements in the food and tourism sectors. Activities will include:

- **Activity 2.1.2a.** Build the capacity of local businesses, authorities and CSOs on the development of business plans and technical feasibility studies to attract sustainable investments. Under this activity, the GEF investment will support project holders (including women, youth, vulnerable people, and PWDs) in **the 2 sectors** of focus in the assessment of the resources needed to launch their project, of the sustainability and profitability of their project, establishing the break-even point, to build a coherent and viable project. The activity will include **targeted training on SES based on the gap assessment.**
- **Activity 2.1.2b.** Implement a technical facility to support high-potential business plans from a business pipeline (in continuity of the previous activity but also other projects like PIDC and RNAP2), capitalizing on international partnerships like the Restoration Factory in Kenya (UNEP/FAO/Bridge for billions/P4F). The facility will guide entrepreneurs through the critical stages of business development, combining training and learning sessions with professional mentoring.
- **Activity 2.1.2c.** Create a database of the national/international funds supporting the launch of entrepreneurial initiatives with guarantees or loans (such as the UNCDF Bridge Facility[6]) as well as the modalities to obtain the financing.

Output 2.1.3 will build and strengthen local community capacity (incl. women and youth) to ensure assessment of natural resource stocks, surveillance, and activity monitoring in the target areas of intervention. Reinforcing the human and technical capacities of NPs management committees is essential to ensure that the protected areas and NbS implemented are managed and properly surveilled to (i) ensure that interventions by the private sector do not weaken the ecological base in the parks and (ii) communicate around successful implementation of NbS and advocate for investments from the diaspora.

- **Activity 2.1.3a:** Conduct workshops that train local community members, including women and youth, in methods for assessing natural resource stocks (e.g., biodiversity surveys, soil quality assessment, water quality testing). These trainings should include practical fieldwork, data collection, and analysis techniques. In addition, the activity will offer training on using modern tools such as GPS mapping, drones, and smartphone apps for environmental monitoring. These technologies can assist in tracking illegal activities (e.g., logging, poaching) and environmental changes. Emphasize the importance of traditional ecological knowledge alongside technological solutions.
- **Activity 2.1.3b:** Create inclusive community groups that are responsible for regular monitoring and patrolling of protected areas. These teams should include local men, women, and youth, ensuring inclusivity and ownership over the conservation process.

- *Activity 2.1.3c:* Strengthen NPs Management Committees through specialized training and improved human and technical capacities on overseeing the integration of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) within park boundaries. Training should focus on governance, decision-making, conflict resolution, and enforcing environmental regulations.
- *Activity 2.1.3d:* Develop guidelines and protocols for engaging with the private sector to ensure that any investments or activities do not undermine the ecological health of the protected areas.

Outcome 2.2. Nature-based Solutions scaled and implemented in key ecosystems supporting the tourism and food economic sectors through inclusive, gender-sensitive, and multisectoral approaches.

Under this Outcome, the GEF investment will be used to implement NbS at scale, building on the results of Component 1, ensuring the implementation of plans and strategies developed under Outcomes 1.2 and 1.3. The focus will be on expanding pilot experiences in Comoros to restore natural capital to support NbS businesses in the food and tourism sectors. This includes supporting private sector investments in sustainable blue/green value chains, as well as supporting ecosystem restoration activities at scale for enhanced ecosystems services. The project will support the implementation, e.g. through PPPs, of most promising business plans for eco-tourism, sustainable fisheries, management of city organic waste and agroforestry/food system. In addition, the BGI project will invest in ecosystem restoration activities that support sustainable value chains of the blue and green economy in close collaboration with local associations, cooperatives, and private sector actors. Restoration activities will occur in the 6NPs on terrestrial and marine / coastal ecosystems. The project will tap into the resources and information available through the Global Coordination Project's Nature-based Solutions (NbS) Accelerator and Technical Assistance Facility to further the development of high-quality nature-integrated NbS projects proposed.

Output 2.2.1 will enhance NbS for food security and sustainable fisheries through the (i) implementation of fisheries management plans to restore coastal and marine ecosystems (mangroves, coral reefs), which boost fish stocks and support tourism, (ii) *implementation of, and capacity building for*, local authorities, businesses, and fishers on *scaled* circular organic waste management practices (organic waste collection from tourism, chicken stock, etc.), *strengthened* sustainable fishing techniques and access to alternative fish species through behavioral change and management plans and (iii) support for private sector investments in cold chain infrastructure and fish processing technologies to reduce post-catch losses. By restoring coastal and marine ecosystems such as mangroves and coral reefs, fisheries management plans boost fish stocks, ensuring the resilience of marine environments. Simultaneously, capacity building for local authorities, businesses, and fishers on circular organic waste management practices and sustainable fishing techniques ensure that resource use is efficient and environmentally sound. Private sector investment in biogas, composting, and fish processing technologies completes the system by reducing waste and post-catch losses, creating a circular economy where resources are reused, and food systems are made more sustainable. This interconnected approach ensures that environmental restoration, economic activity, and organic waste management are aligned to enhance overall ecosystem health and food security.

There is high potential for fish in Comoros, and thousands make a living from fishing. However, fishers lack diversified fishing techniques, which has a negative impact on the environment and the fish resource itself and prevents fishing communities from earning a substantial income. Due to limited equipment, fishers mostly focus on coral reef resources, where fishing pressure is too high in some areas and requires protection measures. In parallel, high stocks of demersal fish such as tuna have been confirmed by the IOC Swiofish project funded by the World Bank, as well as an important stock of octopus. In addition, there is a strong need to establish and enforce fishing science-based calendars and fishing quotas and forbid the most destructive fishing practices.

Moreover, the quasi-absence of a reliable cold chain generates an estimated 25 percent loss in fish catch. Cold chambers are already in place in some areas (e.g., Coelacanth NP), but unreliable power sources cause issues with storage. Enhancing cold storage contributes to NbS by mitigating overfishing and reducing post-catch waste, thus supporting marine ecosystem health and aligning with ecosystem-based management (EBM) principles. There is plenty of scope for scaling up these activities. Fisher associations and women fish buyers' associations are very active in the Coelacanth NP and could be assisted in scaling up previous initiatives, as in Malé village, where the fisher's association has bought

land and constructed a building using their own funds to accommodate a cold chamber funded by the IOC Swiofish project. Similarly, the *Société coopérative de protection des poulpes de Moimbayisone* in Mwali is using small solar tent dryers for octopus with promising results. The cooperative is willing to scale up this experience and replicate it in other sites, but this needs to be accompanied by capacity building and coaching from a fish processing specialist so that involved women groups are properly trained. More generally, there are opportunities in Comoros for private sector investment in small processing facilities like canning facilities, which are simple technologies that would allow the reduction of **imports** while creating jobs for women. However, while fish refrigeration and processing offer benefits in mitigating post-catch losses, reducing organic waste, and enhancing the economic sustainability of fishing communities, they need to be supplemented by and preceded by comprehensive initiatives to avoid overfishing.

Furthermore, existing mangroves in Comoros NPs are at risk and highly degraded in some places, negatively affecting fish populations and increasing sea erosion, spatially considering the current and future sea-level rise in the climate change context. Although sensitization efforts from NPs seem to bring results in terms of reduced wood collection in mangroves, there is a need to densify and extend the remaining mangrove sites in the 4 MPAs as well as nationally, considering the multifaceted benefits associated with mangroves. Finally, existing beaches and dunes in the 4 MPAs are also at high erosion risk, suffering from sea-level rise and sand mining, destroying valuable ecosystems that can be used for tourism.

The activities involve:

- **Activity 2.2.1a:** Support private investment in NbS in the fisheries sector through capacity building, support the implementation of business plans (established under Output 1.2.2), and innovative financial packages (e.g., blended finance), including support to the acquisition of small equipment. This will include:
 - Support opportunities for private investments in (solar-powered) fish refrigeration and fish processing.
 - Conduct a market study and a communication campaign on the use of dried octopus to promote the product in local markets.
 - Establish fish calendars and fishing quotas (in close collaboration with local communities, with visits to demonstration sites where this has proved efficient, e.g. in Mwali), and capacity building (equipment and training) of NP technical teams to monitor fishing activities and enforce regulations, in close link with the Department of fisheries.
 - Build the capacities of men and women fishers on new, more sustainable, and profitable fishing techniques and implementation of clearly established fishing calendars and fishing zones to ensure the renewability of the resource (in relation to Output 1.2.2).
- **Activity 2.2.1b:** Restore coastal ecosystems using NbS that limit erosion, enhance biodiversity, boost fish production, and enhance eco-tourism activities. The project will (i) establish a National Mangrove Restoration Plan (diagnostic of the current situation of mangroves in the 3 islands, zoning, species, ongoing and planned restoration activities), including restoration calendars for the 4 MPAs; (ii) organize the plantation of mangrove seedlings by NPs staff with local communities and scholars, to also sensitize people to the need to preserve mangrove. This will require collecting seedlings in healthy mangrove sites or establishing tree nurseries, as appropriate, and organizing quarterly planting events in each of the 4 MPAs as well as planning the surveillance of young seedlings for at least 1 year after plantation (see identified mangrove plantation sites in the 4 MPAs in Annex I).
- **Activity 2.2.1c:** GEF investment will be used to scale up the successfully piloted beach restoration experience in Hamavouna Beach (Mwali NP), which consists of protecting the beach and dune line with bamboo fencing, plantations, and sensitization of villagers and other beach users. Enhancing beaches functions as a barrier to the sea and protection of the coast requires capturing sand moved by sea and wind, which has been experimented with worldwide, including in Comoros, using fences of wood sticks (e.g., ‘gazelles’ in France and Senegal, which are fence wood slats). Fencing enables sand to accumulate and limits trampling, enabling plants to develop. Planting of adapted plant species further stabilizes the sand dune. In Comoros, *Ipomea*

pescaprae (cover plant) and *Thespesia populnea* (shrub) are species particularly adapted species to dune fixation.

Output 2.2.2 will strengthen NbS through the integration of agroforestry and sustainable food systems, ensuring protected areas allow for economic activities by (i) restoring agroforestry and forest ecosystems (native species) in degraded areas within the 6 National Parks to restore soil fertility (*supported by biofertilizer, Output 2.2.1*), improve water storage, and reduce coastal erosion which enhances food production and advances tourism potential, (ii) development of agroforestry systems producing high-value products (e.g., organic food, cosmetics) for local and tourism markets, and (iii) inclusive and gender-sensitive capacity building for farmers and local communities to change behaviors towards more climate-smart agricultural practices (e.g. composting, mulching, agroforestry, hedging) and sustainable land management, which may also improve on waterways and impact marine ecosystems.

Agroforestry systems in Comoros are intimately linked to ecosystem services provided by trees and forest areas. However, it is essential to distinguish agroforestry from reforestation activities. Agroforestry involves the integration of trees with agricultural systems to produce high-value products such as fruits, nuts, and timber while enhancing soil health and biodiversity. In contrast, reforestation focuses on restoring degraded forested areas, particularly with native species, to recover ecosystem functions. Comoros is made up of multiple small islands and agriculture and forestry processes linked with marine systems. Deforestation has direct negative impacts on soil erosion, landslide and flood risks, and water availability, which negatively affect agricultural production but also marine systems through run-off and marine pollution. Therefore, forest recovery is key to the restoration of ecosystem services. In addition, identifying solutions to wood needs (firewood and timber) is also necessary. It can be performed through agroforestry practices, such as identifying fast-growing species in highly degraded areas where natural forests can no longer survive. Some tree species (e.g. *Acacia spp.*) can grow in these areas, producing valuable wood while contributing to the forest ecosystem restoration process. This has been experimented successfully in Mwali and can be scaled out.

In addition, farming practices and fertility renewal in Comoros still rely heavily on slash-and-burn, an unsustainable practice in high population density areas. Climate-smart agricultural (CSA) techniques (e.g. use of compost and biofertilizer, mulching, agroforestry, hedging) are being promoted in Comoros in different areas already. The upcoming new UNDP/GEF-funded project on agricultural value chains will support 8 CRDEs^[7] to promote CSA farming practices. The 3 terrestrial NPs of Mont Ntringi, Karthala and Mwali are covered by 6 CRDEs^[8] that are not included in the value-chain GEF project.

Developing food and other nature-based quality products from agroforestry outputs represents a significant Nature-based Solution (NbS), as it aligns with ecological sustainability and community resilience. The multi-sectoral approach can be strategically linked with tourism to create a holistic NbS that enhances both environmental sustainability and local economies. Agroforestry systems, by producing a diverse range of high-quality goods—such as organic foods, herbal medicines, and artisanal products—have been promoted as unique, eco-friendly offerings for tourists in Comoros and need to be reinforced and scaled-up. These products not only appeal to eco-conscious travelers but can also become part of the local tourism experience, where visitors are invited to engage in agro-tourism activities, such as farm tours, harvesting, and learning about sustainable farming practices.

Activities under this output will include:

- **Activity 2.2.2a:** Implement reforestation activities at scale in terrestrial NPs with forest species, as per reforestation plans established under output 1.2.2. This will include restoring agroforestry and forest ecosystems at scale to enhance food production and tourism potential and improve water storage while reducing erosion and soil degradation. Large-scale reforestation (in the place of small pilot reforestation projects) using native species in Ngazidja Karthala NP will deliver scientifically measurable ecosystem services and be used as a sensitization example for local communities. The identified forest and woodlot plantation sites are listed in Annex I. This will be supported by some work to fight invasive species, focusing on Chinese guava (*Psidium catelianam*), which is particularly problematic in the Karthala NP. The BGI project will scale up regional

initiatives promoting the use of *Psidium Catalina* wood by carpenters to make furniture, working with identified carpenters with disabilities in Ngazidja. This will give economic value to this invasive tree and encourage communities in the NP to harvest and sell it to those carpenters, thus allowing native species to recover in those areas.

- **Activity 2.2.2b:** Support 6 CRDEs in the dissemination of CSA practices to local farmers, in close connection with the nearby CRDEs supported by the GEF-funded value chains project and connect CRDEs and farmers in NPs with organic fertilizer production from biogas facilities supported.
- **Activity 2.2.2c:** Scale up the development of food and other nature-based quality products from agroforestry outputs from existing activities in Comoros. There are several opportunities in Comoros to support existing initiatives producing high-value-added products from agroforestry farm material. For example, women entrepreneurs in Ndzuani and Ngazidja have been successfully producing soap and other cosmetics from local coconut oil and essential oils and would need support to scale up their activity and market in Comoros, starting with hotels in the 3 islands. Another example is an initiative making sustainable packaging using organic products to reduce single-use plastics, which has the potential to expand tremendously in the Country. Processing of local agroforestry products in NPs also has the potential to unlock nature-based green jobs in communities, like making flour from breadfruit (most of which are lost by lack of conservation), flour from sago^[9], already processed in some areas but under-exploited, or supporting honey production, processing, and packaging as already experienced for example in the Siry-Ziroudani village of Mwali.
- **Activity 2.2.2d:** Support investments in organic waste management, composting, and the development of organic waste collection/management plans in the 3 islands (that will be subject to a scoped ESIA), providing value to organic waste in a circular economy. This would include the collection of organic waste from farms (chicken production farmers), guest houses, restaurants, markets, which would reduce its environmental and sanitary impact while supporting the tourism businesses. Subsequently, the organic waste collected from tourism facilities and/or farms can be composted and used as fertilizer in local agriculture, reforestation activities, or converted into biogas for local communities. This creates a circular system where waste from the tourism and food sectors supports environmental restoration or reversely closes the loop on agricultural production as well as offers alternative cooking solutions for the local communities. For example, The BIOCOM company, the island's main chicken farmer in Ndzuani, has successfully run a biogas unit for several years, with support from the TWENex project^[10]. BIOCOM is already scaling out the project in neighboring villages with financial support from Meck^[11]³⁴. The technology has proved very successful in recycling chicken litter and reducing the dependence of the farm and surrounding households on LPG, which can have economic benefits for the local communities in the shape of lower prices on energy. In addition, the farmer now sells low-cost organic fertilizer to local farmers. BGI funds will support further scaling out of BIOCOM investments with agricultural cooperatives and neighboring villages in Ndzuani to enhance the use of organic fertilizers. Support will also target scaling out of the technology in the other 2 main islands.

