



GENDER AND SOCIAL INCLUSION ANALYSIS (GSIA) OF THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND (GCF) PIPELINE OF PROJECTS IN THE CAR

Study report

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AE: Accredited Entity
CAR: Central African Republic
CC: Climate Change
CN: Concept Note
CSO: Civil Society Organisations
FPIC: Free, Prior, and Informed Consent
GCCS/NDC: Gender and Climate Change Strategy for the NDC Implementation
GCF: Green Climate Fund
GE: Gender Equality
GHGs: Greenhouse gas
GSI: Gender and Social Inclusion
GSIA: Gender and Social Inclusion Analysis
GSIAF: Gender and Social Inclusion Assessment Framework
GSIM: Gender and Social Inclusion Marker
GWP: Global Water Partnership
IP: Indigenous Peoples or Population
IWRM: Integrated Water Resources Management
NAP: National Adaptation Plan
NDA: National Designated Authority
NDC: Nationally Determined Contribution
GCCNS: Gender and Climate Change National Strategy
NTFP: Non-Timber Forest Products
PIN: Project Idea Note
REDD+: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WB: World Bank
WWF: World Wildlife Fund for Nature

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background and Purpose

The Central African Republic (CAR) is committed to preserving the environment in general and fighting climate change by signing a number of conventions proposed at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, particularly the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). CAR has also signed the Paris Agreement, the outcome of international negotiations at the twenty-first Conference of the Parties (CoP21) in accordance with the principle of "common but differentiated responsibility"¹. Several strategies and programmes were developed to translate this political will to fight climate change into action. They include the development of the country programme for engagement with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in 2018, the revision of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2021, the development of the preliminary National Adaptation Plan (NAP) in 2022, the development of the Gender and Climate Change Strategy for NDC implementation (GCCS/NDC) in 2022, and the National Gender and Climate Change Strategy (NGCCS) in 2023.

Similarly, the country is committed to promoting gender equality and eliminating all forms of discrimination against women. It is translated by the country's ratification of most international and regional legal instruments promoting women's rights, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). This commitment is reaffirmed by the Constitution of 30 March 2016, which enshrines gender equality, the adoption of the National Policy for the Promotion of Equity and Equality in 2005 and the enactment of the Law instituting Parity between Men and Women.

The CAR is a conflict-affected country, and as such, the government's efforts are primarily focused on reconstruction. The implementation of programmes to fight climate change is heavily dependent on the support of technical and financial partners. There are international funding mechanisms, but the country is trying to mobilise them to deal effectively with the impacts of climate change. The GCF has a readiness programme that developing countries can easily access to build their capacity to mobilise the funds it provides and help countries access climate funds. In line with this, the country received support from the GCF through Global Water Partnership (GWP) for the implementation of a Readiness Assistance Project to build the NDA's capacity to access GCF resources. The main expected outputs of this project include:

- 1) A climate finance tracker for the NDA developed,
- 2) Stakeholders trained on GCF protocols and procedures and on financially structuring GCF Project Proposals,

¹ The Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibility (CBDR) is enshrined in the 1992 Framework Convention. It is mentioned in the preamble: "*Acknowledging* that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions." It establishes the link with the concept of equity and that a direct consequence must be drawn developed countries must be "at the forefront of the fight against climate change and its adverse effects since they are the largest emitters of greenhouse gases.

- 3) Two GCF Concept Notes considering gender and social inclusion for water-focused adaptation projects submitted to the GCF ;
- 4) A gender and social inclusion assessment of CAR's priority project pipeline conducted.

Thus, for Output 4, a Gender and Social Inclusion Consultant was appointed to prepare the Gender and Social Inclusion Assessment Framework (GSIAF) and apply it to the various concept and idea notes of GCF's pipeline of projects in CAR.

Firstly, the consultant developed a GSIAF. It is a tool for the NDA to assess the extent to which gender and social inclusion are captured in the project proposals they receive before submitting them to the GCF. The tool in question should form part of the proposal approval process at the NDA before a letter of no objection is issued to a partner wishing to submit a project proposal to the GCF. Secondly, the consultant's assignment included an assessment of the pipeline projects at the level of the NDA based on the framework developed. This report is the outcome of the review of the two concept notes the NDA received from technical and financial partners and 12 project ideas developed under the GCF country programme in 2018.

1.2. Objectives and Expected Outcomes

It is vital to consider gender when preparing a project to be submitted to the GCF. This activity focuses on the gender and social inclusion assessment of CAR's priority projects pipeline at the NDA (as described in the national GCF programme, the draft National Adaptation Plan and other climate finance programmes). For each project (or idea), the assessment outlines the extent to which gender and social inclusion were considered. It recommends subsequent actions to improve how gender is considered in the project (or idea).

1.3. Methodology

The primary instrument used was the GSIAF. It formulates guidelines for the assessment according to the level of maturity of the projects (cases of new projects or programmes and ongoing or follow-up projects or programmes). For this assignment, the focus will be on new projects because the proposals assessed relate to the concept notes and project ideas for the country programme with the GCF. The specific tool used in the framework is the Gender and Social Inclusion Marker (GSIM). The GSIM can be used to analyse the overall rank of projects on a score of 0 to 3 to measure the extent to which gender is considered in a new proposal.

A stakeholder consultation workshop was held on 15 March 2024 in Bangui and brought together the main stakeholders in climate action. During this workshop, the results of the initial assessment was presented to participants, and their feedback captured and reflected in this report.

1.4. Structure of the Report

The assessment focused on two concept notes developed for submission to the GCF and 12 project ideas contained in the country programme, including 6 mitigation and 6 adaptation project ideas. This report is structured in three (3) sections:

- Presentation of the Assessment Tool ;

- Assessment of two Concept Notes submitted to the NDA by the partners ;
- Assessment of project ideas in the GCF Country Programme Strategy Paper for CAR ;

Recommendations were made for each proposal, based on the outcomes of the various assessments, to guide project managers in systematically scoring GSI into projects under development and subsequent projects to be developed, with the aim of improving their quality before submission to the GCF.

SECTION 1: PRESENTATION OF THE GENDER AND SOCIAL INCLUSION ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

I.1. General Requirements

The Gender and Social Inclusion Assessment Framework (GSIAF) is the tool developed initially as part of this consultancy and applied to the assessment of the NDA's pipeline projects. As stated above in the methodology, the specific tool used is the GSIM. The GSIAF will be attached as an annexe to this report, and only the GSIM will be presented below to focus on the assessment.

I.2. Presentation of the Tool

The Gender and Social Inclusion Marker (GSIM) used was inspired by the Gender Marker System of the West African Development Bank (WADB), which in turn is inspired by the marker of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)², which is the benchmark for developing marker systems for all development finance institutions. It should be noted that the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Gender Equality Policy Marker of OECD is an effective tool for monitoring accountability as part of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The GSIM has four defined rating levels corresponding to four (4) rating values related to gender equality and social inclusion. The system provides a clear view of the minimum characteristics that a project or programme must have to meet the 0, 1, 2 and 3 points. It thus facilitates the process of scoring projects and programmes by providing a list of minimum criteria to be met for each of these values.

Gender and social inclusion aspects are analysed simultaneously to avoid making the tool too complex. In this way, the criteria defined consider not only gender disparities but also refer to other vulnerabilities that prevent people from participating more fully in the decision-making processes that affect their lives and from gaining better access to their fundamental rights or the benefits derived from the services offered.