Output 2.2.3 will strengthen economic empowerment through development of nature-positive sustainable eco-tourism to advance economic opportunities in local communities through (i) the development of eco-friendly tourism infrastructure in the 6 National Parks (e.g., hiking trails, beaches, nature-watching, lodges) and (ii) inclusive and gender-sensitive capacity building for local communities to develop and manage eco-tourism businesses through the implementation of tourism plans and activities.

The restoration of critical coastal ecosystems, such as mangroves and beaches, as implemented under output 2.2.1, is a fundamental NbS activity, as these ecosystems enhance biodiversity, offer storm protection, and support carbon sequestration, all while serving as key attractions for eco-tourism. These restorative efforts, combined with developing eco-friendly tourism infrastructure in the six National Parks (e.g., hiking trails, beaches, lodges), promote sustainable eco-tourism that can generate economic opportunities for local

communities. In connection with activities under output 2.2.1, these efforts will strengthen NbS for eco-tourism. Reforestation of, e.g., mangroves, particularly in degraded areas, will restore biodiversity and ecosystems that are vital for tourism appeal, while agroforestry (implemented under output 2.2.2) will provide sustainable resources like timber and other forest products that can be integrated into tourism offerings. Moreover, inclusive and gender-sensitive capacity-building activities empower local communities, particularly women, to manage eco-tourism businesses effectively. Through training in tourism plan implementation, communities can sustainably engage in eco-tourism, ensuring that economic benefits are equitably distributed while conserving natural resources.

The activities under ecotourism include:

- *Activity 2.2.3a:* Strengthen small, basic communal infrastructures that are key to the success of NbS and create sustainable and decent jobs for the benefit of the NP's communities. This will include surveillance infrastructure, communications, footpaths and seafronts, and conservation infrastructure.
- *Activity 2.2.3b:* Invest in the scaling-up of small tourist facilities in the 6 NPs: currently, NPs severely lack tourist facilities in hotspots such as beaches, hiking trails, and nature-watching and surveillance infrastructure, making it difficult for potential tourists to enjoy nature while supporting local communities. Successful examples of such infrastructure exist, which can be scaled up, such as in Mwali, where the community association ADSEI (Association pour le développement socio-économique d'Itsamia) has successfully run eco-constructed bungalows near the village beach, which is a sea-turtle watching hotspots. The BGI project will, therefore, support the scaling-up of such NbS investments in the 6 NPs.
- *Activity 2.2.3c:* Enhance the attractivity of NPs to tourists through (i) the development of touristic tours in each NPs, scaling out the Karthala NP initiative called The Great Karthala Crossing (in French: Grande traversée du Karthala), which is a 6-day hiking trail currently being designed and developed with support from the RNAP2 project; and (ii) the update of the ONTC website as the main tourist information platform for visitors to Comoros (to complete it with newly created tourist infrastructure and tours); and (iii) Support to regional tourist information offices in the 3 islands.

Component 3- Inclusive and Gender-sensitive knowledge management and partnership building to advance NbS at local, national, regional and global levels

The importance of the nation's natural capital to human socio-economic development and well-being needs to be well documented at the island and country level so that national and regional institutions, NGOs, private sector companies, and local communities have a good understanding of the ecosystem services they currently benefit from and the need to preserve ecosystems functionality and scale-up NbS that have proved successful. Without an awareness of the importance of biodiversity to the country's development and community well-being, stakeholders are not likely to take the steps needed to mainstream NbS into their development plans or invest in them. By creating valuable resources for other projects and programs working in similar contexts, this GEF intervention will contribute to the global learning and synthesis of experiences, enabling others to replicate and scale up successful interventions.

The BGI Global Coordination Project (GCP) will provide a variety of technical advice, tools, resources, and partnerships to assist country child projects. In this context, support from the GCP will be a key element of the knowledge management approach, as it will foster regional and south-south cross-feeding of experience, enabling Comoros to share with and benefit from other countries' experience, but also facilitating investment opportunities at scale.

Component 3 will also enable mainstreaming cross-cutting issues of knowledge management and gender and PWDs inclusiveness into other project components and outputs. Behavioral and attitude change by the public and private sectors will be fostered through capacity building, awareness-raising, and communication

activities, and regional cooperation will focus on environmental security, technology transfers, and public-private partnerships for investing in NbS.

Outcome 3.1: Technical knowledge and lessons learned from the project's experiences are compiled, evaluated, and translated into knowledge products that are inclusive and gender sensitive.

Local engagement in the scaling-up of NbS will be supported by awareness-raising activities and a communication and advocacy strategy, ensuring that women, youth, vulnerable individuals, and PWDs are involved. Under this output, the project will develop a knowledge management and communications strategy based on a KM&L needs assessment at the beginning of project implementation. It will include clear and actionable guidelines on how the project will raise awareness, share information, and capitalize on the knowledge generated through its activities. Considerations for local socio-cultural dimensions will be made, including requirements for communication in the local language and the integration of a gender-sensitive approach to communication and awareness building. Information and lessons learned from the project will be systematically captured and shared via social media, dedicated knowledge products, and exchange visits between the 6 NP teams and the stakeholders and communities involved in project interventions. Dialogue and learning events, engaging a wider public of regional stakeholders will be organized in each of the islands annually, and at the national level. Short videos with practical examples and results will be published on social media.

Output 3.1.1 will establish a comprehensive and robust knowledge management and learning framework and system that supports tracking, documenting, and sharing lessons learned from the project.

- **Activity 3.1.1a:** Undertake a KM&L needs assessment at the beginning of project implementation
- **Activity 3.1.1b:** Establish a regional e-tracking system to monitor the contribution to GEF-8 core indicators
- **Activity 3.1.1c:** Develop various knowledge products in coordination with BGI GCP.
- **Activity 3.1.1d:** Develop a database showcasing all the implemented NbS and relative study cases and success stories.
- **Activity 3.1.1e:** Organize dialogue and learning events on each island and prepare lessons learned brief reports annually for sharing and presenting to the Project Board. The lessons learned reports can be integrated in the annual report prepared by the PMU.

Output 3.1.2 will develop a gender-sensitive communication, awareness, and advocacy strategy that focuses on engaging key stakeholders—including civil society organizations (CSOs), the private sector, local communities, and academia—as well as policymakers and the broader public. This strategy will ensure that support for NbS solutions is widespread, emphasizing inclusivity and gender equity in all communications. The gender-sensitive approach will ensure that both women's and men's roles and needs are equally addressed, particularly in decision-making processes related to NbS activities. By raising awareness and generating advocacy for the replication and scaling of successful NbS interventions, the strategy will foster a collaborative environment where diverse stakeholders actively support and contribute to the sustainability and expansion of nature-based initiatives. This, in turn, will amplify the impact of NbS across sectors, generating broad-based interest and investment to drive long-term environmental and socio-economic benefits.

Key activities will include:

- **Activity 3.1.2a:** Develop an actionable gender-sensitive communication and advocacy strategy to raise awareness about the project's adopted NbS solutions and their potential for further replication and scaling up. This strategy will include:
 - Key actions and activities with a timeline to be implemented as part of the communications and advocacy strategy.
 - Definition and organization of advocacy events and meetings with policymakers and stakeholders to promote NbS solutions as a key component of sustainable development
 - Definition of key media outlets and social media outlets to be used for communication with protocols on how to use these.
 - List of key media to be produced.
- **Activity 3.1.2b:** Organize communication campaigns that highlight successful NbS interventions, targeting local communities, national stakeholders, and the diaspora. This can include the production of success stories, case studies, and multimedia content that showcase the positive outcomes of NbS efforts (e.g., restored ecosystems and improved livelihoods).

Outcome 3.2: Positive synergies and inclusive partnerships are built with existing regional and global partners/actors to drive collaboration and leverage additional resources to invest at scale on NbS in Comoros.

As is well pointed out in the GCP project document, SIDS faces numerous challenges in implementing NbS at scale and attracting investments given their size, limited capacities, geographic isolation, and higher logistical costs, among other constraints. Therefore, it is crucial for those countries to work together, share experience, build on successful initiatives, and join forces to leverage resources to invest at scale.

Under this outcome, the project will actively contribute to the BGI GCP initiatives to enhance regional and international cooperation as an opportunity to benefit from experience, contacts, and investments in other countries, in particular nearby IOC countries. The project will also actively participate in South-South cooperation, thematic hubs, and communities of practice. This will be achieved through existing SIDS-relevant networks and regional and thematic forums to exchange knowledge and experience. This includes working closely with other Indian Ocean islands through the IOC or other ongoing initiatives (e.g. linking the BGI interventions to the TWEnex and Exploi regional projects; the ongoing UNDP-GEF7 project "Supporting sustainable inclusive Blue Economy Transformation in AIO SIDS"; and cooperation with carpenters involved in the processing of *Psidium catelianam* tree in the Reunion Island). It also includes South-South cooperation with the Restoration Factory in Kenya (UNEP/FAO/Bridge for billions/P4F).

Through this project, Comoros may also join the GLISPA Community of Practice on Sustainable and Regenerative Tourism, bringing together tourism professionals from around the world, or contribute to the PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet multi-partner platform where examples of inspiring, replicable solutions across a range of conservation and sustainable development topics are proposed, enabling cross-sectoral learning and inspiration across themes and regions.

Output 3.2.1 will focus on identifying entry points for partnerships and facilitating knowledge sharing on both regional and international levels, with an inclusive action plan developed and enforced to improve coordination and leverage partnership opportunities. This will be instrumental in ensuring the long-term sustainability and scalability

of the NbS implemented by drawing on diverse expertise, resources, and best practices from across sectors and borders.

- **Activity 3.2.1a:** Identify entry points, including a stakeholder analysis to identify potential partners for scaling up the project NbS in the food and tourism economic sectors at the national level. A detailed stakeholder analysis will be conducted to identify potential partners who can support the scaling up of NbS efforts across key sectors such as food systems and tourism. This process will involve mapping out national and international organizations, private sector entities, research institutions, and civil society groups that have the capacity or interest to contribute to NbS initiatives. The analysis will explore potential synergies and collaboration opportunities, helping establish clear entry points for partnership. These efforts will focus on ensuring that the identified partners represent a diverse and inclusive range of stakeholders, particularly those that prioritize equity and environmental sustainability.
- **Activity 3.2.1b:** A national multi-stakeholder platform will be created to promote collaboration and foster partnerships around NbS. This platform will serve as a coordination hub, bringing together representatives from government, civil society, the private sector, and local communities to align efforts and share knowledge. The platform will promote cross-sectoral collaboration, enabling actors to pool resources, share lessons learned, and develop joint initiatives that enhance NbS implementation. Additionally, this platform will facilitate ongoing dialogue, ensuring that NbS projects are integrated into national strategies and development plans, while also promoting transparency, inclusion, and equitable access to resources and opportunities.

Output 3.2.2 will enhance knowledge sharing and capacity building by engaging with existing regional and international platforms (BGI GCP, GLISPA, and PAORAMA), including participation in thematic hubs, communities of practice, networks, conferences, and virtual events.

- **Activity 3.2.2:** Participate in GCP regional node periodic events and annual BGI IP meetings and attend workshops and training organized by the GCP, and build on those capacities to include Comoros private sector and institutional stakeholders into regional initiatives and investments
- **Activity 3.2.2b:** Organize south-south site visits and exchanges that bring external investors to the country as well as conduct exchange visits for national stakeholders to other regional or national projects in neighboring countries to see similar activities and engage in knowledge exchange.
- **Activity 3.2.2c:** Coordinate participation within BGI GCP Thematic Working Groups, providing technical support and collaboration among child project teams and other practitioners (e.g., on NCA and ESV, gender, risks and safeguards, and M&E).

Component 4- Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Outcome 4.1. Integrated, gender-sensitive, and inclusive project M&E is implemented

Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the [UNDP POPP](#) (including [guidance on GEF project revisions](#)) and [UNDP Evaluation Policy](#). The UNDP Country Office is responsible for ensuring full compliance with all UNDP project M&E requirements, including project monitoring, UNDP quality assurance requirements, quarterly risk management, and evaluation requirements.

Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the [GEF Monitoring Policy](#), the [GEF Evaluation Policy](#), and other [relevant GEF policies](#)^[12]. The M&E plan and budget included below will guide the GEF-specific M&E activities to be undertaken by this project.

In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed upon – including during the Project Inception Workshop - and will be detailed in the Inception Report.

Minimum project monitoring and reporting requirements as required by the GEF:

Inception Workshop and Report: A project inception workshop will be held within 2 months from the First disbursement date, with the aim to:

- a. Familiarize key stakeholders with the detailed project strategy and discuss any changes that may have taken place in the overall context since the project idea was initially conceptualized that may influence its strategy and implementation.
- b. Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting lines, stakeholder engagement strategies, and conflict resolution mechanisms.
- c. Review the results framework and monitoring plan.
- d. Discuss reporting, monitoring, and evaluation roles and responsibilities and finalize the M&E budget; identify national/regional institutes to be involved in project-level M&E; discuss the role of the GEF OFP and other stakeholders in project-level M&E.
- e. Update and review responsibilities for monitoring project strategies, including the risk log, SESP report, Social and Environmental Management Framework (where relevant) and other safeguard requirements, project grievance mechanisms, gender strategy, knowledge management strategy, and other relevant management strategies.
- f. Review financial reporting procedures, budget monitoring, and other mandatory requirements and agree on the arrangements for the annual audit.
- g. Plan and schedule Project Board meetings and finalize the first-year annual work plan. Finalize the TOR of the Project Board.
- h. Formally launch the Project.

GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR):

The annual GEF PIR covering the reporting period from July (previous year) to June (current year) will be completed for each year of project implementation. UNDP will undertake quality assurance of the PIR before submission to the GEF. The PIR submitted to the GEF will be shared with the Project Board. UNDP will conduct a quality review of the PIR, and this quality review and feedback will be used to inform the preparation of the subsequent annual PIR.

GEF Core Indicators:

The GEF Core indicators included in Annex 17 will be used to monitor global environmental benefits and updated for reporting to the GEF before MTR and TE. Note that the project team is responsible for updating the core indicators status. The updated monitoring data must be shared with MTR/TE consultants prior to required evaluation missions, so these can be used for subsequent ground truthing. The methodologies to be used in data collection have been defined by the GEF and are available on the [GEF](#).

Independent Mid-term Review (MTR):

The midpoint of the project will complete an independent mid-term review (MTR). The terms of reference, the MTR process, and the final MTR report will follow the standard templates and MTR guidance for UNDP-supported GEF-financed projects available on the [UNDP Evaluation Resource Center](#). The MTR must be submitted to the GEF by the mid-point of the project but no later than 48 months after CEO Endorsement.

Provisions must be made to complete and submit the MTR within the submission deadline. Therefore, the MTR process must start no later than 8 months before the expected date of submission of the MTR.

The MTR will be ‘independent, impartial and rigorous’. The evaluator(s) that UNDP will hire to undertake the assignment will be independent of organizations that were involved in designing, executing, or advising on the project to be reviewed. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project under review.

The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the MTR process. Additional quality assurance support is available from BPPS/NCE.

The final MTR report will be publicly available in English and will be posted on the UNDP ERC by the MTR submission date included on the cover page of this project document. A management response to MTR recommendations will be posted in the ERC within six weeks of the MTR report’s submission to the GEF.

Terminal Evaluation (TE):

An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terms of reference, the evaluation process, and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and TE guidance for UNDP-supported GEF-financed projects available on the [UNDP Evaluation Resource Center](#). TE must be submitted to the GEF no later than 6 months after the Completion Date. This is a hard deadline that, if not met, can only be extended through a formal extension request. To meet the submission deadline, final TE reports must be completed and submitted to the BPPS NCE team no later than 2 months in advance of the deadline to allow sufficient time for internal review/clearance that is required prior to submission.

Provisions must be made to complete and submit the TE within the submission deadline. Therefore, TE must start no later than 8 months before the expected date of submission of the TE (or 11 months prior to the estimated operational closure date).

The evaluation will be ‘independent, impartial, and rigorous. The evaluator(s) that UNDP will hire to undertake the assignment will be independent of organizations that were involved in designing, executing, or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project being evaluated.

The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from BPPS NCE.

The final TE report will be publicly available in English and posted on the UNDPHY ERC by the TE submission date included on the cover page of this project document. A management response to the TE recommendations will be posted to the ERC within six weeks of the TE report submission to the GEF.

Per the GEF Terminal Evaluation requirements, for cancelled full-sized projects, Terminal Evaluations are required if the GEF grant expenditure exceeds more than US\$ 2 million.

Final Report:

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

Output 4.1.1 will build a comprehensive M&E framework that ensures inclusive M&E, defines roles and responsibilities, includes SMART indicators that are inclusive and align with GEF indicators, include data sources, mid-term targets, end targets, and periodic reporting requirements (PIRs, MTR, TE, Final Report).

The project will develop and implement a participatory M&E and learning framework, whereby greater participation of community members/direct project beneficiaries will be sought through, for example, focus group discussions, videos, stories, games, and field visits to ensure a greater understanding of the project, its interventions, and ultimately contribute to higher participation rates and long-term sustainability of interventions. This will also ensure that project results are properly monitored throughout implementation by establishing an M&E framework and implementing regular monitoring activities and evaluations. The findings and recommendations from these evaluations and regular monitoring will feed into the learning framework, as the project will put in place a mechanism to ensure adaptive management throughout implementation, building on lessons learned and best practices.

The project coordination will ensure M&E complies with UNDP/GEF requirements and BGI IP needs, ensuring project and program-level indicators are duly collected and informed into the corresponding results frameworks and monitoring tools. Specific activities will include:

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- *Activity 4.1.1a:* Conduct an inception workshop
- *Activity 4.1.1b:* Conduct M&E in accordance with the UNDP and GEF minimum requirements and reporting as stipulated in this project document. Including monitoring GEF core indicators and project results framework, preparing GEF project Implementation Reports (PIR), Conduct an independent project Mid-term review (MTR) and Terminal Evaluation (TE).
- *Activity 4.1.1c:* Monitor the social and environmental safeguard management framework as well as the implementation of the Gender and PWDs action plans based on comprehensive analyses to promote an inclusive approach to the implementation of NbS in the blue & green economy value-chains. Ensure additional required safeguard instruments identified are developed and monitored.
- *Activity 4.1.1d:* Participate and contribute to the BGI GCP thematic working groups on gender, risks and safeguards, and M&E.
- *Activity 4.1.1e:* Prepare a project exit strategy using lessons learned and the MTR report and recommendations to ensure the sustainability of project results and a clear pathway for scaling up and scaling out
- *Activity 4.1.1f:* Conduct annual supervision missions and learning missions
- *Activity 4.1.1g:* Build the capacity of project stakeholders (from the PMU to the local level) to ensure proper participatory and inclusive monitoring of activities.

Global environment benefits

The proposed approach is using NbS to achieve significant environmental benefits through ecosystem restoration and sustainable management of natural resources. As such, it will contribute to significant GEBs such as:

- **Conservation of globally significant biodiversity: the project restoration and ecosystem management interventions will directly contribute to protecting key species such as sea turtles, endemic bat species in forest areas, and fish species in MPAs, among others.**
- **Sustainable use of globally significant biodiversity: the preparation of, e.g., fisheries management plans in MPAs aims to establish the sustainable use of marine resources and the protection of globally significant biodiversity in marine ecosystems. The same applies in agricultural areas where agroforestry practices and bio-fertilizers will contribute to richer ecosystems and biodiversity/**
- Mitigated GHG emissions
- Improved provision of agro-forestry and forest ecosystem goods and services
- Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in productive landscapes
- Reduction in forest loss and forest degradation
- Maintenance of the range of environmental services derived from ecosystems
- Enhanced sustainable livelihoods for local communities.

Project innovativeness and transformativeness

The project adopts integrated, innovative and transformative approaches to remove systemic challenges through improved multi-stakeholder dialogue/partnerships designed to overcome sectoral silos and financial leverage mechanisms that divert efforts away from a traditional subsidy approach to one that promotes nature positive investments and landscape level payments for ecosystem services.

The proposed approach also relies on the transformational levers promoted by GEF8:

- **Policy and regulatory reforms: to integrate nature into the planning of key economic sectors (agriculture, fisheries, tourism), establish Natural Capital Accounts and incentivize private investments on NbS through the identification of innovative financing mechanisms (Components 1 and 2 of the program).**
- **Leveraging of domestic resources and private investments: by identifying green and blue value chains in the targeted areas, by implementing innovative financing mechanisms, implementing technical and financial facilities to support the development of new businesses, by supporting**

the development of sustainable value chains (fisheries, agroforestry), by enhancing the offer of eco-tourism services (Component 2 of the program).

- Engaging all stakeholders: at all stages with the systemic identification of all relevant stakeholders (through stakeholder analysis), gender-responsive activities, involvement of communities in the co-management of protected areas, development of policies and strategies with relevant ministries and local authorities, identification of financing mechanism with local microfinance institutions, technical support provided to private sectors investors. The planned activities and results will support all the Components and outcomes of the program.
- Innovations and knowledge sharing: By documenting and sharing best practices and lessons learned through easy-to-access platforms, by building synergies with local, national and regional partners for collective upscaling, by promoting South-South and SIDS-SIDS cooperations (component 3 of the program).

[1] There may be scope for sharing lessons with Senegal and Madagascar.

[2] For example, Cargill company buys seaweed from Tanzania (in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy) and from Madagascar (in collaboration with Ocean Farmers <https://ocean-farmers.com/>)

[3] The World Bank. "Country processes and institutional arrangements for Article 6 transactions," World Bank Working Paper, Washington, DC.

[4] Ibid.

[5] [Platform for voluntary bilateral cooperation \(undp.org\)](https://undp.org)

[6] <https://www.uncdf.org/article/7015/the-bridge-facility-a-dedicated-financing-facility-for-the-ldcs>

[7] Namely Ngazidja: CRDEs of Hamalengo-Diboini; Sidjou; Cembenoi; Ndzuani: Pomoni; Bambao Mtsanga; Bandramaji; Mwali: Mibani; Mlédjélé

[8] Ngazidja: CRDEs of Dzahadju Itsandra, Simboussa and Serehini; Ndzuani : Sembehou; Mwali: Fomboni

[9] Sago (known locally as ntsambu) is a food starch extracted from the pulp of the trunk of the sago tree (a type of palm).

[10] IOC/EU project 'Transformation of the waste sector towards a waste-energy nexus in the South-West Indian Ocean region' (TWE Nex). See description in section 'Cooperation with other ongoing initiatives and projects'.

[11] Meck is a well-established financial institution in Comoros

file:///C:/Users/missale.woldegiorgis/Desktop/PIMS%209541%20Final%20CEO_End.%2026%20June%202024.docx-fnref1 [12] See <https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/policies-guidelines>

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)

Implementing Partner: The Implementing Partner for this project is the National Directorate of Environment and Forest (DGEF), under the 'Full NIM' modality in accordance with the agreement between the Comorian Government and UNDP.

The Implementing Partner is the entity to which the UNDP Administrator has entrusted the implementation of UNDP assistance specified in this signed project document along with the assumption of full responsibility and accountability for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in this document.

The Implementing Partner is responsible for executing this project. Specific tasks include:

- **Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting.** This includes providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes and is aligned with national systems so that the data used and generated by the project supports national systems.
- **Overseeing the management of project risks as included in this project document and new risks that may emerge during project implementation.**
- **Procurement of goods and services, including human resources.**
- **Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets.**
- **Approving and signing the multiyear workplan.**
- **Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year; and,**
- **Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.**

Responsible Parties: responsible parties for the implementation of the project activities are as follows:

- **National Parks National Agency (ANPN)**

DGEF will enter into a written agreement with ANPN for implementation of activities under component 2 of the project. As such, ANPN will carry out project activities and produce outputs using the project budget, taking advantage of its specialized skills and position.

Project stakeholders and target groups:

The project will rely on institutional structures (State services, local authorities) and civil society organizations at the central and local levels. DGEF, in conjunction with the PMU, will ensure the implementation of activities, coordination and monitoring and evaluation and will work in close collaboration with the teams in the **6 National Parks** and the 3 cities of Moroni, Fomboni and Mutsamudu, and other relevant institutions : National Agency for Integrated Waste Management (ANAGID), Directorate of Tourism (DGT), General Directorate of Fisheries Resources (DNRH); General Directorate of Agricultural Strategies and Environment (DNSAE), National Parks Agency (ANPN).

An Inter-sectoral Technical Committee for Blue Green Islands (ITCBGI) will be set up. The Technical Committee will comprise stakeholders from the Public, Private and NGO/CBO sectors and play an important consulting and information dissemination role during project implementation and beyond. Those will include technical representatives from:

Institution	Role in the project
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Environment, Tourism and handicraft (MAPETA - Chair)	Chair of the Technical Committee for Blue Green Islands - cofinancing
DGEF	Implementing agency (full NIM)
National Directorate of Tourism (DGT)	Coordination with the DGEF on activities relating to tourism
National Directorate of Agricultural Strategies and Environment (DNSAE)	Coordination with the DGEF on activities relating to agroforestry
National Directorate for Fisheries (DNP)	Coordination with the DGEF on activities relating to fisheries

Ministry of Finance, Budget and Banking sector (MFBSB)	Member of the Technical Committee for Blue Green Islands
Ministry of Maritime and Air Transport (MTMA)	Member of the Technical Committee for Blue Green Islands
Ministry of Economy, Industry and Investment (MEII)	Member of the Technical Committee for Blue Green Islands
Ministry of Energy, Water and Hydrocarbons (MEEH)	Member of the Technical Committee for Blue Green Islands
Ministry of for National Education, Teaching, Scientific Research, Training and Professional Integration (MENERSFIP)	Member of the Technical Committee for Blue Green Islands
Ministry of City and Country Planning, in charge of Land Affairs and Land Transport (MATU)	Member of the Technical Committee for Blue Green Islands
National Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and the Environment (INRAPE)	Key partner for project implementation (Comp 2) - contribution to research for evidence-based decision-making (Component 1)
National Agency for Integrated Waste Management (ANAGID)	Key partner for project implementation (Comp 2) and cofinancing
National Agency for Parks (ANPN)	Responsible party (written agreement with DGEF) for implementation of activities under Component 2. ANPN will play a key role in supporting NPs' management units - though capacity building and coordination – to implement ecosystem restoration and management activities, in close coordination with private sector actors, to scale up proposed NbS in the tourism and food sectors.
UNDP	Oversight of project execution/support to policy makers/stakeholder engagement/project quality and accountability - cofinancing under outcome 2/output 2.1.2 to contract private entities - support from Programme to support development of biodiversity plans
AFD	Synergies with ongoing projects - cofinancing
UE	Synergies with ongoing projects - cofinancing
UNEP	Synergies and complementarities with ongoing projects
Private sector and its representatives: Industry; Recyclers/exporters of wastes/recyclables; resorts/hotel; Chamber of Commerce (UCCIA), etc.	Involved in participatory approaches to NbS; data generation, collection and monitoring (Component 1); mobilizing finance for NbS investments (Component 2)
Representative of NGOs/CSOs: 2mains, Dahari, etc.	Community engagement (Component 2)
Academia (University of Comoros)	Contribution to evidence-based decision-making: Data generation and collection under Component 1 and Component 2

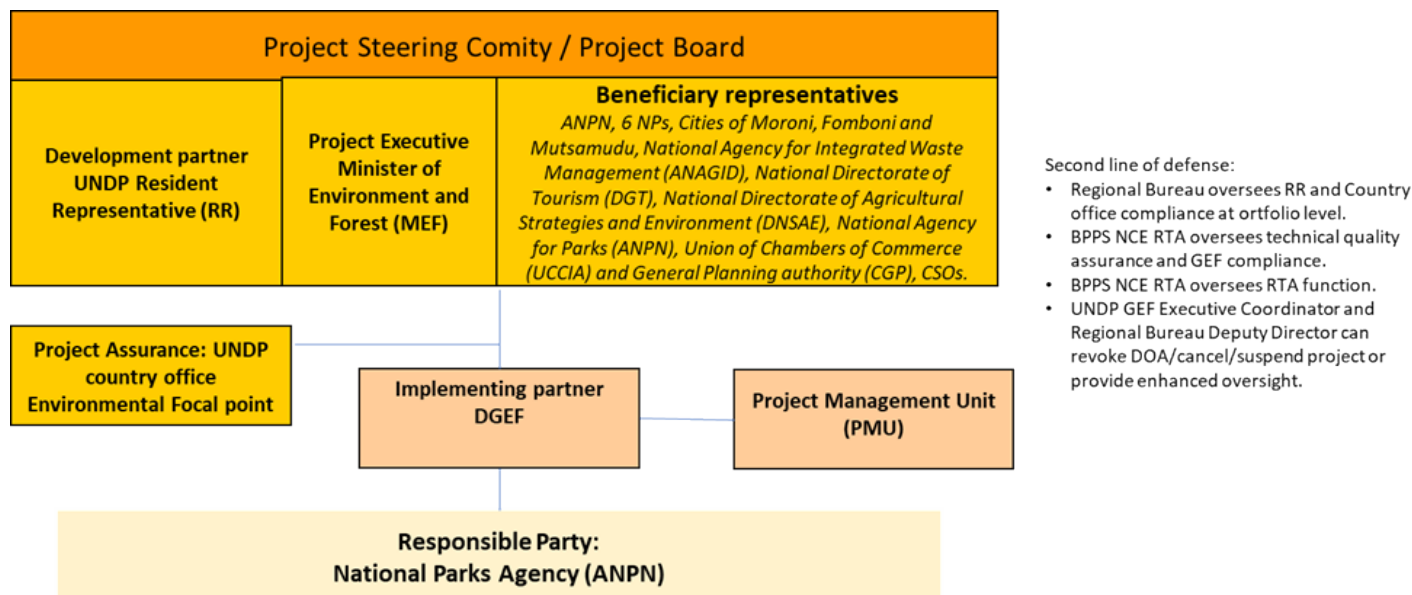
As required, stakeholders from additional public bodies and the private sector will be invited to participate in the Technical Committee to discuss and advise on specific project activities. The Technical Committee will review deliverables under the project as well as any other matters referred to them for advice by the Project Board and will make appropriate recommendations to the Project Board.