I.3. How the scoring system works and minimum criteria

All projects and programmes submitted for climate financing, whether in the public or private sector, must be systematically categorised according to gender and social inclusion. The four (4) scores indicate the degree of gender mainstreaming and social inclusion as soon as they are identified and facilitate the consideration of gender mainstreaming measures in the operationalisation of the other stages of the life cycle of the said projects and programmes. The extent of gender mainstreaming and social inclusion is determined by the level to which the project or programme considers gender and social inclusion.

The scoring itself is based on 4 criteria. Within a project or programme, the following points are reviewed:

² Handbook on the OECD-DAC Gender Equality Policy Marker, December 2016.

- Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme,
- The existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc. in the results chain,
- The existence of one or more actions, activities, or tasks that include gender and social inclusion, possibly with a substantial budget,
- The existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability at the level of the results chain.

Each point is scored on one mark and then summed up. The assessment of the scoring is not cumulative. At least one of the points in the results chain must consider gender and social inclusion. The aim is to ensure the good faith and willingness of managers to apply the gender and inclusion dimension to various projects and programmes.

The tables below provide a summary of the different scores, the related values, and an overall understanding of each of these scores and values.

Table 1: Gender and social inclusion scoring criteria for climate change projects/programmes

No.	Scoring Criteria	Description	Control question asked	Response (Yes/No)	Scoring Yes=1 No=0	Remarks/Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	The gender and social inclusion analysis systematically identifies the fundamental challenges that strengthen gender inequalities and all forms of discrimination, most of which are also responsible for poor development and contribute to the outcomes of development actions, particularly in climate change. The process explores how power relations between men and women and between social components lead to discrimination, subordination, and societal exclusion, including when they are faced with other types of marginalisation such as age, social class, ethnicity, caste, disability, status, sexuality, etc. All climate change projects are systematically recommended to conduct such an analysis. The issues should be identified in the concept note and subsequently in the full proposal. By default, the gender and social inclusion analysis issues in the project rationale may be considered in cases where the project/programme manager has not yet conducted a comprehensive gender analysis.	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?			

		A link must be established between the budget programmes and the programmes and actions of the National Gender Policy.				
2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	The gender and social inclusion dimension must be clearly outlined when setting the objectives of the project or programme, or the setting of these objectives is likely to influence relations between men and women and different social categories, particularly vulnerable groups.	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and different social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?			
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	A distinction can be made between: -Actions, activities, or tasks that meet the needs of all. These are services that are safely accessible to all target groups (men and women, Indigenous peoples, and/or those affected) and that take steps to meet needs or combat gender discrimination and social discrimination. -Specific gender activities aimed at strengthening gender equality (empowerment, structure, and relationships): Strengthen gender equality through activities that seek to change women in the following areas:	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) stated in the formulation of actions, activities, and tasks?			

		<p>empowerment, changing relationships and changing structures.</p> <p>- Specific actions, activities or tasks relating to Indigenous peoples.</p> <p>N.B.: actions, activities or tasks must be accompanied by a budget.</p>	<p>If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?</p>			
4	<p>Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.</p>	<p>The monitoring and evaluation system must be backed by gender indicators, which will be analysed regularly to understand how needs, risks, limitations, and access change according to gender, age and other types of vulnerability. Use this information to tailor the response to individual needs and capacities.</p> <p>They include:</p> <p>-Indicators disaggregated by gender/category (They include indicators usually used but broken down by gender or interest group). For example, for a training course, the indicator will not be the “number of participants who received training” but rather the “number of men and number of women who received training.”</p> <p>-Specific indicators to measure the reduction of gender inequalities/the improvement of the situation (empowerment) of marginalised groups (women...) and their participation. For example, improving women’s mobility, women’s participation in decision-making as part of the</p>	<p>Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?</p>			

		water management committee, and the number of women in an association or cooperative.				
	Total				4	

Table 2: Scoring Grid: Gender and social inclusion scoring criteria for climate change projects/programmes

Score	Value	Description
Score 1 Aggravated risk	Project or programme with an objective presenting a risk of worsening gender inequalities and social discrimination in CC: Value 0	<p>The project or programme was reviewed as regards the marker but was not aimed at gender equality and the social inclusion of vulnerable groups.</p> <p>The project or programme, therefore, presents a risk of worsening gender inequalities and vulnerabilities or will maintain existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. It may offer an opportunity to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, but it does not include specific measures to do so.</p> <p>Given that such a project or programme cannot be eligible for the GCF, its manager must review the content and form to align it with gender and social inclusion requirements.</p> <p>N.B.: This value cannot be used as a default. Projects and programmes that were not assessed must not be marked, i.e., no value must be entered in the field provided. The aim is to avoid any confusion between projects/programmes that are likely to worsen inequalities (score 0) and those whose orientation in this respect is unknown (field to be left empty or put N/A: Not Applicable).</p>
Score 2 Weak	Project or programme with an objective that addresses gender equality and social inclusion in CC to a limited extent or incidentally: Value 1	<p>The project or programme was reviewed according to the marker. It was noted that gender equality and social inclusion were not explicit objectives. This score acknowledges the efforts made to design a gender and inclusion project/programme that is "neutral," i.e., that applies the same conditions to men and women and other categories without distinction. The consequence is that it takes the needs and interests of all people into account without distinguishing sub-categories.</p> <p>In this way, gender equality and social inclusion issues are residually considered.</p>

		<p>Not only are these aspects not an objective of the project or programme, but they are also not the main reason for conducting it. All the same, the targeted interventions could affect both women and men, girls and boys.</p> <p>Such a project/programme is unlikely to be eligible for the GCF without a significant impact. Its manager needs to review its content and form to align it with gender and social inclusion requirements.</p>
Score 3 Significant	Project or programme with an objective that significantly addresses gender equality and social inclusion in CC: Value 2	<p>The project or programme was reviewed in relation to the marker. Gender equality and social inclusion are essential and deliberate objectives of the project or programme but are not the main reasons for its implementation. Otherwise, this category refers to projects or programmes that include gender equality as one of their objectives or components.</p> <p>In addition to its other objectives, the project/programme in question aims to have a positive impact on the advancement of gender equality and/or the empowerment of women and girls, the reduction of discrimination or inequalities based on gender, or the response to gender-specific needs, the inclusion of vulnerable groups and categories with special needs.</p> <p>This category of projects or programmes is likely to be financed by the GCF and other donors. However, following the project assessment stage, the Gender and Social Inclusion Analysis and Action Plan could improve the project's gender sensitivity and its contribution to the National Gender and Social Inclusion Policy in CAR.</p>
Score 4 Principal	Project or programme with an objective principally addressing gender equality and social inclusion in CC: Value 3	<p>The project or programme was reviewed according to the marker. Equality between women and men and the inclusion of vulnerable groups are the main objectives of the project/programme, and its pursuit fundamentally determines its design and expected outcomes. The project/programme would not have been undertaken without the objective of gender equality and social inclusion. It was designed with the primary aim of advancing gender equality and/or the empowerment of women and girls, reducing discrimination or inequalities based on gender, addressing gender-specific needs, or promoting the inclusion of vulnerable and special needs groups and categories.</p> <p>These types of projects or programmes also fall within the pipeline of the GCF and other donors. However, complementary measures may be suggested after the assessment phase to increase the effectiveness of the outcomes and the desired impact of the project or programme.</p>

Source: GSIAF

This initial screening of projects to be submitted to the GCF shows whether the minimum requirements were met. Table 3 below provides a checklist for each of the criteria observed in Table 1 above.