All parties will take part to decision making processes throughout the project, notably through the Project Board, project regular workshops and stakeholder engagement activities (see specific section on stakeholder engagement)

UNDP: UNDP is accountable to the GEF for the implementation of this project. This includes overseeing project execution undertaken by the Implementing Partner to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with UNDP and GEF policies and procedures. UNDP is responsible for the Project Assurance function in the project governance structure and presents to the Project Board and attends Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

Project governance

The project will be fully nationally implemented by DGEF (Full NIM). The project governance structure is as presented below:



The UNDP Resident Representative assumes full responsibility and accountability for oversight and quality assurance of this Project and ensures its timely implementation in compliance with the GEF-specific requirements and UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP), its Financial Regulations and Rules and Internal Control Framework. A representative of the UNDP Country Office will assume the assurance role and will present assurance findings to the Project Board, and therefore attends Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

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)

Cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects will be at the heart of the Comoros BGI project for its 4 components. Linkages and synergies will be established between the project and other projects, including other GEF-financed projects currently underway in Comoros, all with clear links to the objective and outputs of the BGI-IP project. Additional information on baseline activities at the site level, including with private sector partners, is tabulated below.

Title	Description
Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR)	The Global Fund for Coral Reefs Investment Window (implemented with Pegasus Capital Advisors LP) is a project aiming to create a private equity fund to encourage investments in the blue economy, protecting coral reefs. Targeting countries in Africa, the Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, it aims to address critical financing and private investment barriers centered on the blue economy. GCF will act as anchor investor with its USD 125 million investment commitment, encouraging further public and private sector investment in the following areas: sustainable ocean production, ecotourism, and sustainable infrastructure and waste management. Additionally, the project will benefit from synergies with the GFCR Grant Window, which aims to mobilize USD 125 million of concessional capital from philanthropies and other agencies in order to foster an enabling environment for seeding a pipeline of investment-ready projects.
IOC/AFD ExpLOI project	The ExpLOI project, for Expédition Plastique Océan Indien (Indian Ocean Plastic Expedition), developed by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), is a 5-year regional project supported by Agence Française de Développement and French GEF. The project focuses on 3 areas designed to help reduce and recycle plastic waste:

	• Improving knowledge of the impacts of marine plastic pollution • Environmental education and raising awareness of plastic pollution • Development of a regional circular economy This research project will support plastic waste management at regional level. The Comoros BGI project work on reducing and recycling organic waste will be closely linked to ExPLOI work on plastic waste, since waste collection is often mixing both types of waste and there is complementary and synergies to build on.
IOC/EU Transformation of the waste sector towards a waste-energy nexus in the South-West Indian Ocean region (TWENex) 2021-2025	The 'Transformation of the waste sector towards a waste-energy nexus in the South-West Indian Ocean region (TWENex)' project aims to boost national innovation systems and build research and innovation capacity by supporting the research community. The project is working closely with the ANAGID and implements activities such as: work on a framework law on waste together with ANAGID; preparation of a solid waste characterization study; awareness campaigns aimed at the general public and market operators, combating illegal dumping; support to the University of Comoros in developing prototypes of household biodigesters; support to the BIOCOM firm in Anjouan to develop a medium size biodigester for agricultural and livestock cooperatives. TWENex has imitated local research and develop on biodigestors that needs to be scaled up, and the BGI project will start at the perfect time to pursue those activities, building on the experience of BIOCOM to scale out biodigesters in the 3 cities of Moroni, Fomboni and Mutsamudu, in close collaboration with ANAGID.
UNDP-GEF7 project “Supporting sustainable inclusive Blue Economy Transformation in AIO SIDS” (2023 – 2027)”	Implemented by UNDP, this project is designed to support the development and realization of sustainable blue economies in Atlantic and Indian Ocean SIDS through improved governance, national blue economy demonstrations, and knowledge management. The project is expected to include the following outputs: i) National Blue Economy assessments; ii) National Blue Economy strategies/policies/plans; iii) Innovative Blue Economy financing mechanisms fostering private sector investment in AIO SIDS; iv) Capacity development, advocacy, and awareness raising; and v) sustainable Blue Economy pilots to develop best practices and foster diversification in areas such as sustaining healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries management, marine pollution reduction (land-based or sea-based), and new and additional blue economy opportunities (aquaculture, marine genetic resources, ocean-based energy, green shipping, etc.). In Comoros, the main activity of the project is the development of sustainable fishing in the Mitsamihouli Park area, which will complement BGI NbS investments in this NP. Close coordination between the 2 projects will ensure complementarity and synergies.
IOC HYDROMET project	The HYDROMET project is funded by the Agence Française de Développement and the European Union through the Intra-ACP ClimSA program. The IOC has also applied for co-financing from the Green Climate Fund. The project’s development objective is to strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacity of regional and national communities to the impacts of climate change in the island states of the southwest Indian Ocean. The project 3 components are: • Strengthening climate, meteorological and hydrological monitoring networks ; • Strengthening climate, meteorological and hydrological forecasting systems and service provision ; • Strengthening national and regional capacities for climate modeling, forecasting and early warning systems. The Comoros BGI project will ensure coordination with HYDROMET to benefit from improved climate services and projections when designing its intervention.
Support project for the sustainable management of Comoros resources and territory (AGDRTC) - Ulunga mali	This AFD/EU 20M€ project aims to contribute to the sustainable management of the territories and resources of the Comoros, through the conservation of island ecosystems and inclusive, sustainable socio-economic development that is resilient to the effects of climate change on the islands of Mwali, Ngazidja and Ndzuani.

(AFD)	The Project has three Specific Objectives: • Strengthen the Mwali NP and identify sustainable sources of funding to make a lasting contribution to biodiversity conservation and local community development. • Contribute to the operationalization of Mwali's territorial development plan through integrated management of vulnerable watersheds and the construction of a new market in Fomboni. • Contribute to concerted land-use planning in the Comoros, through technical and institutional coordination of the territorial development plan in Mwali and participatory drafting of land-use plans for Ngazidja and Ndzuani. The Comoros BGI project will ensure close coordination with this project, in particular in Mwali where the territorial development plan is now validated and should drive land-uses in the island.
Comoros - Green and Blue Deal (UE)	This EU-funded project aims at the protection of the environment as well as agriculture, forestry, and fishery. The objective is to strengthen the environmental and food resilience of the Comoros by ensuring the conservation and sustainable management of marine, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems. This initiative also supports transition of food systems towards green agriculture, livestock, agroforestry and fisheries. It is implemented through a territorial approach which supposes a strengthened governance at local level. At this stage, the EU project has not defined precisely its target interventions and project sites. The Comoros BGI project will maintain close collaboration with this project in order to coordinate interventions where relevant.
Comoros Interisland Connectivity Project (World Bank)	The development objective of the Interisland Connectivity Project for Comoros is to improve maritime transport climate resilience between the islands. The project aims in particular to improve climate resilience of port infrastructure (port of Mwali and secondary ports) and the establishment of a new boat connection between the 3 islands. This project will greatly support the objectives of the Comoros BGI project by enabling easier human and resource exchanges between the 3 islands, facilitating trade, human connections, and tourism.
Comoros Post-Kenneth Recovery and Resilience Project (World Bank)	The development objective of Post-Kenneth Recovery and Resilience Project for Comoros is to support recovery and increase disaster and climate resilience of select public and private infrastructure in the areas affected by Cyclone Kenneth. This project has four components: Recovery and Resilience in the Housing Sector Coastal Resilience and Infrastructure Rehabilitation, by strengthening coastal defense in selected vulnerable stretches of the coastline affected by the cyclone Integrated Disaster Risk Management and Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) Project Management, Risk Management and Monitoring and Evaluation Component 2 of this project is of particular importance to the Comoros BGI project since some of the coastal rehabilitation works will contribute to protect Mwali NP office infrastructure and will connect with planned beach restoration work.
ComptaBio	The COMPTABIO project has carried out Ecosystem valuation accounting (biophysical and monetary accounts) activities in the Mwali NP. This project has started to raise interest and present results of the studies conducted to the government in order to assist public decision-making on the management of these areas, and even to integrate these systems into the regulations governing the companies that exploit resources from these protected areas. This preliminary work on NCA will feed into Component 1 of the Comoros BGI project.

Strengthening the Resilience of Climate-Smart Agricultural Systems and Value Chains in the Union of Comoros (UNDP/GEF)	This project – under final validation by the GEF – aims to increase the climate resilience of key agricultural value chains through innovation, diversification and strengthened capacities to sustainably improve the livelihoods of smallholders and contribute to the national economy. The project will reinforce and work with INRAPE and 8 CRDEs as key agricultural extension service providers. Comoros BGI will cooperate closely in order to ensure benefits of this project cover the territory of the 3 terrestrial NPs, supporting CRDEs of the NPs territories that are not directly supported by the value-chains project also gain the capacity to support the transition of farmers’ practices to climate-smart agriculture and sustainable value-chains.
Biodiversity protection through the Effective Management of the National Network of Protected Areas (RNAP2) (UNDP/GEF)	The project objective is to conserve the terrestrial and marine biodiversity of the Union of the Comoros by ensuring the effective co-management of the new network of protected areas with local communities to support sustainable development. RNAP2 primary aims to reinforce and support NPs’ management teams so they have the capacities to play their coordination and management role in close collaboration with local communities. The Comoros BGI project will complement RNAP2 interventions by (i) reinforcing the capacities to generate, collect and manage data in each NP (Comp.1); (ii) supporting private initiatives and investments into the scaling up of sustainable blue-green value chains; and (iii) connecting with regional and global networks to the benefit of Comoros NPs and people (Comp.3)
Strengthening Climate Resilience on the Comoros Coastal Zone Through Ecosystem-based Adaptation (UNEP/GEF)	The project objective is to “Reduce the vulnerability of Comorian coastal zone communities to climate change by restoring, protecting, and sustainably managing coastal ecosystems that provide protective, regulating, and productive ecosystem services”. The coastal ecosystem restoration activities planned under Component 2 of this project focus on areas outside the NPs for most of them, except for the Bimbini site which is located in the Shissiwani NP in Ndzuani. Since ecosystem restoration activities planned in the BGI project focus on NPs, and duly exclude the Bimbini area, they will be complementary to the UNEP-GEF intervention. The BGI project will also benefit from the municipal land-use plans that will be established in the Shissiwani NP by the UNEP-GEF project. Under its Component 3, the UNEP-GEF will work with UCCIA InnovLab on an incubator mechanism for the development of new SMEs and a microcredit support system. This will possibly feed into the mapping and identification process of potential enterprise for NbS investments supported by the BGI project. Close coordination between both projects will be ensured by DGEF, as the executing agency of both projects, and the organization of joint annual Project Board meetings.

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)
61815	61815	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)
61815	61815	0	0

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)
Karthala national Park	555576145	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	26,214.00	26,214.00					
Moheli national park	313046	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	27,687.00	27,687.00					
Mont Ntringu national Park	555576147	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	7,914.00	7,914.00					

Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
54762	54762	0	0

Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total 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 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

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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54762	54762	0	0
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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)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Coelacanth national park	555576144	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	9,276.00	9,276.00					
Mitsamiouli-Ndroude national park	555697862	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	2,314.00	2,314.00					
Moheli national park	313046	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	36,675.00	36,675.00					
Shisiwani national park	555576146	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	6,497.00	6,497.00					

Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
700	700	0	0

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
700.00	600.00		

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	100.00		

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)
17565	17565	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)
17,565.00	17,565.00		

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)

Type/Name of Third Party 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)
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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)
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Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

Indicator 5 Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 5.1 Fisheries under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
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Type/name of the third-party certification

Indicator 5.2 Large Marine Ecosystems with reduced pollution and hypoxia

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
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LME at PIF	LME at CEO Endorsement	LME at MTR	LME at TE
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Indicator 5.3 Marine 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)
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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)	586669	2377902	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)	0	0	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)	586,669	2,377,902		
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting	2026	2025		
Duration of accounting	5	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)

Indicator 8 Globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
8,070.00	8,070.00		

Fishery Details

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	6,000	183,600		
Male	23,000	176,400		
Total	29,000	360,000	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 indicators calculation:

1.2: total surface area of the terrestrial protected areas set by the Union of Comoros in 2022

2.2: total surface area of the marine protected areas set by the Union of Comoros in 2022

The METT scores for 1.2 and 2.2 will be confirmed and included in the first PIR

3.2: target area of forest restoration (600ha)

3.4: target area of mangrove restoration (100ha)

4.1: area of forest under strict protection in the 3 terrestrial parks (no-take zones)

6.5: Ex-Act tool: Management: the project helps maintain the status quo on 50% of the no-take zones of the 3 terrestrial PAs covered (no-take zones cover 17565ha)/forest restoration 600ha / Mangrove restoration: 100ha

8: 8070 mt of demersal or overexploited coral reef fisheries caught each year and needed to be under sustainable management (national statistics on the fishing industry in Comoros, 2020)

11: Based on the latest official estimates, about 183,600 women and 176,400 men will be directly impacted by project activities in the 6 NPs

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Substantial	A key component of the project is the development of sustainable use and livelihood options designed to reduce stresses on ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation of both ecosystems and local communities.
Environmental and Social	Substantial	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment), SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment), EMSP (Environmental and Social Management Plan), including a Livelihood Action Plan (LAP), Gender Action Plan (GAP)
Political and Governance	Substantial	The project will support several actions to improve governance and strengthen collaboration among partners institutions and stakeholders, including: building institutional, technical and financial capacity; establishing an Inter-sectoral Technical Committee for Blue Green Islands (ITCBGI) to favor inter-sectoral collaboration and provide technical advice to the Project Board; and strengthening the capacity of management authorities and other agencies to implement monitoring and enforcement programs.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Moderate	The project will work hand in hand with institutions on the introduction of NbS into national and regional strategies and policies, with the aim of reducing the negative impacts of existing policies on ecosystems.
Technological	Moderate	The complexity of certain approaches, like NCA and ESV, will be overcome with adequate international expertise and regional cooperation. In addition, the BGI GCP will facilitate the activities proposed by the programme, mitigating this risk.
Financial and Business Model	Moderate	By working on an increased resilience of ecosystems and local communities, and – except for tourism – mostly focusing on Comoros internal markets, as

		well as reinforcing regional cooperation, the project will limit macroeconomic impacts on the expected outcomes
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Moderate	DGEF has experience in implementing such projects. To facilitate this process, joint Project Board meetings are envisaged between this BGI project, the RNAP2 project and the upcoming UNEP/GEF EbA project, so that involved stakeholders and institutions in charge will build on synergies and coordinate efforts, avoiding duplications. The decentralized approach to project implementation, with ANPN playing a central role in the execution of component 2 activities, will also relieve pressure on DGEF capacities and support sustainability.
Fiduciary	Low	DGEF has been rated low risk at the HACT
Stakeholder	Substantial	Stakeholder Engagement Substantial Specific Stakeholder engagement plan (per island or per sector), based on the Comprehensive Stakeholder engagement plan, integrated with the Gender Action Plan. Grievance Redress Mechanism – adapted to the local context.
Other		
Overall Risk Rating	Substantial	

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)

The proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies:

- **Address drivers of environmental degradation**
- **Protect major global environmental assets**
- **Help promote needed transitions in key economic systems**
- **Remain a trail blazer in promoting innovation**
- **Support enhancement of policy coherence and tackle disincentives to nature protection and climate mitigation**

- **Help promote a vibrant Green and Blue Recovery**
- **Respond more effectively to emerging country priorities as included in NDCs, NBSAPs, NAPs, NIPs and MIAs**

The project is aligned with the main national policies, strategies and plans concerning the management of marine, coastal and (agro)forest environment. At the highest level, the project is aligned with the Emerging Comoros Plan (2020) and the Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (2018). At sector level, the project also aligns with the requirement of the Tourism code (2021), the Forest Law (2010), and the Fisheries Code (2020).

In summary, the proposed interventions align with the following national strategies and plans:

- **The Emerging Comoros Plan (2020)**
- **The Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (2018)**
- **The Policy, Strategy and Action Plan on Climate Change (2015)**
- **The Tourism Code (2021)**
- **The Framework Law on the Environment (1994)**
- **The Forest Law (2010)**
- **The Fisheries Code (2020)**
- **The National Action Plan to Fight Desertification (2013)**
- **The National Strategy and Action Plan for Biological Diversity (2016)**
- **The National Plan for Agricultural Investment (2020-2024)**

There are no identified country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project.

Project activities have been designed to align with Comoros' obligations and commitments under the major multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, particularly with respect to commitment (d) concerning the promotion of sustainable management and the conservation and enhancement of sinks and reservoirs of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, commitment (e) on preparing for adaptation to the impacts of climate

change and the protection and rehabilitation of areas affected by climate change. The project aligns with commitments in the updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) to the UNFCCC and Article 5 of the Paris Agreement on carbon sinks.

The project will also support Comoros' commitments under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD), NBSAP, and its Updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. The project aligns with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) by enhancing the management of existing marine and terrestrial protected areas (Target 3). Key biodiversity conservation results include: i) improving ecosystem services through sustainable agriculture and livelihood activities (Target 10); maintaining and enhancing the economic contributions of these landscapes for local communities through conservation and sustainable use (Target 11); ensuring integrated, cross-sectoral planning and budgeting across landscapes and seascapes to prevent activities that negatively affect biodiversity (Target 14); increasing financing for conservation efforts to support co-management models, small business development, and value chain programs, as well as enhancing the capacity to explore new financial models and innovative solutions for resource use and community benefits (Target 19); raising awareness and sharing information, particularly regarding conservation effectiveness (Target 21); and ensuring full, inclusive participation of all stakeholders, including women, youth, and Indigenous Peoples, in decision-making, access to information, and benefit-sharing from project activities (Target 22).

The project also aligns with UNCCD targets, directly contributing to (i) achieving Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN); (ii) enhancing resilience to drought, in particular through reforestation activities which - as demonstrated in Comoros - directly influences the flow of rivers; (iii) restoring ecosystems and protecting biodiversity; (iv) promoting sustainable agriculture (climate-smart agriculture including agroforestry); and (v) Improving livelihoods in affected areas.

At the regional level, the BGI project is aligned with IOC regional interventions in the waste, biodiversity and climate change sectors.

Finally, the project is fully consistent with the BGI Integrated program which aims to facilitate nature-positive development and reduce ecosystem degradation in SIDS by valuing nature and applying NbS with specific application to the food, tourism, and urban sectors. Indeed, the Comoros BGI project will use protected areas as drivers of sustainable development in the Union of Comoros, catalyzing the transformation of the food and tourism sectors as pillars of the Blue & Green Economy through nature positive action, decision-making and investments. In line with components 1 and 2 of the IP, the Comoros BGI project will incorporate the value of nature into decision-making and use innovative nature-based solutions to achieve development and the goals of the Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs), and address societal challenges related to food security, drought, climate change impacts.

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;

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
	High or Substantial		

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).

Yes.

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 (\$)
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	Grant	2,760,433.00	248,439.00	3,008,872.00
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	Grant	1,792,489.00	161,324.00	1,953,813.00
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: IPs	Grant	1,792,489.00	161,324.00	1,953,813.00

UNDP	GET	Comoros	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	Grant	920,144.00	82,813.00	1,002,957.00
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Climate Change	CC IP Matching Incentives	Grant	597,496.00	53,774.00	651,270.00
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Land Degradation	LD IP Matching Incentives	Grant	597,496.00	53,774.00	651,270.00
Total GEF Resources (\$)						8,460,547.00	761,448.00	9,221,995.00

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Was a Project Preparation Grant requested? true

PPG Amount (\$) 200000

PPG Agency Fee (\$) 18000

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	65,255.00	5,873.00	71,128.00
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	42,373.00	3,814.00	46,187.00
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: IPs	42,373.00	3,814.00	46,187.00
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	21,751.00	1,957.00	23,708.00
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Climate Change	CC IP Matching Incentives	14,124.00	1,271.00	15,395.00
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Land Degradation	LD IP Matching Incentives	14,124.00	1,271.00	15,395.00
Total PPG Amount (\$)					200,000.00	18,000.00	218,000.00

Please provide Justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
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		Regional/ Global			
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	3,080,000.00
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	2,000,000.00
UNDP	GET	Comoros	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	2,000,000.00
Total GEF Resources					7,080,000.00

Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
Islands IP	GET	8,460,547.00	98663790
Total Project Cost		8,460,547.00	98,663,790.00

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(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, Tourism & Fisheries	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	875000
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, Tourism & Fisheries	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	1500000
Donor Agency	UE (Programme « Pacte Vert et Bleu - Comores Ulanga ne Maesha »)	Grant	Investment mobilized	20400000
Donor Agency	Ministry of Finance / World Bank	Grant	Investment mobilized	60000000
Donor Agency	AFD	Grant	Investment mobilized	15118790
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	Investment mobilized	600000
Donor Agency	ANAGID/IOC	Grant	Investment mobilized	170000
Total Co-financing				98,663,790.00

Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, the Environment and Tourism (MAPETA):

The secured co-financing will contribute to the three outcomes of the GEF-8 intervention, and include:

- In-kind co-financing estimated at USD 875,000, including office space and facilities at central level for the project coordination unit, at decentralized level in the 6 NPs (ANPN facilities), and government staff time (from DGEF, ANAGID, DGA, DGP).
- Public investment totaling USD 1,500,000, based on the investments realized in the 6 National Parks

As such, this co-financing will contribute to the three outcomes of the proposed GEF-8 project.

European Union (EU)

This contribution relates to the support provided by the EU to the Government of Comoros through the Green and Blue Pact – Comoros “Ulanga ne Maesha”. This initiative aims to strengthen the environmental and food resilience of the Comoros by ensuring the conservation and sustainable management of marine, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems. It also supports transition of food systems towards green agriculture, livestock, agroforestry and fisheries.

Through this initiative, the EU will promote the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources, biodiversity and terrestrial and marine ecosystems and invest to improve the food and nutritional security of populations. As such, the EU Green and Blue Pact, planned for 72 months starting in 2024, will contribute to the three outcomes of the proposed GEF-8 project, and close coordination between the two initiatives will be ensured along their entire duration.

Ministry of Finance / World Bank

This contribution relates to the support provided by the World Bank to the Government of Comoros through the following three projects:

- The Comoros Interisland Connectivity Project which aims to improve connectivity between the three islands of the country, including both cargo and passenger transportation and landing facilities. This will directly contribute to enhancing exchanges of products between islands, boosting market potential for private sector investments.
- The Comoros Post-Kenneth Recovery and Resilience Project which investments aim to strengthen coastal resilience, including an important investment in the Mwali NP, in Nioumachoua, to protect the eroded coastal line.
- The project to support SONELEC/Innovent in building a solar power plant in Mitsamiouli (Ngazidja), to feed into the national grid.
- The Food Systems Resilience Program for Eastern and Southern Africa which aims to strengthen the resilience of food systems and improve the country's preparedness to face food and nutritional insecurity (agriculture, livestock, fisheries) and support the sustainable development of natural resources for resilient agricultural landscapes.

French Development Agency (AFD)

This contribution relates to the support provided by AFD to the Government of Comoros through the Ulanga Mali project, which main objective is to “contribute to the sustainable management of the Comoros' territories and resources, through the conservation of island ecosystems and inclusive, sustainable socio-economic development that is resilient to the effects of climate change on the islands of Moheli, Grande Comore and Anjouan”. The project will specifically work with the Mwali National Park to reinforce its interventions and identify sustainable sources of financing, as well as implement the Mwali land-use plan previously established. It will also support the participatory formulation of regional land-use plans in Ngazidja and Ndzuani.

As such, the Ulanga mali project, planned for 60 months starting by the end of 2024, will directly contribute to outcomes 1 and 2 of the proposed GEF-8 project.

The reported amount is equivalent to EUR14,000,000 indicated in the co-financing letter.

UNDP

This contribution will be directly invested into the Comoros BGI project, to support results under outcome 2 / Output 2.1.2 to contract private entities in the 3 cities of Moroni, Fomboni and Mutsamudu for waste collection, transport and sorting of the organic elements, and to support overall activities through transportation means for the project team and experts to travel on-site.

National Agency for Integrated Waste Management (ANAGID)

This contribution relates to the support provided by the Japanese government to the government of Comoros to support and strengthen the capacity of local authorities in terms of solid waste management. It also relates to the support provided by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) funded TWENex project "Transforming the waste sector towards a waste-energy nexus in the South-West Indian Ocean region". TWENex aims to boost national innovation systems and strengthen research and innovation capacities by supporting the research community. The implementation of the TWENex project in Comoros is ensured by ANAGID. TWENex investments in Comoros specifically relate to:

- The production of a national waste characterisation study
- The development of prototypes of household biodigesters through support to the University of Comoros

This initiative will support components 2 and 3 of the proposed GEF-8 project, in particular regarding activities related to organic waste management.

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENT

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Coordinator	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	6/28/2024	Nancy Bennet		nancy.bennet@undp.org
Project Coordinator	6/28/2024	Bonnie Rusk		bonnie.rusk@undp.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)
Youssef Elamine	Director of Environment/GEF OFF	Ministry of Environment	3/28/2023

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.

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s):

1. SDG1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. SDG5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
3. SDG8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
4. SDG13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
5. SDG14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
6. SDG15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss (Target 15.3: By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world)

This project will contribute to the following country outcome (UNSDCF[1]):

Outcome 1: By 2026, state and non-state actors and the Comorian population, especially the most vulnerable, strengthen their resilience to climate change, natural disasters and crises and ensure sustainable and integrated management of terrestrial and marine ecosystems and associated ecosystem goods and services, in a context of promoting sustainable housing with a low environmental footprint.

Outcome 2: By 2026, the Comorian population, especially the most vulnerable, enjoys shared prosperity, built on a more competitive and inclusive economy, on renewed public-private partnerships, and in a perspective of sustainable growth focused on the sectors of the future (green, blue and digital economy).

Outcome 4: By 2026, public institutions are more inclusive, effective, accountable and resilient, and strengthen citizen participation in public life, social cohesion, human rights, gender equality and democracy.

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline ^[2]	Mid-term Target ^[3]	End of Project Target
Project Objective:	Using protected areas as drivers of sustainable development in the Union of Comoros, catalyzing the transformation of the food and tourism sectors as pillars of the Blue & Green Economy through nature positive action, decision-making and investments			
	Mandatory indicator 1 (CI 1.1): direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	0	150,000 (80,000 women and 70,000 men)	360,000 (183,600 Women and 176,400 men)
	Indicator 2 (CI 1.2): Area of Terrestrial protected areas under improved management (ha)	0	61,815	61,815
	Indicator 3 (CI 2.2): Area of Marine protected areas under improved management (ha)	0	54,762	54,762
	Indicator 4 (CI 3.2): Area of forest and forest land under restoration (ha)	0	300	600
	Indicator 5 (CI 3.4): Area of wetlands (including estuaries and mangroves) under restoration (ha)	0	50	100
	Indicator 6 (CI 4.1): Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (ha)	0	17,565	17,565
	Indicator 7 (CI 6.5): Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric ton of CO ₂ e)	0	1,000,000 Teq-CO ₂	2,377,902 Teq-CO ₂
	Indicator 8 (CI 8): Quantity of over-exploited marine fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons)	0	4,000	8,070
Project component 1	Mainstreaming nature-based solutions into development and planning processes across the tourism and food economic sectors through improved governance, budgetary and financial action.			
Project Outcome 1.1 Natural capital is compiled and integrated into public policy information systems and political processes to better inform nature-positive decision-making.	Indicator 9 (aligned with IP indicator 1.1.2): Number of natural capital assessments, ecosystem valuations, tools and mechanisms embedded into national fiscal policies/ economic accounts.	0	4	4

Outputs to achieve Outcome 1.1	Output 1.1.1: Available data on environmental statistics, natural resources and ecosystem assessments, as well as ecosystem services valuation, are gathered, reviewed, and integrated into a gender-sensitive online database accessible to public agencies Output 1.1.2: Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) modules developed following UN SEEA international standard and prioritized to align with national planning Output 1.1.3: Improved capacity of decision makers and natural resource managers to value ecosystems services and operationalize NCA and ESV.			
Project Outcome 1.2 Governance systems improved at the national and sub-national level for nature-positive NbS and gender-responsive planning in the tourism and food sectors (agroforestry and fisheries)	Indicator 10 (aligned with IP indicator 1.2.1): Number of policies, legislation & strategic planning frameworks endorsed to integrate NbS, nature-climate integrated development, and/or improved sector planning into key economic sectors in a gender-responsive approach	0	10	15
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1.2	1.2.1 Enhanced availability, quality, and accessibility of scientific data and assessments to support evidence-based decision-making and the sustainable implementation of NbS and gender-responsive planning through multi-sector approaches in the tourism and food sectors. 1.2.2 Revised and updated sectoral development strategies, policies and framework with NbS and gender responsive planning mainstreamed, integrated at national and sub-national levels through a multi-sectoral and participatory approach. 1.2.3 Improved capacity among decision-makers to understand the value of NbS as the foundation of human well-being, system interactions through multi-sectoral programming, and its potential to attract private investment for the development of the green and blue economy in Comoros.			
Project Outcome 1.3 Strengthened and coherent enabling environment that incentivizes private sector investment in scalable sustainable NbS across the tourism and food sectors, which supports the growth of the Blue and Green Economy.	Indicator 11 (aligned with IP indicator 1.3.2): Number of new blue and/or green innovative finance mechanisms actively incentivizing nature-positive/NbS investments	1	2	3
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1.3	1.3.1 Improved policy framework that negates unsustainable activities by the private sector across key sectors supported by Comoros terrestrial and marine ecosystems. 1.3.2 Incentive mechanisms in place that enhance private sector investment in NbS through carbon finance, PPPs, tax breaks, nature-positive subsidies and investments, certification and concessions.			
Project component 2	Implementation of scaled and sustainable NbS in key ecosystems in terrestrial and marine PAs supported by private investment in the tourism and food sectors			
Outcome 2.1 Improved capacities of local communities and businesses of the targeted protected areas to monitor NbS activities, expand market opportunities to access private sector investment, and implement scaled sustainable Nature-based Solutions	Indicator 12 (aligned with IP indicator 2.2.1): % of beneficiaries and partners surveyed that report increased capacity to execute innovative NbS at seascape and landscape levels, disaggregated by gender, sector, youth, IP, vulnerable people	0	25%	50%