Table 3: Minimum criteria to be considered in a CC project/programme

Score	Value	Description of project and programme classification criteria	Evaluation Scores
Score 1 Aggravated risk	Project or programme likely to worsen inequalities and discrimination in CC: Value 0	-None of the 4 criteria in Table 4 were met	0/4
Score 2 Weak	Project or programme with an objective, component or outcome that incidentally addresses equality and inclusion in CC: Value 1	-One or two of the 4 criteria in Table 4 were met	1/4 or 2/4
Score 3 Significant	Project or programme with an objective, component or outcome that significantly addresses gender equality and social inclusion in CC: Value 2	-Three of the 4 criteria in Table 4 were met	3/4
Score 4 Principal	Project or programme with an objective principally addressing gender equality and social inclusion in CC: Value 3	-All 4 criteria in Table 4 were met	4/4

I.4. How will the Gender and Social Inclusion Marker (GSIM) be applied to CC projects?

In practical terms, it will identify vulnerabilities linked to gender and social inclusion as well as capacities/opportunities for change in projects to be submitted to the GCF or other potential donors.

The main concern will, therefore, be how to apply the Gender and Social Inclusion Markers in climate projects and programmes. To do this, the information in the box reserved for the project/programme will have to be completed, following the four stages below:

STAGE 1: Familiarise yourself with the Gender and Social Inclusion Marker Tool (GSIM) for CC projects and the scoring criteria. Also, read the project document or Concept Note. Finally, complete the relevant information according to the guidelines below.

STAGE 2: Considering Table 1, use the questions in the checklist to determine whether gender and social inclusion are considered in the background and rationale, objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, actions, activities or tasks and indicators of the project/programme. For each criterion in the table, answer yes or no per box where the statement is relevant or not. Each answer must be duly explained and justified with references. A yes is worth 1 point, and a no is worth 0 point.

STAGE 3: Count the number of criteria for which the project/programme considered gender and social inclusion and sum the total over 4 points. Use the scoring guide in Table 2 to insert this on the marker and find its corresponding score (0, 1, 2, 3).

STAGE 4: Finally, complete the last column of Table 1 (Comments) to provide the necessary explanations and supporting documents for each statement, suggested recommendations and lessons that could impact and improve the way gender and social inclusion are considered in the project or programme.

SECTION 2: GENDER AND SOCIAL INCLUSION ASSESSMENT OF THE TWO CONCEPT NOTES FOR THE NDA PROJECTS PIPELINE

For this exercise, the National Designated Authority (NDA) of the GCF provided two concept notes to serve as examples of gender and social inclusion analyses. In this section, these concept notes will be reviewed first through the GSIM.

2.1. Concept Note 1: Reducing the trend towards deforestation and forest degradation in the southwest of the Central African Republic

The first concept notes aim to reduce the trend of deforestation and forest degradation in the southwest of the Central African Republic. The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) proposed this note.

2.1.1. Summary presentation of Concept Note 1

The project aims to reduce the current trend of deforestation and forest degradation in the forest area of southwestern CAR (see Annexe 1 for details of the concept note). Concretely, the project aims to reduce emissions from the unsustainable use of forests by around 780 kt CO₂eq through a range of measures, including strengthening the regulatory and institutional framework for the forestry, agriculture, land tenure, and wood-energy sectors, developing and disseminating climate-smart farming techniques and structuring the wood-energy value chain. Implemented by COMIFAC, the project will benefit over 30,000 people, particularly women, young people, and Indigenous peoples.

The project comprises the following components and activities.

Component 1: Perennial crops and subsistence farming are developed using a climate-smart approach and supported by enhanced technical assistance.

Component 2: The value chain for the sustainable production and efficient consumption of wood energy is strengthened through the establishment of a structural framework and the transfer, adoption, and dissemination of improved technologies.

Component 3: Human and institutional capacities are enhanced (material, financial and technical support), and knowledge and lessons learned are shared and disseminated.

The expected impacts of the Project based on the GCF's investment criteria are as follows:

Potential Impact: The project will increase access to low-carbon energy for about 10,000 households (about 30,000 people) through training and dissemination of modern carbonisation techniques (improved millstones) and wood consumption (improved stoves and smoke stoves). In addition, the project will reduce by a quarter (1/4) the average annual quantity of emissions per person (26 tonnes CO₂eq), i.e. approximately 6.5 tonnes of CO₂eq per person per year from the second year of the project. In total, at least 780 kt CO₂eq will be reduced during the project implementation period.

Paradigm Shift: The project will fundamentally change the agricultural production system by orienting it towards low-carbon intensive agriculture based on an integrated and participatory land management approach. In addition, the project will systematically change the current approach to the production and consumption of wood fuel through the establishment of a framework and an enabling environment, as well as the development and dissemination of modern carbonisation techniques (improved millstones) and wood consumption techniques (improved stoves and smoke stoves).

Sustainable Development: The Project will have significant economic, social, and environmental co-benefits. Economically, the project will stimulate the development of local entrepreneurship in the agriculture and wood-energy sectors through technical and financial support that will eventually generate sustainable financial resources for the State and communities. Socially, the project will place particular emphasis on engaging disadvantaged sections of the population, particularly Indigenous peoples, young people, and women, thereby enabling a significant improvement in their living conditions and the fight against poverty while strengthening the fabric of social cohesion weakened by years of instability. Environmentally, the project will contribute to the conservation of biodiversity through the sustainable management of the forest area in the southwest, as well as preserve the ecosystem services that it provides. The project will also contribute to improving the air quality by reducing emissions of pollutants from burning wood, such as carbon monoxide.

Needs of Beneficiaries: The project will address a large number of needs of CAR as formulated in the PCRCA and the GCF Country Programme, mainly institutional capacity building for the redeployment of the administration, the fight against poverty through economic recovery and the revival of productive sectors, such as agriculture, and the promotion and development of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs).

Country Ownership: The project contributes to the priorities of the CAR for the reduction of emissions and climate-resilient development as identified in its NDC, specifically addressing two leading causes of carbon emissions (wood energy and shifting cultivation), enabling CAR to meet its international commitments in this area while pursuing its sustainable development objectives. The project is an initiative of the government and was subject to extensive consultations with stakeholders from the public and private sectors as well as civil society.

The project is valued at USD13.9 million (USD9.9 million to be raised from the GCF and USD4 million in co-financing) over 5 years.

The table below shows the analysis based on the GSIM.

2.1.2. Evaluation of Concept Note 1 according to the Gender and Social Inclusion Marker (GSIM)

This section reviews the points of the concept note according to the GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 4: GSI assessment according to the gender marker in Concept Note 1

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring ³ Yes=1 No=0	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?	0	Although the stakeholders consulted for the preparation of the concept note included both men and women from government departments, civil society, parliament, and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background and rationale of the project. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy. In addition, the preliminary consultations conducted to prepare the concept note did not specifically target women or vulnerable groups such as Indigenous peoples or Fulani minorities.
2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	0	The concept note presents the outcomes by component. Gender and social inclusion are not captured in any of the components. At this high level, it is difficult to assess the extent to which gender and inclusion aspects were considered under the objectives. It would have been interesting to break down each component into outcomes and outputs or general and specific objectives.

³ N.B.: For scoring purposes, a yes equals 1 point and a no equals 0 points.

3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	1	Although the concept note does not present the objectives for each component, components 1 and 3 address gender and social inclusion. Component 1 also sets an intermediate objective for the scaling-up of the programme to community-level “resilience funds”, which will target women, young people, and particularly Indigenous people. Component 3 envisages promoting the emergence of local entrepreneurship that is gender-sensitive and guarantees an improvement in the living conditions of the population. However, these aspects need to be improved to highlight how women and other vulnerable groups will be involved and benefit from the induced effects of the project. It is difficult at this planning stage to ascertain that a substantial budget will be allocated to gender and inclusion activities, as the concept note does not include a detailed budget.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	Indeed, the indicators were not well presented by the component. However, the impact indicator is not broken down by gender and type of vulnerability. It is well known that women use the improved stoves and smokehouses. Still, it would be interesting at this stage to highlight the number of beneficiaries among women, Indigenous peoples, etc.
	Total		1/4	

2.1.3. Classification of Concept Note 1 according to the Gender and Social Inclusion Marker (GSIM)

The analysis in the previous table was used to fill in the table below and categorise the project according to GSIM requirements.

Table 5: Outcomes of the GSIM assessment of Concept Note 1 based on the minimum criteria to be considered in a CC project/programme.

Concept Note	Score	Value	Scoring	Description of project and programme classification criteria
Concept Note 1: Reducing the trend towards deforestation and forest degradation in the southwest of the Central African Republic	Score 2 Weak	Project or programme with an objective, component or outcome that incidentally addresses equality and inclusion in CC: Value 1	1/4	Only one of the 4 criteria required to consider gender and social inclusion was met.

2.1.4. General comment on the assessment of Conceptual Note 1.

The table shows that the conceptual score for the project to reduce the trend of deforestation and forest degradation in the southwest of the Central African Republic, according to the GSIM grid, is a 2, where gender is poorly considered.

The project or programme was reviewed according to the marker. Gender equality and social inclusion were not explicit objectives. This score acknowledges the efforts made to design a gender and inclusion project/programme that is "neutral," i.e., that applies the same conditions to men and women and other categories without distinction. The consequence is that it considers the needs and interests of all populations without distinction of sub-categories. Equality between men and women and social inclusion are only considered to a limited extent. Not only are these aspects not an objective of the project or programme, but they are also not the main reason for conducting it. All the same, the targeted interventions could affect both women and men, girls and boys. Such a project/programme is unlikely to have a significant impact and be eligible for the GCF. The manager needs to review its content and form to align it with gender and social inclusion requirements. In other words, the manager must conduct a gender and inclusion analysis in accordance with the requirements of the GCF and repeat the analysis of the problems, particularly the problem tree, integrating scoring the GSI dimension into the analysis. Given that the setting of objectives, outcomes, and activities stems from the problem analysis, integrating the GSI at this level will provide gendered objectives, outcomes, activities and even components.

2.2. Concept Note 2: Early Warning and Disaster Risk Reduction System (EWDRRS)

The second concept note focuses on the development of an early warning and disaster risk reduction system. The UNDP proposed this note.

2.2.1. Summary presentation of Concept Note 2

- **Relevance to the GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

The potential impact of the project as regards the investment criteria of the GCF is as follows:

- **Potential Impact:** The Project will directly benefit at least 1.7 million more vulnerable people, particularly women and youth, by providing them with timely and up-to-date information to integrate risks into their daily activities. In addition to improved access to improved seeds, the integration of climate risks into decision-making will enable them to increase production, which will enhance their adaptive capacity and reduce exposure to climate hazards.
- **Paradigm Shift:** The project will fundamentally change the current approach to climate risk and disaster management to one of forward-looking, integrated planning for climate risks by improvising through their integration into ongoing and future development programmes and plans. In addition, the proposed

project will generate and disseminate critical information on climate risks that will enable the Central African government to design and implement transformational policies and plans to reduce the exposure and vulnerability of its population and productive sectors of the economy, particularly around critical infrastructure (roads, bridges, sanitation facilities, etc.) to the hazards and impacts of climate change. The project will, therefore, bring about a paradigm shift towards evidence-based early warning policies and practices for climate adaptation, risk reduction and multi-hazard.

- **Innovation:** The project will create an enabling environment for a new and innovative business model for the provision and development of climate information-based services to different economic actors, including the private and informal sectors, which will contribute to long-term sustainability beyond the project duration. It is expected that the project will have a transformational impact on national institutions using modern technology and the strengthening of its data collection and analysis capacities. Moreover, its communication network connects climate information producers directly to users (private, informal, grassroots communities).
- **Potential for scaling up:** The project will have a transformative impact on climate and weather risk management in the Central African Republic and the Central African sub-region. The project will also facilitate a better understanding of the long-term impacts of climate change. It will have a strong development potential, facilitated by existing regional cooperation mechanisms within the COMIFAC space. In addition, the establishment of pilot early warning systems in the targeted regions for community use will have a strong potential for replication in other communities in the Central African Republic and neighbouring countries. Replication will be facilitated by matching the collection and analysis of hydrometeorological data to specific climate change threats and thus aggregating the information to meet the needs of specific end-users at the sectoral and community levels. In addition, the lessons learned from the implementation of the project, which is the first of its kind in Central Africa, can be replicated in other countries in the region.
- **Sustainable Development Potential:** The project will have significant long-term economic, social, and environmental co-benefits. Economically, the integration of climate risk into decision-making will prevent increased productivity in the agricultural, transport and infrastructure sectors and thus reduce the income of poor and vulnerable people. Socially, disaster losses are generally disproportionately inflicted on the poor and vulnerable, who make up 70% of the Central African population, due to a combination of factors such as lack of capacity to create adaptation conditions and slower recovery rates. It leads to entrenched inequalities within societies and perpetuates and increases suffering. Furthermore, the project, through its various activities, will be a direct and indirect source of employment for many people, especially youth and women. It will result in significant social co-benefits, including the strengthening

of social cohesion and stability through the social inclusion of the unemployed exposed to social ills. The project is fully aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the decisions of the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework.

- **Needs of Beneficiaries:** The project responds to a fundamental need for CAR, that of equipping itself with an integrated climate risk management system. Indeed, CAR is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to climate risks. However, CAR does not yet have a climate risk management system. It is with this in mind that the Central African Government selected the implementation of an integrated planning approach for climate risk management as an absolute adaptation priority in its NAPA and NDC.
- **Country Ownership:** This project is developed at the initiative of the Central African Government to implement its adaptation priorities as identified in the NAPA and the NDC. It was developed following a participatory approach involving a wide range of civil society, public and private sector actors following the GCF Public Consultation Guidelines with a particular focus on the participation of women and youth (see validation report).
- **Effectiveness and Efficiency:** The project will be implemented using best practices and technologies to ensure a level of effectiveness and efficiency above the relevant standards. The project also intends to generate significant co-financing from other financial partners in CAR to minimize total implementation costs.

Project Objectives

This project aims to develop a strategic framework for climate risk and disaster management. It will contribute to the growth of the green economy through resilient development in CAR by strengthening the technical and operational capacities of national institutions to plan for, prevent and manage risks and disasters (see Annexe 2 for details of the concept note). It also aims to strengthen the resilience of local people's livelihoods through informed decision-making. The proposed actions were identified through an inclusive, participatory approach involving the various stakeholders (government, international communities, and local populations), given the recurrence of extreme climatic events (floods, droughts, forest fires, etc.) that the country has experienced in a context of socio-political and economic fragility. With a total estimated cost of USD9.9 million, the project is divided into three components:

Component 1: Strengthening technical and operational capacities for climate risk management

Output 1.1: Improved climate observations, hydrometeorological monitoring capacity and infrastructure.

Output 1.2: Strengthened impact-based modelling and forecasting.

Output 1.3: Harmonised vulnerability assessment and reporting on climate change impacts.

Output 1.5: Access, analysis, and use of climate information.

Output 1.5: Strengthened impact-based modelling and forecasting.