Outputs to achieve Outcome 2.1	<i>Output 2.1.1 Improved market baselines and gaps on NbS opportunities across the food and tourism sectors in the local communities determined through feasibility assessments and market analysis to inform blue and green value chains in the 6 NPs for the two sectors.</i> <i>Output 2.1.2 Local businesses and community empowered and able to access private sector finance for inclusive landscape/seascape planning, natural resources management, and integrated, multi-sectoral development through support to the development of business models and plans that improves their ability to attract investment in the green and blue economy.</i> <i>Output 2.1.3 Local community capacity (incl. women and youth) strengthened to ensure assessment of natural resource stock, surveillance and activity monitoring in the target areas of intervention.</i>			
Outcome 2.2 <i>Nature based solutions scaled and implemented in key ecosystems supporting the tourism and food systems through inclusive, gender sensitive and multi-sectoral approaches</i>	<i>Indicator 13 (aligned with IP indicator 2.1.1): Number of NbS 'replication-ready' pipeline NbS projects with measurable outcomes and targets to conserve biodiversity and preserve ecosystem health and ecosystem services.</i>	0	10	20
	<i>Indicator 14 (aligned with IP indicator 2.1.2): % of the NbS investments that empower women participation (women hold senior management role, enterprise owned by women, women are >50% workforce, or products and services are specifically benefit women).</i>	1	1	1
	<i>Indicator 15 (aligned with IP indicator 2.3.1): Number of private sector partnerships created at the domestic, regional and global levels to provide catalytic and investment capital at scale to accelerate the adoption of proven nature-based solutions.</i>	0	5	10
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2.2	<i>Output 2.2.1 Enhanced NbS for food security and sustainable fisheries through (i) implementation of fisheries management plans to restore coastal and marine ecosystems (mangroves, coral reefs, beaches) which boost fish stocks, (ii) implementation of, and capacity building for, local authorities, businesses, and fishers on scaled circular organic waste management practices (organic waste collection from tourism, chicken stock etc.), strengthened sustainable fishing techniques and access to alternative fish species through behavioral change and management plans and (iii) scaled and enhanced biogas/biofertilizer production, composting technologies, (supporting soil augmentation for reforestation and agroforestry) and cold chain infrastructure and fish processing technologies to reduce post-catch losses, further supported by private sector investments.</i> <i>Output 2.2.2 Strengthened NbS through integration of agroforestry and sustainable food systems ensuring protected areas allow for economic activities by (i) restoring agroforestry and forest ecosystems (native species) in degraded areas within the 6 National Parks to restore soil fertility (supported by biofertilizer, Output 2.2.1), improve water storage, and reduce coastal erosion which enhances food production and advances tourism potential, (ii) enhanced development of agroforestry systems producing high-value products (e.g., organic food, cosmetics) for local and tourism markets, and (iii) inclusive and gender-sensitive capacity building for farmers and local communities to change behaviors towards more climate-smart agricultural practices (e.g. composting, mulching, agroforestry, hedging) and sustainable land management, strengthening watersheds/waterways and reducing negative impact on marine ecosystems.</i> <i>Output 2.2.3 Strengthened economic empowerment through development of nature-positive sustainable eco-tourism to advance economic opportunities in local communities through (i) development of eco-friendly tourism infrastructure in the 6 National Parks (e.g., hiking trails, beaches, nature-watching, lodges), and (ii) inclusive and gender-sensitive capacity building for local communities to develop and manage eco-tourism businesses through implementation of tourism plans and activities.</i>			
Project component 3	Inclusive and Gender-Sensitive Knowledge Management and Partnership Building to Advance Nature-Based Solutions at Local, National, Regional, and Global Levels.			
Outcome 3.1	<i>Indicator 16 (aligned with IP indicator 3.2.2): End users' assessment of the relevance, accessibility, usefulness and</i>	n/a	tbd	tbd

Technical knowledge and lessons learned from the project's experiences are compiled, evaluated, and translated into knowledge products that are inclusive and gender sensitive	impacts of the knowledge products, tools and guidelines			
	Indicator 17 (aligned with IP indicator 3.2.3): Number of good practices and gender sensitive lessons learned identified, documented and disseminated by the child projects & GCP.	0	5	10
Outputs to achieve Outcome 3	Output 3.1.1 Establishment of comprehensive and robust knowledge management and learning framework and system that support tracking, documenting, and sharing lessons learned from the project. Output 3.1.2 Gender sensitive communication, awareness and advocacy strategy that focuses on engaging key stakeholders (CSO, private sector, local communities, academia), policy makers and the broader public to ensure support for the NbS solutions and enhance interest in replication and scaling.			
Outcome 3.2 Positive synergies and inclusive partnerships are built with existing regional and global partners/actors, to drive collaboration and leverage additional resources to invest at scale on NbS in Comoros	Indicator 18 (aligned with IP indicator 3.2.1): Number of new partnerships leveraged to increase (scale up) and expand (scale out) nature-positive development, including NbS.	0	3	5
Outputs to achieve Outcome 3	Output 3.2.1 Entry points for partnerships and knowledge sharing nationally, regionally, and internationally identified with an inclusive action plan determined and enforced for improved coordination and leveraging of partnership opportunities and additional resources. Output 3.2.2 Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building by engaging with existing regional and international platforms (BGI GCP, GLISPA, and PANORAMA), including participation in thematic hubs, communities of practice, networks, conferences, and virtual events.			
Project component 4	Project Monitoring and Evaluation			
Outcome 4.1 Integrated, gender-sensitive and inclusive project M&E is implemented.	Indicator 19 (aligned with IP indicator 3.1.1): Number of program milestones achieved as per the established M&E plan, demonstrating alignment with management and coordination standards	0	tbd	tbd
Outputs to achieve Outcome 4	Output 4.1.1. Comprehensive M&E framework developed that ensures inclusive M&E, defines roles and responsibilities, includes monitoring of the indicators that are inclusive and align with GEF indicators in the Project Results Framework; monitoring of project risks and Social and Environmental Safeguard; data sources and periodic reporting requirements (PIRs, other); and independent evaluations (MTR, TE).			

[1] PLAN-CADRE DE COOPERATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE 2022-2026 (UNSDCF)

[2] Baseline, mid-term and end of project target levels must be expressed in the same neutral unit of analysis as the corresponding indicator. Baseline is the current/original status or condition and needs to be quantified. The baseline can be zero when appropriate given the project has not started. The baseline must be established before the project document is submitted to the GEF for final approval. The baseline values will be used to measure the success of the project through implementation monitoring and evaluation.

[3] Target is the change in the baseline value that will be achieved by the mid-term review and then again by the terminal evaluation.

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
Project Results Framework and Prodoc Validation workshops	21,400.00	13,388.00	8,012.00
Contractual Service Companies for the project formulation • Team leader (international) • Safeguards and gender expert (international) • National biodiversity expert • International expert - private sector • International expert on natural capital accounting • International consultant, Project design	171,250.00	162,052.00	9,198.00
Mission to collect data and organize consultation meetings with stakeholdersC: Validation Workshop and Report Workshop/Training & Travel	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
Supplies: stationary acquisition for workshop and consultation meeting organization.	850.00	0.00	850.00
Miscellaneous Expenses: : these are sundry inclusive of bank services charges.	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Total	200,000.00	180,440.00	19,560.00

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
Mitsamiouli Ndroude National Park	-11.42694444	43.41665556	555,697,862

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Coelacanth National Park	-11.80000000	43.24166667	555,576,144

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
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Karthala National Park	-11.82500000	43.26250000	555,576,145
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Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Shissiwani National Park	-12.165472	44.202806	555,576,146

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mount Ntringui National Park	-11.44361111	43.49998889	555,576,147

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mohéli National Park	-12.36955556	43.71625000	313,036

Location Description:

Activity Description:

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



Figure 2: Map of Comoros and its national parks

The project targets 6 national parks and three main cities.

The 6 National Parks gather the bigger share of Comoros natural capital and the recent establishment of NP structures (except for Mwali, which was established in 2003) is an opportunity to scale-up NbS in a coordinated manner.

Mitsamiouli-Ndroudé Park : is located in northern Ngazidja, covers total land area of 2,314 ha and includes nine villages. The population of the communities in this park is 30,285. Its goal is to preserve marine and coastal biodiversity and develop ecotourism by promoting good governance of natural resources. Coral reefs are the main habitat in the park, hosting 127 species of fish on the external slope that belong to 73 genera and 30 families; eight species of seagrasses, composed primarily of *Thalassia hemprichii*, *Thalassodendron ciliatum* and *Halophila ovalis*. The mangroves are divided between two sites – Saada and the Lake Salé site – and include two species, *Sonneratia alba* and *Rhizophora mucronata*. The 40 white sand beaches, prized for their ecological and ecotourism value, are coveted by tourism operators. The Park is also home to spectacular natural structures, such as Lake Salé and the Queue du Dragon (Dragon's Tail). Its off-shore waters are home to three whale species (two genera - *Megaptera* and *Mesoplodon*) and 10 species of dolphins (eight genera - *Stenella*, *Peponocephala*, *Tursiops*, *Lagenodelphis*, *Grampus*, *Globicephala*, *Physeter* and *Kogia*). The area also boasts unique features of great interest to tourists, in addition to L'île aux tortues (Turtle Island). The buildings constructed with support from the Small Grants Programme provide lodging.



Figure 3: Map of Mitsamiouli-Ndroudé National Park (Ngazidja Island)

Coelacanth National Park: is located on the southern part of the island at a very low altitude, with the following geographic coordinates: longitude of 43°14'30' and 43°32'00' E. and latitude of 11° 48'00'and 11° 57'00' S. This park covers 15 villages with a population of 28, 788 , is essentially coastal and marine and initially included 7,572 ha of marine area along the southwest coast of Ngazidja. It is 200 m wide, thereby including all the beaches and mangroves. The global importance of this site is linked primarily to the underwater volcanic

caves found close to the coast. They are home to the famous coelacanth, an endangered ‘living fossil’ of global scientific interest, and the turtles that are increasingly rare in the area. The site’s significance is also linked to a major coral reef in good condition in the southern area (Chindini). The species seen most frequently in the Bay of Dolphins are the long-beaked dolphin (*Stenella longirostris*), bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), spotted dolphin (*Stenella attenuata*) and humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*). Available data indicate that at least 12 whale species are present in Comorian waters, including the humpback (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), Mesoplodons (*Mesoplodon* sp.), orca (*Orcinus orca*), southern right (*Eubalaena australis*) and the Bryde’s (*Balaenoptera edeni*). The pygmy killer whale (*Feresa attenuata*) has been seen in large pods of up to 500 individuals, although this is increasingly rare.



Figure 4: Map of Coelacanth National Park (Ngazidja Island)

Karthala National Park is located in the south-central part of Ngazidja Island, at altitude ranging between 500 m and 2,361 m, with the following geographic coordinates: longitude of 43°15'45" and 43°15'26" E. and latitude of 11° 49'30' and 11° 44'00' S. the population is 53,604, it covers land area of 26, 214 ha and the territory of these 16 villages. The park’s main goal is to preserve its perimeter from destructive human activities and to develop an area that is of particular ecological, economic, aesthetic, historic and cultural interest. Karthala National Park contains unique biological diversity, as shown by the high levels of endemism within the various groups of fauna and flora, which are now threatened by the loss or fragmentation of their habitat, combined with inadequate management and protection. This combination makes the park a high-priority area for the conservation of globally significant biodiversity. The park provides a range of terrestrial habitats of global importance (Karthala forest, Lake Hatsongoma, the Nyoubadjou reserve and La Convalescence), monuments (Boboni and Le Belvédère, the cave of Captain Dubois, Karthala volcano and Nyoubadjou), and flagship and emblematic species (*Otus pauliani*, *Columba polleni*, *Humblotia flovistris*, *Turdus bewsheri* and *Alectroenas sganzini*).

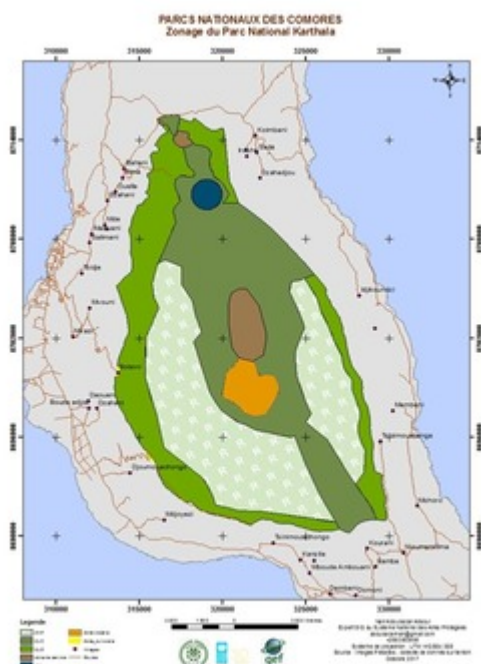


Figure 5: Map of Karthala National Park (Ngazidja Island), including zoning

Shissiwani National Park: is located in the far west of Ndzuani Island at a very low altitude, with the following geographic coordinates: longitude of 44°12'00' and 44°20'00" E. the population is 35, 025 and latitude of 12° 09'30' and 12°15'30" S. It covers 6,497 ha, primarily in the marine environment and areas of the administrative territory of Ndzuani Island, including 12 villages. Its goal is to ensure conservation of biodiversity by establishing a sustainable management system, while improving local communities' socioeconomic conditions. The park's biodiversity is rich in both species and ecosystems. The latter include mangroves, the reef and coastal coral complex, including the lagoon, beaches previously used by turtles as nesting sites, sea grasses and the agro-forestry coastal strip of land. The mangrove area is a fragmented strip of trees that extends along 7 km of the southwestern coast and covers 25 ha. The coastal complex of reefs and coastal coral that borders the entire southern coast of the peninsula includes a closed lagoon and covers more than half of Shissiwani National Park. The coral colonies are dominated by *Favia* and *Favites* (massive), *Acropora* (branching), *Turbinaria* and *Montipora* (leafy) and *Platygyra* and *Leptoria* (maze). Seagrasses grow here and provide habitat and feeding sites for many fish species. It has been reported that green turtles, an endangered species (*Chelonia mydas*), leatherback sea turtles, a critically endangered species (*Dermochelys coriacea*), and the dugong (*Dugong dugon*), a vulnerable species that has disappeared from the Shissiwani NP, were previously observed here. Recent studies have confirmed the presence and wealth of these coral and fish species.



Figure 6: Map of Shissiwani National Park (Ndzuani Island)

Mont Ntringui National Park: is in the centre of the island, between longitude of 44°22'00" and 44°30'00" E. and latitude of 12°11'00" and 12°18'20" S., and where vestiges of the tropical rainforest remain. This park is composed primarily of the Mont Ntringui massif, plus the Moya forest. It is located at the centre of Ndzuani Island, between longitude of 44°22'00" E. and 44°30'00" E. and between latitude of 12°11'00" and 12°18'20" S., with total land area of 7,914 ha. The population is 117, 995. In accordance with the provisions of the national protected area system law, the portions of the administrative area of Ndzuani Island included in the village lands listed here are classified as national park: Bazimini, Moimoi, Chandra, tsembehou, dindri, Limbi, Adda daweni, Moya, Lingoni, Vouani, Imeré, M'jimandra, Ouzini, Pagé, Salamani, Koni djodjo, Kowet, Nindri, Bandrani ya vouani and Dzindri.

The Mont Ntringui forest has been identified as an Alliance for Zero Extinction site based on the presence of restricted-range, endangered or critically endangered species, as a Ramsar site, and as an important bird area. The FAO's 2011 national forest inventory estimated the remaining forest on Ndzuani Island at 436 ha.