Component 2: Capacity building in climate information provision and its integration into national and local development plans and adaptation capacities

Output 2.1: Institutional, policy and financial frameworks for climate information services and early warning

Output 2.2: Access, analysis, and use of climate information

Component 3: Building resilience to climate change at national, regional and community levels

Output 3.1: Multi-hazard early warning system

Output 3.2: Dissemination and communication of climate risk information and early warning messages

Output 3.3: Sectoral and community awareness, education, and outreach on climate risks

Output 3.4: Enhanced community capacity to respond to climate risks and hazards.

The project will be implemented by the government of Central Africa using an inclusive and participatory approach with the support of the UNDP, the Green Climate Fund and other financial partners in CAR. The project will directly benefit at least an additional 1.7 million vulnerable people, in particular women and young people, by providing them with timely and up-to-date information to help them integrate risks into their daily activities. In addition to improved access to improved seeds, the integration of climate risks into decision-making will enable them to increase their production, which will strengthen their capacity to adapt and reduce their exposure to climatic hazards.

The total budget for the project is USD13.9 million, including USD9.9 million to be raised from the GCF and USD4 million in co-financing over 5 years.

The table below shows the analysis based on the GSIM grid.

2.2.2. Evaluation of Concept Note 2 according to the (GSIM)

This section reviews the points of the concept note according to GSIM criteria. The table below shows the outcomes of the GSIM assessment.

Table 6: GSI Assessment of Concept Note 2 according to the gender markers

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?	0	Although the stakeholders consulted for the preparation of the concept note included both men and women from government departments, civil society, parliament, and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background and rationale of the project. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy. In addition, the preliminary consultations conducted to prepare the concept note did not specifically target women or vulnerable groups such as Indigenous peoples or Fulani minorities. Even the gender and climate change strategy developed within the framework of the NDC and the gender strategy to support the implementation of the National Adaptation Plan were not mentioned as national documents with which the project is aligned. The law on parity, persons with disabilities or the provisions on Indigenous peoples were not mentioned.

2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	0	The project does not include one or more objectives targeting gender and inclusion in the results chain (components and outputs), even though the explanations of the components refer to young people and women.
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	0	The project does not present any activities aimed at reducing the vulnerability of women and other social groups in the sector. Although activity 2.2.2 talks about developing a user interface platform on climate information based on gender and age, this activity does not show how women, young people, Indigenous populations, disabled people, etc., will benefit from it. Given that the activities are not gender-sensitive, the budgeting that will be done later will certainly not align.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	Indeed, the indicators are not well presented by component, but the impact indicator is not broken down by gender and type of vulnerability. The project refers to direct beneficiaries of at least 1.7 million vulnerable people, particularly women and young people. This information needs to be refined by disaggregating it by the number of men, women, Indigenous people, etc. Percentages of the 1.7 million can also be presented.
Total			0/4	

2.2.3. Classification of Concept Note 2 according to the Gender and Social Inclusion Marker (GSIM)

The analysis in the previous table is used to fill in the table below and categorise the project according to GSIM requirements.

Table 7: Outcomes of assessment of Concept Note 2

Analysed Concept Note	Score	Value	Scoring	Description of project and programme classification criteria
Concept Note 2: Early Warning and Disaster Risk Reduction System (EWDRRS)	Score 1 Aggravated risk	Project or programme likely to worsen inequalities and discrimination in CC: Value 0	0/4	None of the 4 criteria in the attached table were met

2.2.4. General comment on the assessment of Concept Note 2.

The table shows that the concept score for the early Warning and Disaster Risk Reduction System Project, according to GSIM analysis, is 0. In other words, there is a heightened risk of gender inequality and inclusion.

The project was reviewed vis-à-vis the marker, but it did not target equality between women and men and the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. Therefore, the project poses a risk of worsening gender inequalities and vulnerabilities or will maintain existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. It may offer an opportunity to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, but it does not include specific measures to do so. Considering this, the project is unlikely to be eligible for the GCF grant and the project manager needs to review the content and form to align the project with gender and social inclusion requirements. In other words, the manager must conduct a gender and inclusion analysis in accordance with the requirements of the GCF and repeat the analysis of the problems, particularly the problem tree, integrating the GSI dimension into the analysis. Given that the definition of objectives, outcomes and activities stems from the problem analysis, considering GSI at this level will make it possible to have gendered objectives, outcomes, activities and even components.

SECTION 3: GSI ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT IDEA NOTES OF THE GCF COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY PAPER ACCORDING TO THE GENDER MARKER

The CAR country programme to engage with the GCF was developed in 2018. The process was participatory and led to the identification of 12 Project Idea Notes (PINs), including 6 on mitigation and 6 on adaptation. The following sections outline the GSI assessment of these Project Idea Notes according to the gender and social inclusion marker.

3.1. Mitigation Project Idea Notes

3.1.1. Restoration of the urban and peri-urban forest landscapes of Bangui

3.1.1.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: There will be a significant reduction in emissions from the forestry sector, as the population of Bangui will be less dependent on the forest for fuelwood.

Potential for a Paradigm Shift: The project's actions will contribute to meeting the commitment of the CAR under the Paris Climate Agreement. It will further support the national development vision of reducing poverty, increasing prosperity, and promoting national unity and peace while preserving biodiversity, protecting the environment, and achieving green growth.

Sustainable Development Potential: The project will contribute to sustainable development, particularly from a socio-economic and ecological point of view, given that communities dependent on forest resources in Bangui and the surrounding area will sustainably benefit from firewood.

Needs of Beneficiaries: The project will meet the needs of the beneficiaries (mainly forest-dependent communities) as firewood will be provided, and the rate of deforestation and forest degradation will be reduced.

Country Ownership: The project meets one of the country's fundamental policy objectives, which is to address the causes of deforestation and forest degradation that emanate from the collection of fuelwood.

Added Value of the GCF: The proposed project is an Added Value as it contributes to actions that will transform CAR by putting it on a green growth trajectory and will also enable the country to implement its mandate in the area of landscape restoration fully.

- **Expected Outcomes of the Project**

Outcome 1: A Master Plan for regional development in the urban and peri-urban areas of Bangui is developed and implemented

Outcome 2: Small-scale farmers, Indigenous and forest-dependent communities, civil society and cooperative groups, and the private sector are trained in multi-benefit forest landscape restoration techniques (including wood energy supply)

Outcome 3: Effective policies on integrated management of forest resources for wood energy production are developed and implemented

Outcome 4: The importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services for climate change resilient development and wood energy production is known through awareness raising at the national and community level

Outcome 5: Beneficiaries are supported in implementing restoration activities (reforestation, agroforestry, etc.)

Outcome 6: Improved stoves are disseminated and helped to improve the energy efficiency of target households

Outcome 7: Subsistence is promoted for the benefit of communities in the project areas

Estimated Cost: USD30 million

3.1.1.2. GSI assessment of the PIN restoration of the urban and peri-urban forest landscapes of Bangui from a gender perspective

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 8: GSI assessment of PIN restoration of the urban and peri-urban forest landscapes of Bangui according to the GSIM

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous peoples and minorities, public administration officials, civil society, parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.
2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	1	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. Among these outcomes, one targets Indigenous peoples (as regards training in techniques for restoring multiple-benefit forest landscapes). However, other groups, such as women, young people and persons with disabilities, were not explicitly mentioned, even though the project aims to address the issues of land restoration and the use of improved stoves, which women use.

3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	1	Even if an activity affects Indigenous peoples overall, it is difficult to say whether the budget allocated will be sensitive to gender and inclusion. There is also mix-up between activities and objectives in the project. The objectives lead to the outcomes, not the activities.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		2/4	

- **General comments on the assessment**

The table above shows that the PIN for the project to restore the urban and peri-urban forest landscapes of Bangui, according to the GSIM grid, is a score 2 project where there is little consideration for gender.

The project or programme was reviewed according to the marker. Gender equality and social inclusion were not explicit objectives. This score acknowledges the efforts made to design a gender and inclusion project/programme that is “neutral,” i.e., that applies the same conditions to men and women and other categories without distinction. The consequence is that it considers the needs and interests of all populations without distinction between sub-categories. Equality between men and women and social inclusion issues are only considered to a limited extent. Not only are these aspects not an objective of the project or programme, but they are also not the main reason for conducting it. All the same, the targeted interventions could affect both women and men, girls and boys.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.1.2. Planning and sustainable development of southwestern CAR

3.1.2.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: CAR has a potential of around 5.4 million hectares of dense rainforest divided into two blocks. The implementation of REDD+ activities will avoid greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions due to deforestation and forest degradation while facilitating carbon sequestration.

Potential for a Paradigm Shift: Understanding and taking ownership of the factors undermining deforestation and forest degradation is a crucial element in supporting the transition from slash-and-burn agriculture to intensive agriculture. Systematising forest management, low-impact logging, and reforestation are essential factors in this paradigm shift.

Potential for Sustainable Development: Forests are now at the heart of the sustainable development process. Its rational management will promote growth, as the Central African forestry sector is the most efficient economic sector and plays a vital role as a lever for launching the national economy. The timber sector accounts for 10 and 13% of GDP, and the volumes exploited are in the region of 500,000 to 700,000 m³ per year. In addition, it has the potential to be agricultural land if managed sustainably.

Needs of Beneficiaries: The implementation of REDD+ activities are vital for the local population and for stakeholders in the timber industry, especially stakeholders involved in sustainable forest management, who also need the additional income that carbon credit and the clarification of land rights will provide.

Country Ownership: The REDD+ project is a priority of the Central African government, as mentioned in the INDC. The development of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) attests to the willingness of the government and its partners, such as civil society, to participate in this initiative. The National Climate Coordination's Strategic and Operational Planning document for responses to climate change also underscores this issue. The REDD+ Readiness Project supported by the World Bank highlights the commitment of the CAR to developing a National REDD+ Strategy.

Added Value of the GCF: In the current crisis context, it is difficult for the Central African State to finance this activity in full, as it is facing humanitarian emergencies, reconciliation and peace issues and is experiencing significant challenges in mobilising internal resources. The opportunity provided by the GCF is necessary to finance these investments in the forestry sector.

- **Expected Outcomes**

Outcome 1: Reducing GHG emissions from deforestation and degradation

Outcome 2: Increased carbon sequestration, mainly from changes in forest resources and other woody biomass stocks, and the restoration of land abandoned after logging

Outcome 3: Poverty reduction

Outcome 4: Agro-slyvo-pastoral technologies and yields are improved

Outcome 5: Sustainable forest management is promoted

Outcome 6: The technical and institutional capacities of public stakeholders, the private sector, civil society, and grass root communities in forest governance are strengthened

Outcome 7: Agroforestry and the use of green and organic fertilisers are promoted

Outcome 8: Support for the creation of community forests in south-west CAR

Estimated cost: USD10 million

3.1.2.2. GSI Assessment of the PIN for sustainable planning and development in southwestern CAR using the gender marker

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to the GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 9: GSI Assessment of the PIN for sustainable planning and development in southwestern CAR using the gender marker

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous peoples and minorities, public administration officials, civil society, parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the

				background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.
2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	0	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. The PIN does not include any outcomes on Gender and Social Inclusion.
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	0	The PIN does not include any activities on gender and social inclusion, even though it talks about agro-sylvo-pastoral technologies and yields, a sector dominated by women and young people.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		0/4 points	

- **General Comments on the Assessment**

The table shows that the PIN for sustainable planning and development in southwest CAR, assessed using the GSIM, is a score 1 project. In other words, there is a heightened risk of gender inequality and inclusion.

The project was reviewed according to the marker, but it did not target equality between women and men and the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. The project, therefore, presents a risk of worsening gender inequalities and vulnerabilities or will maintain existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. It may offer an opportunity to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, but it does not include specific measures to do so.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on the GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.1.3. Dimoli Hydroelectric Plant (Sosso-Nakombo sub-prefecture) in the Central African Republic

3.1.3.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: Promoting renewable energies is one of the quickest and cleanest ways of bringing energy to isolated populations in rural areas of the Central African Republic, replacing the often costly and dangerous solutions they use to meet their needs.

Potential for a Paradigm Shift: The implementation of a law on energy efficiency would support the programme.

Sustainable Development Potential: Investment in renewable energy is a critical solution for introducing affordable, safe, and sustainable energy in all three or even four prefectures, and it will play an essential role in enabling long-term sustainable economic development. These investments will deliver significant economic benefits through energy savings.

Needs of Beneficiaries: In the short term, these investments can alleviate tensions between electricity supply and demand, which could have significant social consequences. They will also enable the state to save on its electricity bill, which is particularly positive given the current budget crisis.

Country Ownership: The Government acknowledged the importance of rural electrification and, in 2005, enacted Ordinance No. 05.001 on the Electricity Law in the Central African Republic. This law established a specialised agency in charge of electrifying peri-urban and rural areas. The agency must propose technical and economic solutions adapted to the Central African rural environment, in particular using renewable energies.

Efficiency and Effectiveness: Economic efficiency will be very good because of the high return on investment for these projects. Renewable energy needs to be decentralised in the three prefectures, and energy efficiency needs to be demonstrated on the premises to meet local energy needs.

Added Value of the GCF: In the post-crisis context that CAR is experiencing, it is challenging for the Government to meet all the needs of rural electrification. However, it can contribute to the fight against climate change with the use of renewable energy, making the country more secure and improving the living conditions of rural populations. Similarly, the support of the GCF (grant) is critical to give impetus to the electrification of part of the three Prefectures in CAR. Thus, creating a favourable environment for investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency in the three prefectures.

- **Expected Outcomes**

Outcome 1: Reduction of GHG emissions using clean, low-carbon energy

Outcome 2: Construction of the hydroelectric plant

Outcome 3: Electrification of rural and urban areas is promoted

Outcome 4: Improved security for people and property in rural areas

Outcome 5: Improved living conditions for the beneficiary populations

Total Estimated Cost: USD150 million.

3.2.3.2. GSI Assessment of the PIN of the Dimoli Hydroelectric Plant in CAR

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to the GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 10: GSI assessment of the PIN of the Dimoli Hydroelectric Plant in CAR

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous peoples and minorities, public administration officials, civil

		climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?		society, parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.
2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	0	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. The project has no outcomes on Gender and Social Inclusion.
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	0	The project does not include any activities on Gender and Social Inclusion.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		0/4	

- **General Comments on the Assessment**

The table shows that the Dimoli Hydroelectric development PIN in CAR, assessed according to the GSIM, is a score 1 project. In other words, there is a heightened risk of gender inequality and inclusion.

The project was reviewed according to the marker, but it did not target equality between women and men nor the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. The project, therefore, presents a risk of worsening gender inequalities and vulnerabilities or will maintain existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. It may offer an opportunity to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, but it does not include specific measures to do so.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on the GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity, and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.1.4. Renewable Energy Production and Energy Efficiency in CAR

3.1.4.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: The impact of this project on the population of CAR will be huge considering the project promotes the production of renewable energy technologies (biofuel, biogas, solar energy, etc.) that will be distributed throughout the country.

Potential for a Paradigm Shift: There will be a paradigm shift as renewable energy replaces non-renewable energy in the country.