Those forests, located on steep and inaccessible slopes, including on Mont Ntringui, are of great interest in terms of biodiversity because they shelter endemic and threatened species, a wealth of orchids and selaginella, tree ferns and the *Philippia* genus of tree heaths. Two species of giant bats endemic to the Comoros – the Livingstone's fruit bat (*Pteropus livingstonii*) and the common fruit bat (*Pteropus seychellensis* var. *comorensis*), the Comoros blue pigeon (*Alectroenas sganzini*), and several species of birds, fish and reptiles are also found here. Although the mongoose lemur (*Eulemur mongoz*) is rare in Madagascar, the species is widespread in Ndzuani. Lake Dzilandzé, in the centre of Ndzuani and at the top of the mountain ridges, is the island's largest lake. The lake and its environs provide habitat for grebes, freshwater fish and several other forest species. The inaccessibility of these sites has preserved them.



Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) Mohéli puffin (*Puffinus temptator*) Livingstone's fruit bat (*Pteropus livingstonii*).



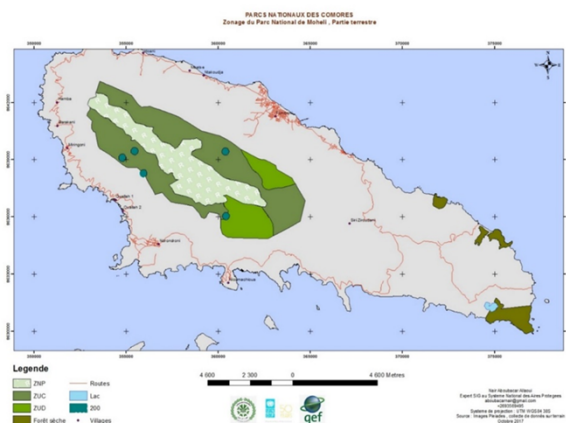


Figure 9: Zoning of the forest area in Mwali National Park

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

Annex 9-ESMF_PIMS9541_Final

Annex 5-SESP_PIMS9541_Updated_4Nov2024

ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Please upload the budget table here.

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)											Responsible Entity (Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency) [1]
		Component 1			Component 2		Component 3		Sub-Total	M&E	PMC	Total (USDeq.)	
		Outcome 1.1	Outcome 1.2	Outcome 1.3	Outcome 2.1	Outcome 2.2	Outcome 3.1	Outcome 3.2					

Contractual services - Company	2 training workshops for decision-makers on the economic, social, and environmental benefits of NbS and their role in human well-being and sustainable development, including travel costs in years 1 and 2 @ USD3,000 (Output 1.2.3). TOTAL: USD6,000		6,000						6,000			6,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Contractual services - Company	2 workshops of the established executing body that would develop and approve rules based on the overall regulatory environment and mandate @ USD2,000/year in years 3 and 4 (Output 1.1.3). TOTAL: USD4,000			4,000					4,000			4,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Contractual services - Company	6 workshops in the 6 NPs @ USD2,000 each to conduct gap and market assessments in the 6 NPs in year 2 (Output 2.1.1). TOTAL: USD12,000				12,000				12,000			12,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Contractual services - Company	Company to develop marine spatial plans in the 4 MPAs and establish of fishing calendars @ USD30,000/year in years 3 and 4 (Output 1.2.2). TOTAL: USD60,000		60,000						60,000			60,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Contractual services -	Firms to conduct MTR (USD35,000) and TE (USD45,000) (Output 4.1.1).								-	80,000		80,000	UNDP

Compa ny	TOTAL: USD80,000												
Contractual services - Company	This budget is set aside to contract companies in years 2 to 4 as below: - Company to build capacities of fishers on more sustainable fishing practices, calendars, fishing zones, in the 3 islands (Output 2.2.1) for an estimated total sub-cost of USD180,000; - Company to (i) establish a National Mangrove Restoration Plan (diagnostic of the current situation of mangroves in the 3 islands, zoning, species, ongoing and planned restoration activities), including restoration calendars for the 4 MPAs; (ii) organize the plantation of mangrove seedlings in the 4 MPAs (Output 2.2.1) for an estimated sub-cost of USD100,000; - Contract with NGO or private firm to implement dune fixing activities over 6,500m of beaches in the 3 islands (Output 2.2.1) for an estimated sub-cost of USD200,000.					480,000		480,000		480,000		Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)	

	TOTAL: USD480,000												
Contractual services - Company	This budget is set aside to contract companies that will engage in scientific assessments in years 3 and 4 as below: - Marine resources, marine spatial plans and sustainable management plans in the 4 MPAs and establishment of fishing calendars (Output 1.2.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD200,000. - Seaweed production potential (Output 1.2.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD30,000. TOTAL: USD230,000		230,000						230,000			230,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Contractual services - Company	This budget line is contracted to contract companies as below: - Company over 2 years to build the capacity of local businesses, authorities and CSOs on the development of business plans and technical feasibility studies to attract sustainable investments (Output 2.1.2); the estimated				700,000				700,000			700,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	sub-cost is USD200,000. - Company over 5 years to Implement a technical facility to support high-potential business plans (Output 2.1.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD500,000. TOTAL: USD700,000											
Contractual services - Company	This budget line is set aside in years 1 to 4 to contract companies as follows: - Company (NGO/private company) to strengthen small, basic communal infrastructures such as surveillance infrastructure, communications, footpaths and seafronts, and conservation infrastructure (Output 2.2.3); the estimated sub-cost is USD120,114. - Company (NGO/private company) to build small tourist facilities in the 6 NPs (wooden lodges, equipped hiking trails, nature-watching and surveillance infrastructure) @ USD20,000 each (Output 2.2.3); the estimated sub-cost is 6 * USD20,000 = USD120,000. - Contract with ANPN to reinforce capacities of the 3 regional tourist information					420,114		420,114		420,114		Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	offices @ USD10,000 per office per year, for 6 years (Output 2.2.3); the estimated sub-cost is 3 * 6 * USD10,000 = USD180,000. TOTAL: USD420,114												
Contractual services - Company	This budget line is set aside in years 2 and 3 to contract companies that will: - Carry out a data gap analysis on natural capital and develop the necessary environmental statistics needed to build an NCA system (Output 1.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD100,000. - Identify statistics for feeding into NCA (Output 1.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD100,000. TOTAL: USD200,000	200,000							200,000			200,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Contractual services - Company	This budget line is set aside in years 2 to 6 to contract companies as follows: - NGO or private firm to implement forest restoration activities over 589ha in the 3 islands (Output 2.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD450,000. - 6 CRDEs to disseminate CSA practices to local farmers @ USD12,000 for 6 CRDEs/year for 5 years (Output 2.2.2):					1,250,000			1,250,000			1,250,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	the estimated sub-cost is 5 * 6 * USD12,000 = USD360,000. - Technically support development of nature-based quality products in the agroforestry sector in 3 islands (Output 2.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD240,000. - to support investments in organic waste management, composting/biogas facilities at community level, and the development of organic waste collection/management plans in the 3 islands (Output 2.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD200,000. TOTAL: USD1,250,000												
Contractual services - Company	This budget lines is set aside in years 2 to 6 to contract companies that will engage in: - Selecting local pilot case studies to demonstrate where good resolution data on natural ecosystems (e.g., forests, fisheries) exist and to begin pilot applications of NCA modules, and prioritize NCA modules for development (Output 1.1.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD100,000. - Conducting a study on the	600,000							600,000			600,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	economic/mo netary value of the services provided by Comoros' natural ecosystems and their contribution to the country's economy (Output 1.1.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD100,000. - Piloting NCA modules, including local-scale systems for fisheries, forests and land-use (Output 1.1.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD400,000. TOTAL: USD600,000											
Contractual services - Individual	Contract with ANPN to (1) reinforce capacities of the 6 NPs and Conduct workshops that train local community members, including women and youth, in methods for assessing natural resource stocks; (2) Create inclusive community groups that are responsible for regular monitoring and patrolling of protected areas; (3) Strengthen NPs Management Committees through specialized training and improved human and technical capacities; and (4) Develop guidelines and				558,00 0			558,00 0			558,00 0	Director ate General of Environ ment and Forests (DGEF)

	protocols for engaging with the private sector to ensure that any investments or activities do not undermine the ecological health of the protected areas , @ USD15,500 per NP per year, for 6 years (Output 2.1.3). TOTAL: USD558,000												
Contractual services - Individual	Full time Project KM and monitoring officer @ USD18,000/year (Output 3.1.1). TOTAL: USD126,000						126,000		126,000			126,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Contractual services - Individual	Part time Project Communication officer @ USD9,000 per year (Output 3.1.2). TOTAL: USD63,000						63,000		63,000			63,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Contractual services - Individual	This budget line is set aside for PMU recruitment as follows: - Full time project manager @ USD28,000 per year; the estimated sub-cost is 7 * USD28,000 = USD 196,000. - Half time Admin&Finance officer @ USD9,000 per year; the estimated sub-cost is 7 * USD9,000 = USD63,000. - Part time accountant @ USD6,000 in Y1; USD9,000 in Y2,3,4,5,6; USD7,000 in Y7 per year; the estimated								-		380,000	380,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	sub-cost is USD58,000. - Part time procurement specialist @ USD9,000 per year; the estimated sub-cost is 7 * USD9,000 = USD63,000. TOTAL: USD380,000												
Contractual services - Individual	This budget line is set aside for: - the recruitment of 3 Drivers @ USD6,500 per year; the estimated sub-cost is 3 * 7 * USD6,500 = USD136,500. - the recruitment of 2 Full time Island Technical Managers (ITM) in Ndzuani and Mwali @ USD18,000 per year; the estimated sub-cost is 2 * 7 * USD18,000 = USD252,000. - the recruitment of half time Admin&Finance officer @ USD9,000 per year ; the estimated sub-cost is 7 * USD9,000 = USD63,000. TOTAL: USD451,500					451,500			451,500			451,500	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Equipment	- Equipment for investment and capacities in NbS in the fisheries sector, including small fishing equipment, cold chambers, fish driers, small processing equipment, @ USD480,000 (Output 2.2.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD480,000.					570,000			570,000			570,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	- Equipment to establish mangrove seedling nurseries @ \$40,000 (Output 2.2.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD40,000. - Cost of Bamboo fencing (Output 2.2.1) in years 2 and 3; the estimated sub-cost is USD30,000. - Cost of Ipomea pescaprae and Thespedia populna seedlings (Output 2.2.1) in years 2 and 3; the estimated sub-cost is USD20,000. TOTAL: USD570,000												
Equipm ent	- Equipment for local carpenters to process Psidium catelianam wood (Output 2.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD50,000. - Small equipment for processing of agroforestry products (e.g. oil extractors; cosmetics equipment), (Output 2.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD100,000. TOTAL: USD150,000					150,000			150,000			150,000	Director ate General of Environ ment and Forests (DGEF)
Equipm ent	5 motorbikes in year 1 per National Park to provide NP staff with the necessary mobility for community mobilization and capacity development, and monitoring @ USD1,000				30,000				30,000			30,000	Director ate General of Environ ment and Forests (DGEF)

	each Output 2.1.3). TOTAL: USD30,000												
Equipm ent	Computers and office equipment in year 1 @ USD6,000. TOTAL: USD6,000								-		6,000	6,000	Director ate General of Environ ment and Forests (DGEF)
Interna tional Consult ants	International blue/green economy and financial management expert to (1) Develop a targeted investment guide for private sector actors, showcasing the potential of NbS in supporting sustainable investments in the green and blue economy sectors; (2) Launch a diagnostic study to assess government subsidies, financial mechanisms, and budget allocations with nature/climate negative impacts and provide guidance and tools to repurpose and eliminate nature/climate negative financing; and (3) Develop a national strategy for the development of the green and blue economy that supports policy and regulatory reforms to incentivize nature-positive			80,000					80,000		80,000	80,000	Director ate General of Environ ment and Forests (DGEF)

	private sector investment, 100 days @ USD800 /day in years 1 and 2 (Output 1.1.3). TOTAL: USD80,000												
International Consultants	International blue/green economy and public financial management expert to (1) Create an incentive framework to attract financial transfers in NbS for personal private investment from members of the Comorian diaspora in their communities of origin; and (2) Support the establishment of the necessary legal and institutional frameworks surrounding a carbon finance framework that aligns with Article 6 requirements, 50 days @ USD800/day in years 3 and 4 (Output 1.1.3). TOTAL: USD40,000			40,000					40,000			40,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
International Consultants	International Communication expert in year 1, 50 days @ USD800 (Output 3.1.2). TOTAL: USD40,000						40,000		40,000			40,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
International Consultants	International Gender & Safeguards expert , 15days/year @USD800 (Output 4.1.1).								-	84,000		84,000	Directorate General of Environment

	TOTAL: USD84,000												and Forests (DGEF)
Internal Consultants	International KM&L expert to undertake a KM&L needs assessment at the beginning of project implementatio n, 50 days @ USD800 (Output 3.1.1) in year 1. TOTAL: USD40,000						40,000		40,000			40,000	Director ate General of Environ ment and Forests (DGEF)
Internal Consultants	International nature- tourism expert for (i) the development of touristic tours in each NPs, scaling out the Karthala NP initiative called The Great Karthala Crossing (in French: Grande traversée du Karthala), (ii) the update of the ONTC website as the main tourist information platform for visitors to Comoros; and (iii) support to regional tourist information offices in the 3 islands, 60 days in years 2 and 3 @ USD800 (Output 2.2.3). TOTAL: USD48,000					48,000		48,000			48,000	Director ate General of Environ ment and Forests (DGEF)	
Internal Consultants	International NbS expert to organize capacity- building workshops for decision- makers and Facilitate cross-sectoral dialogues between government, private sector, and civil society on the		24,000						24,000			24,000	Director ate General of Environ ment and Forests (DGEF)

	role of NbS, 30 days @ USD800/day in years 1 and 2 (Output 1.2.3). TOTAL: USD24,000											
International Consultants	International NbS finance expert to create a database of the national/international funds supporting the launch of entrepreneurial initiatives with guarantees or loans (such as the UNCDF Bridge Facility) as well as the modalities to obtain the financing, 30 days @ USD800 in year 3 (Output 2.1.2). TOTAL: USD24,000				24,000			24,000			24,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
International Consultants	International organic waste management expert over year 3 to study the role of the private sector in solid waste processing beyond the current transportation role, 30 days @ USD800 (Output 2.2.2). TOTAL: USD24,000				24,000			24,000			24,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
International Consultants	The budget line is reserved in year 2 to hire: - International NbS policy expert to update existing development strategies with local authorities and communities to integrate NbS in the planning of key sectors, 30 days @		84,000					84,000			84,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	USD800/day (Output 1.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is 30 * USD800 = USD24,000. - International Tourism & Nbs expert to prepare eco-tourism development plans for each of the six NPs, 55 days @ USD800/day (Output 1.1.2); the estimated sub-cost is 55 * USD800 = USD44,000. - International forestry expert to prepare reforestation plans for each of the three terrestrial NPs, 20 days @ USD800/day (Output 1.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is 20 * USD800 = USD16,000. TOTAL: USD84,000												
Internal Consultants	This budget is set reserved to hire International NCA expert to (1) Organize training sessions for stakeholders and NCA practitioners on compiling environmental statistics and systematically integrating them into the NCA system; (2) coordinate learning visits to more advanced statistical offices in NCA; (3) establish through a participatory process the preferred information system for supporting environmental statistics and NCA	120,000							120,000			120,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	compilation over time; and (4) strengthen the capacity for data compilation and analysis by organising regular workshops, 150 days @ USD800 USD/day (Output 1.1.3). TOTAL: USD120,000											
International Consultants	This budget line is reserved in years 1 and 2 to hire: - International environmental governance expert to establish a NCA multi-sectoral committee and carry out a policy coherence review, 12 days @ USD800 /day (Output 1.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is 12 * USD800 = USD9,600. - International NCA expert to collect baseline and ensure existing ESV studies and data are included, 60 days @ USD800/day (Output 1.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is 12 * USD800 = USD48,000. TOTAL: USD57,600	57,600						57,600			57,600	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
International Consultants	This budget line is set aside in year 1 and 2 to hire : - International governance & NbS expert to carry out gap assessment to identify needed coherence of the governance		64,000					64,000			64,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