Sustainable Development Potential: The project will contribute to sustainable development, particularly from a social point of view, as women will have access to renewable energy technologies for cooking.

Needs of Beneficiaries: As regards the needs of the beneficiaries, the project will benefit the entire population of CAR, which comprises rural communities that do not have access to electricity.

Country Ownership: The project is in line with one of the country's fundamental objectives, which is the production and distribution of energy, particularly in rural areas.

Added Value of the GCF: As a result of the proposed project, there will be an improvement in air quality, the promotion of local businesses through productive use and the production of renewable energy. In addition, because of the proposed project, the health of rural women will improve through the use of renewable energy technologies such as improved biomass stoves.

- **Expected Outcomes**

Outcome 1: Adoption of renewable energy technologies in the country

Outcome 2: Reduction in the use of non-renewable energy, particularly energy from fossil fuels

Outcome 3: Reduction in energy sector emissions resulting from the use of renewable energy technologies

Outcome 4: Capacity building for households in the country on the production and use of renewable energy technologies such as biomass cookers is promoted

Outcome 5: Renewable energy technologies in the country are promoted and disseminated

Outcome 6: Incentives are provided for companies to adopt and produce renewable energy technologies

Total Estimated Cost: USD20 million

3.1.4.2. GSI Assessment of renewable energy production and energy efficiency PIN in CAR by gender marker

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to the GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 11: GSI Assessment of the PIN for renewable energy production and energy efficiency in CAR

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous peoples and minorities, public administration officials, civil society, parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.

2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	1	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. Although the objective is not clearly defined, the description of the development potential clearly highlights the social benefits of the project for women.
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	1	Although the types of beneficiaries are not clearly identified, the activities aimed at households, such as the production and use of renewable energy technologies such as biomass cookers, will benefit women.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		2/4	

- **General Comments on the Assessment**

The table above shows that the PIN - Production of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in CAR, according to the GSIM grid, is a score 2 project where gender mainstreaming is weak.

The project or programme was reviewed according to the marker. Gender equality and social inclusion were not explicit objectives. This score acknowledges the efforts made to design a gender and inclusion project/programme that is “neutral,” i.e., that applies the

same conditions to men and women and other categories without distinction. The consequence is that it considers the needs and interests of all populations without distinction of sub-categories. Equality between men and women and social inclusion issues are only considered to a limited extent. Not only are these aspects not an objective of the project or programme, but they are also not the main reason for conducting it. All the same, the targeted interventions could affect both women and men, girls and boys.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on the GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.1.5. Promotion of solar energy in rural areas of CAR

3.1.5.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: Promoting renewable energies is one of the quickest and cleanest ways of bringing energy to isolated populations in rural areas of the Central African Republic, replacing more expensive fossil fuels that have a more significant impact on the climate.

Potential for a Paradigm Shift: Photovoltaic solar energy helps to combat global warming, and its development in developing countries is encouraging technology transfer. It also encourages the use of energy efficiency and the reduction of emissions.

Sustainable Development Potential: These investments will bring significant economic benefits through the energy savings made.

Needs of Beneficiaries: The electrification of rural areas in the Central African Republic is of paramount importance because, on the one hand, it will improve the living conditions of the target populations. On the other hand, it will help to make rural localities more secure as the country recovers.

Country Ownership: The Government acknowledged the importance of rural electrification and, in 2005, enacted Ordinance No. 05.001 on the Electricity Law in the Central African Republic. This law established a specialised agency in charge of electrifying peri-urban and rural areas. The agency must propose technical and economic solutions adapted to the Central African rural environment, in particular with the use of renewable energies.

Added Value of the GCF: In the post-crisis context that the CAR is experiencing, it is difficult for the Government to meet all the needs of rural electrification. However, it can contribute to the fight against climate change with the use of ENRs to secure the country

and peaceful coexistence and improve the living conditions of rural populations. Similarly, support from the GCF (grant) is needed to give impetus to the electrification of 100 communes in the CAR.

- **Expected Outcomes**

Outcome 1: Reduction of GHG emissions using clean, low-carbon energy

Outcome 2: Improved security for people and property in rural areas

Outcome 3: Improving the living conditions of the beneficiary populations

Outcome 4: Rural electrification using photovoltaic solar energy is promoted

Outcome 5: Entrepreneurship in the field of rural electrification is promoted

Total Estimated Cost: USD150 million

3.1.5.2. GSI Assessment of the PIN promoting solar energy in rural areas of the CAR according to the gender marker

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 12: GSI assessment of the PIN promoting solar energy in rural areas of the CAR according to the gender marker

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous peoples and minorities, public administration officials, civil society, parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.

2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	0	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. The project does not include any outcomes on social inclusion.
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	0	The project does not include any activities relating to social inclusion.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		0/4	

- **General Comments on the Assessment**

The table shows that the PIN promotion of solar energy in rural areas of the CAR, assessed according to the GSIM, is a score 1 project. In other words, there is a heightened risk of gender inequality and inclusion.

The project was reviewed according to the marker, but it did not target equality between women and men and the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. The project, therefore, presents a risk of worsening gender inequalities and vulnerabilities or will maintain existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. It may offer an opportunity to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, but it does not include specific measures to do so.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on the GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.1.6. Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture in CAR (PAD-CAR)

3.1.6.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: The project will promote sustainable agricultural practices that will have a positive impact on farmers.

Potential for a Paradigm Shift: Sustainable agriculture in CAR will be supported by integrating practices that promote climate-smart agriculture into the various sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies and plans at national and sub-national levels in CAR.

Sustainable Development Potential: Through the practice of sustainable agriculture, such as sustainable intensification and diversification of agricultural and agroforestry systems, the project will restore degraded ecosystems within agricultural and agroforestry systems, thus contributing to ecological sustainability. It will support economic growth in the agricultural sector and encourage the participation of stakeholders (particularly women and Indigenous peoples) in sustainable agriculture.

Needs of Beneficiaries: Sustainable agriculture is needed in CAR, and rural farmers will benefit from this project as they will be oriented toward sustainable agricultural practices.

Country Ownership: The proposed project is strongly aligned with existing initiatives and national priorities, such as promoting agricultural practices that increase productivity and enable farmers to fight the impacts of climate change.

Added Value of the GCF: The project provides added value by promoting sustainable agricultural practices that are new to CAR.

- **Expected Outcomes**

Outcome 1: Climate resilience in the agricultural sector will be improved as sustainable climate activities will be integrated into the protocols for sustainable management in the agricultural sector in CAR

Outcome 2: Technical support for climate-resilient agriculture will be strengthened

Outcome 3: The country's farmers will receive training in the intensification and diversification of farming systems as a strategy for adapting to climate change

Outcome 4: Institutional capacity for climate-sustainable agriculture will be enhanced

Outcome 5: Financial incentives for climate-smart agriculture will be provided to farmers, and herders will be provided with sustainable agro-pastoral techniques

Outcome 6: Appropriate extension and farmer-to-farmer learning systems will be developed

Outcome 7: Beneficiaries will be provided with improved seeds and adapted animal varieties

Outcome 8: Youth entrepreneurship and agro-pastoral cooperatives in rural areas will be promoted

Outcome 9: A mechanism for direct access by local and Indigenous communities to the agro-pastoral development fund will be developed and implemented.

Outcome 10: The creation of a multifunctional platform will be supported.