framework for the integration of NbS and gender-responsive planning in the tourism and food sectors and develop policy briefs and recommendations, 30 days@ USD800/day (Output 1.2.1); the estimated sub cost is 30 * USD800 = USD24,000. - International (agro)forestry expert to conduct a regulatory assessment for Agroforestry to understand the barriers to the implementation of NbS, with regards to the Forest Law, 20 days@ USD800/day (Output 1.2.1); the estimated sub-cost is 20 * USD800 = USD16,000. - International marine resource expert to conduct a policy gap analysis to identify the barriers that might prevent the integration of NbS in the development policies for the marine resources sector, starting with a review of the Fisheries Code, 30 days@ USD800/day (Output 1.2.1); the estimated sub-cost is 30 * USD800 = USD24,000.												
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	TOTAL: USD64,000												
International Consultants	This budget line is set aside to hire International NbS and private sector expert in years 1 and 2 to conduct: - a Gap assessment covering the existing technical and financial capacities of local businesses, authorities and CSOs to implement NbS, 50 days @ USD800 (Output 2.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD40,000. - market assessments to identify blue and green value chains in the 6 NPs, 100 days @ USD800 (Output 2.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD80,000. TOTAL: USD120,000				120,000				120,000			120,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Local Consultants	National blue/green economy and financial management expert to (1) Develop a targeted investment guide for private sector actors, showcasing the potential of NbS in supporting sustainable			30,000					30,000			30,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	investments in the green and blue economy sectors; (2) Launch a diagnostic study to assess government subsidies, financial mechanisms, and budget allocations with nature/climate negative impacts and provide guidance and tools to repurpose and eliminate nature/climate negative financing; and (3) Develop a national strategy for the development of the green and blue economy that supports policy and regulatory reforms to incentivize nature-positive private sector investment, 100 days @ USD300/day in years 1 and 2(Output 1.1.3). TOTAL: USD 30,000												
Local Consultants	National governance and carbon finance expert to (1) Create an incentive framework to attract financial transfers in NbS for personal private investment from members of the Comorian diaspora in their communities of origin; and (2) Support			15,000					15,000			15,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	the establishment of the necessary legal and institutional frameworks surrounding a carbon finance framework that aligns with Article 6 requirements, 50 days @ USD300/day in year 2 (Output 1.1.3). TOTAL: USD15,000												
Local Consultants	National NbS expert to organize capacity-building workshops for decision-makers and facilitate cross-sectoral dialogues between government, private sector, and civil society on the role of NbS, 30 days @ USD300/day in years 1 and 2 (Output 1.2.3). TOTAL: USD9,000		9,000						9,000			9,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Local Consultants	National NbS finance expert to create a database of the national/international funds supporting the launch of entrepreneurial initiatives with guarantees or loans (such as the UNCDF Bridge Facility) as well as the modalities to obtain the financing, 30 days @ USD300 in year 3 (Output 2.1.2). TOTAL: USD9,000				9,000				9,000			9,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

Local Consultants	National organic waste management expert over year 3 to study the role of the private sector in solid waste processing beyond the current transportation role, 30 days @ USD300 (Output 2.2.2). TOTAL: USD 9,000					9,000			9,000			9,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Local Consultants	This budget line is reserved in year 1 and 2 to hire: - National governance & NbS expert to carry out gap assessment to identify needed coherence of the governance framework for the integration of NbS and gender-responsive planning in the tourism and food sectors and develop policy briefs and recommendations, 30 days @ USD300/day (Output 1.2.1); the estimated sub-cost is 30 * USD300 = USD 9,000. - National (agro)forestry expert to conduct a regulatory assessment for Agroforestry to understand the barriers to the implementation of NbS, with regards to the Forest Law, 20 days @ USD300/day (Output 1.2.1); the estimated		24,000						24,000			24,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	sub-cost is 20 * USD300 = USD6,000. - National marine resource expert to conduct a policy gap analysis to identify the barriers that might prevent the integration of NbS in the development policies for the marine resources sector, starting with a review of the Fisheries Code, 30 days @ USD300/day (Output 1.2.1); the estimated sub-cost is 30 * USD300 = USD9,000. TOTAL: USD24,000											
Local Consultants	This budget line is reserved in years 1 and 2 to hire: - National environmental governance expert to establish a NCA multi-sectoral committee and carry out a policy coherence review, 30 days @ USD300/day (Output 1.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is 30 * USD300 = USD9,000. - National NCA expert to collect baseline and ensure existing ESV studies and data are included, 60 days @ USD300/day (Output 1.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is 60 * USD300 = USD18,000. TOTAL: USD27,000	27,000						27,000			27,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	* USD300 = USD18,000. TOTAL: USD27,000												
Local Consult ants	This budget line is set aside in year 2 to hire: - National NbS Policy expert to update existing development strategies with local authorities and communities to integrate NbS in the planning of key sectors, 30 days @ USD300/day (Output 1.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is 30 * USD300 = USD9,000. - National Tourism & NbS expert to prepare eco-tourism development plans for each of the six NPs, travel between islands, 50 days @ USD300/day (Output 1.1.2); the estimated sub-cost is 50 * USD300 = USD15,000. - National forestry expert to prepare reforestation plans for each of the three terrestrial NPs, 20 days @ USD300/day (Output 1.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is 20 * USD300 = USD6,000. TOTAL: USD 30,000.		30,000						30,000			30,000	Director ate General of Environ ment and Forests (DGEF)

Local Consultants	This budget line is set aside in years 1 and 2 to hire National NbS and private sector expert to conduct: - a Gap assessment covering the existing technical and financial capacities of local businesses, authorities and CSOs to implement NbS, 50 days @ USD300 (Output 2.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is 50 * USD300 = USD15,000. - market assessments to identify blue and green value chains in the 6 NPs, 100 days @ USD300 (Output 2.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is 100 * USD300 = USD30,000. TOTAL: USD45,000				45,000				45,000			45,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Local Consultants	This budget line is set aside in years 2 and 3 to hire: - National nature-tourism expert for (i) the development of touristic tours in each NPs, scaling out the Karthala NP initiative called The Great Karthala Crossing (in French: Grande traversée du Karthala), (ii) the update of the ONTC website as the main tourist information platform for					33,000				33,000		33,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	visitors to Comoros; and (iii) Support to regional tourist information offices in the 3 island, 60 days @ USD300 (Output 2.2.3); the estimated sub-cost is 60 *USD300 = USD18,000. - National IT/Web expert to support regional tourist information offices in the 3 islands, 50 days @ USD300 (Output 2.2.3); the estimated sub-cost is 50 * USD300 = USD15,000. TOTAL: USD33,000												
Office Supplies	Cost of forest tree seedlings for 589ha @ USD10,510 (Output 2.2.2) in years 2 to 5. TOTAL: USD52,550					52,550			52,550			52,550	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Office Supplies	Office Supplies in all years with USD483 in year 1 and USD400/year for remaining years. TOTAL: USD2,883								-		2,883	2,883	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Other Operating Costs	Costs associated with fuel, petroleum and other oils, and maintenance of vehicle @ USD19,500/year. TOTAL: USD136,500					136,500			136,500			136,500	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Other Operating Costs	Annual financial audits in all years @ USD2,000/year. TOTAL: USD14,000								-		14,000	14,000	UNDP

Other Operating Costs	Audiovisual and printing costs for various knowledge products, in coordination with BGI GCP @ USD5,000/year (Output 3.1.1). TOTAL: USD35,000						35,000		35,000			35,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Other Operating Costs	Communication material @ USD5,000/year in years 2, 4 and 6 (Output 1.1.3). TOTAL: USD15,000	15,000							15,000			15,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Training, Workshops, Meetings	3 advocacy workshops and meetings with policymakers and stakeholders to promote NbS solutions, 1 per island @ USD5,000 (Output 3.1.2) in year 2. TOTAL: USD15,000						15,000		15,000			15,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Training, Workshops, Meetings	4 training workshops to strengthen capacities and establish stakeholder network actively engaged in applying NCA on NCA @ USD5,000 (Output 1.1.3) in years 2, 4, 5 and 6. TOTAL: USD20,000	20,000							20,000			20,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Training, Workshops, Meetings	Annual dialogue and learning workshops in each island @ USD5,000/year (Output 3.1.1). TOTAL: USD105,000						105,000		105,000			105,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Training, Workshops	Annual meeting of the national stakeholder platform to promote							77,000	77,000			77,000	Directorate General of Environ

Meetings	collaboration on NbS @ USD11,000 each (Output 3.2.1) over all years. TOTAL: USD77,000												ment and Forests (DGEF)
Training, Workshops, Meetings	Annual training workshop in each island to empower Local businesses and communities to access private sector finance (3*3) @ USD2,000 each (Output 2.1.2). TOTAL: USD18,000				18,000				18,000			18,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Training, Workshops, Meetings	Project Inception workshop in year 1 @ USD5,000 (Output 4.1.1). TOTAL: USD5,000								-	5,000		5,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Travel	DSA and travel costs for International KM&L experts @ USD6,000 (Output 3.1.1) in year 1. TOTAL: USD6,000						6,000		6,000			6,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Travel	DSA and travel costs for International KM&L experts @ USD6,000 (Output 3.1.2) in year 1. TOTAL: USD6,000						6,000		6,000			6,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Travel	DSA and travel costs for international NCA consultant learning visits to more advanced statistical offices in NCA and environmental statistics 5 trips @ USD4,000 (Output 1.1.3) in years 2 to 6.	20,000							20,000			20,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	TOTAL: USD20,000												
Travel	DSA and travel costs for National & International NbS experts to organize capacity-building workshops for decision-makers and Facilitate cross-sectoral dialogues between government, private sector, and civil society on the role of NbS 2 @ USD2,000/year in years 1 and 2 (Output 1.2.3). TOTAL: USD4,000		4,000						4,000			4,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Travel	DSA and travel costs for National & International blue/green economy and financial management experts to (1) Develop a targeted investment guide for private sector actors, showcasing the potential of NbS in supporting sustainable investments in the green and blue economy sectors; (2) Launch a diagnostic study to assess government subsidies, financial mechanisms, and budget allocations with nature/climate negative impacts and provide guidance and tools to repurpose and			9,000					9,000			9,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	eliminate nature/climate negative financing; and (3) Develop a national strategy for the development of the green and blue economy that supports policy and regulatory reforms to incentivize nature-positive private sector investment, travel between islands @ USD4,500/year in years 1 and 2 (Output 1.1.3). TOTAL: USD9,000											
Travel	DSA and travel costs for National & International blue/green economy and public financial management experts to (1) Create an incentive framework to attract financial transfers in NbS for personal private investment from members of the Comorian diaspora in their communities of origin; and (2) Support the establishment of the necessary legal and institutional frameworks surrounding a carbon finance framework that aligns with Article 6 requirements, including			6,000					6,000		6,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	travel between islands @ USD3,000/year in years 3 and 4 (Output 1.1.3). TOTAL: USD6,000												
Travel	DSA and travel costs for National and International consultants in year 1 and 2 as below: - National & International environmental governance experts to establish a NCA multi-sectoral committee and carry out a policy coherence review (Output 1.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD3,400. - National & International environmental governance experts to collect baseline and ensure existing ESV studies and data are included (Output 1.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD12,000. TOTAL: USD15,400	15,400							15,400			15,400	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Travel	DSA and travel costs for National and International consultants in years 1 and 2 as described below: - National and international NbS and private sector experts to conduct a Gap assessment covering the existing technical and financial capacities of local				18,000				18,000			18,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	businesses, authorities and CSOs to implement NbS (Output 2.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD6,000. - National and International NbS and private sector experts to conduct market assessments to identify blue and green value chains in the 6 NPs (Output 2.1.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD12,000. TOTAL: USD18,000											
Travel	DSA and travel costs in year 1 and 2 for National and International Consultants as below: - National & International governance & NbS experts to carry out gap assessment to identify needed coherence of the governance framework for the integration of NbS and gender-responsive planning in the tourism and food sectors and develop policy briefs and recommendations (Output 1.2.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD3,000. - National & International (agro)forestry experts to conduct a regulatory		9,000					9,000			9,000	Director ate General of Environ ment and Forests (DGEF)

	assessment for Agroforestry to understand the barriers to the implementation of NbS, with regards to the Forest Law (Output 1.2.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD3,000. - National & International marine resource experts to conduct a policy gap analysis to identify the barriers that might prevent the integration of NbS in the development policies for the marine resources sector, starting with a review of the Fisheries Code (Output 1.2.1); the estimated sub-cost is USD3,000. TOTAL: USD9,000											
Travel	DSA and travel costs National & International consultants in year 2 as below: - NbS policy experts to update existing development strategies with local authorities and communities to integrate NbS in the planning of key sectors (Output 1.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD3,000. - National & International Tourism & NbS experts to prepare		15,000						15,000		15,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	eco-tourism development plans for each of the six NPs, including travel between islands (Output 1.1.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD9,000. - National & International forestry experts to prepare reforestation plans for each of the three terrestrial NPs, including travel between islands @ USD3,000 (Output 1.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is USD3,000. TOTAL: USD15,000												
Travel	DSA and travel costs over year 3 for national and International organic waste management experts @ USD3,000 (Output 2.2.2). TOTAL: USD3,000					3,000			3,000			3,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Travel	DSA and travel costs over years 2 and 3 for national and International nature-tourism experts for (i) the development of touristic tours in each NPs, scaling out the Karthala NP initiative called The Great Karthala Crossing (in French: Grande traversée du Karthala), (ii) the update of the ONTC website as the main tourist					9,000			9,000			9,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	information platform for visitors to Comoros; and (iii) support to regional tourist information offices in the 3 island @ USD3,000 * 3 (Output 2.2.3). TOTAL: USD9,000												
Travel	DSA and travel costs over years 2 to 6 as described below: - for 3 persons for GCP regional events (1 event per year for 5 years) @ USD20,000/year (Output 3.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is 5 * USD20,000 = USD100,000. - for 3 persons for GCP workshops and training events (1 event per year for 5 years) @ USD10,000/year (Output 3.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is 5 * USD10,000 = USD50,000. - to organize in Comoros 2 south-south site-visits @ USD30,000 (Output 3.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is 2 * USD30,000 = USD60,000. - 3 south-south exchanges visits to other regional or national projects in neighboring countries @ USD20,000 (Output 3.2.2); the estimated sub-cost is 3 * USD20,000 = USD60,000.							270,000	270,000			270,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)

	TOTAL: USD270,000												
Travel	Travel costs for exchange visits (including south-south) 3 trips in years 3 to 5 @ USD11,000 (Output 2.1.2). TOTAL: USD33,000				33,000				33,000			33,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
Travel	Travel costs over all years @ USD12,000/year as described below: - for monitoring GEF core indicators and project results framework (Output 4.1.1); - for preparing annual PIR (Output 4.1.1); - for annual supervision missions and learning missions (Output 4.1.1). TOTAL: USD84,000									84,000		84,000	Directorate General of Environment and Forests (DGEF)
	Project Total	1,075,000	559,000	184,000	1,567,000	3,636,664	436,000	347,000	7,804,664	253,000	402,883	8,460,547	

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.