Total Estimated Cost: USD100 million

3.1.6.2. GSI Assessment of the PIN promoting sustainable agriculture in CAR (PAD-CAR) according to the gender marker

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 13: GIS evaluation of the NIP promoting sustainable agriculture in CAR (PAD-RCA) according to the gender marker

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview, or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous peoples and minorities, public administration

		change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?		officials, civil society, parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.
2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	1	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. Two outcomes target young people and Indigenous peoples, although other groups, such as women and persons with disabilities, were not explicitly mentioned.
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	1	Although the two activities affect Indigenous peoples and young people overall, it is difficult to say whether the budget that will be allocated will be sensitive to gender and inclusion. There is also confusion between activities and objectives in the project. The objectives lead to the outcomes, not the activities.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		2/4	

- **General Comments on the Assessment**

The table above shows that the PIN - Promoting Sustainable Agriculture in CAR (PAD-RCA), according to the GSIM grid, is a score 2 project where gender mainstreaming is weak.

The project or programme was reviewed according to the marker. Gender equality and social inclusion were not explicit objectives. This score acknowledges the efforts made to design a gender and inclusion project/programme that is “neutral,” i.e., that applies the same conditions to men and women and other categories without distinction. The consequence is that it considers the needs and interests of all populations without distinction of sub-categories. Equality between men and women and social inclusion issues are only considered to a limited extent. Not only are these aspects not an objective of the project or programme, but they are also not the main reason for conducting it. All the same, the targeted interventions could affect both women and men, girls and boys.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on the GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.2. Adaptation Projects

3.2.1. Risk management and natural disasters in CAR

3.2.1.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: This project will help build the capacity of national, local and community institutions to anticipate crises and natural disasters better and respond rapidly. The project is, therefore, an integral part of the strategic and operational planning document for responses to climate change under the 2017-2020 National Climate Coordination approved by the Council of Ministers.

Potential for a Paradigm Shift: The institutional capacity-building programme and the establishment of a risk prevention and management system for natural disasters, particularly drought and floods, are a critical element of the paradigm shift.

Sustainable Development Potential: Controlling the risks of natural disasters will generate significant economic benefits through agro-sylvo-pastoral production and improved health conditions for the population, which will lead to increased productivity.

Needs of Beneficiaries: Developing the resilience of institutions in the face of climatic hazards is an essential requirement. This project will also enable the Central African State to save on emergency humanitarian actions following the risks and natural disasters that it will have to deal with and to invest in promising development sectors.

Country Ownership: The Council of Ministers validated the strategic and operational planning document for responses to climate change of the National Climate Coordination (2017-2020), which plays a critical role in the management of risks and natural disasters in the same way as the INDC (2015), which integrated risk prevention and management into its adaptation options.

Efficiency and Effectiveness: The cost of preventive action will be lower than that of corrective action. The effectiveness and economic efficiency will be significant for primary sector players.

Added Value of the GCF: In a context of crisis, it is difficult for the Central African State to finance this activity in full. As such, support from the GCF is essential for financing these adaptation actions.

- **Expected Outcomes**

Outcome 1: A system for preventing and managing risks and disasters, particularly floods and drought, is set up

Outcome 2: The capacities of the institutions responsible for managing risks and natural disasters and of local communities concerning the risks associated with sudden climate change are strengthened

Total Estimated Cost: USD20 million

3.2.1.2. GSI Assessment of the PIN for risk and disaster management in CAR using the gender marker

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to the GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 14: GSI Assessment of the PIN for risk and disaster management in CAR

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous people and minorities, public administration officials, civil society,

		climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?		parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.
2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	0	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. The project does not include any results on Social Inclusion.
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	0	The project does not include any activities relating to social inclusion.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		0/4	

- **General Comments on the Assessment**

The table shows that the PIN for the management of risks and natural disasters in CAR, assessed according to the GSIM, is a score 1 project. In other words, there is a heightened risk of gender inequality and inclusion.

The project was reviewed according to the marker, but it did not target equality between women and men nor the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. The project, therefore, presents a risk of worsening gender inequalities and vulnerabilities or will maintain existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. It may offer an opportunity to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, but it does not include specific measures to do so.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on the GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity, and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.2.2. Management of Surface Water Collection in the Sudano-Sahelian and Sudanian zones of CAR

3.2.2.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: This project will make an effective contribution to reducing the proportion of people without access to water for related water-dependent activities such as market gardening, livestock farming, fish farming and many other economic activities requiring water. The implementation of these schemes will provide sufficient water reserves to help communities conduct livelihood activities at any time of the year and be resilient in the face of the risks of climate change.

Potential for a Paradigm Shift: The search for high-impact adaptation options to promote the water sector and reduce the risks to people represents a potential paradigm shift and development vision. A paradigm shift through this investment is needed to strongly support the government's vision, which is challenging to implement given the fragility of the Central African economy.

Sustainable Development Potential: With its strong link to climate variability and rainfall fluctuations, the water sector is seen as highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Water resources play a vital role in the daily lives of Central Africans: firstly, concerning the quality of drinking water (the coverage rate for drinking water is deficient, at around 34%), and secondly, for the development of socio-economic activities linked to water, such as agriculture through irrigation, livestock farming, the promotion of hydroelectricity, industry, and sanitation.

Needs of Beneficiaries: In the short term, this GCF investment will bring relief to vulnerable communities who are at a loss as to what to do about the drying up of most of the watercourses in these regions due to the effects of climate change. The water reserves that will be constructed will help people who are severely affected by sudden climate changes to conduct agricultural production activities that will subsequently improve their living conditions and incomes.

Country Ownership: The project is in line with the government's vision. It is perfectly aligned with national political priorities, where the water resources sector is considered a priority sector given the high demand and the close link between water and climate. Deteriorating water quality also has an impact on health, which is why the government attaches vital importance to this sector.

Efficiency and Effectiveness: Social, economic, and environmental efficiency will be improved by the high return on investment from these projects. There will also be a reduction in population migration due to climate risks in certain vulnerable regions, which will have consequences for livelihoods.

Added Value of the GCF: Given the low coverage of drinking water throughout the country (34.5%) compared with sub-Saharan African countries and the precariousness at all levels of communities as a result of the availability of water not only for consumption but also for conducting specific activities essential to survival, the development and implementation of high-impact technologies will have positive effects on livelihoods. The added value of this project will be measured through the development of several economic activities (irrigation, livestock farming, industry, etc.) requiring water as a raw material.

- **Expected Outcomes**

Outcome 1: The quantities of surface water produced are known in terms of volume

Outcome 2: The pre-feasibility and feasibility studies for the various techniques appropriate to the context are conducted and are known

Outcome 3: The technical capacity to collect and distribute surface water is known

Outcome 4: Communities are better able to adapt to climate risks as their resilience is enhanced

Outcome 5: Improved agricultural and livestock production, food security, local incomes, and poverty reduction

Outcome 6: Reduced climate risks to agricultural production and food security

Outcome 7: Strong involvement of the private sector in agribusiness

Total Estimated Cost: USD60 million

3.2.2.2. GSI Assessment of the PIN for Surface Water Collection Management in the Sudano-Sahelian and Sudanian zones of CAR using the gender marker

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 15: GSI Assessment of the PIN for Surface Water Collection Management in the Sudano-Sahelian and Sudanian zones of CAR using the gender marker.

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous peoples and minorities, public administration officials, civil society, parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.
2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	0	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. The project does not include any results on Social Inclusion.

3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	0	The project does not include any activities relating to social inclusion.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		0/4	

- **General Comments on the Assessment**

The table shows that the GSI Assessment of the PIN for Surface Water Collection Management in the Sudano-Sahelian and Sudanian zones of the CAR is a score 1 project. In other words, there is a heightened risk of gender inequality and inclusion.

The project was reviewed according to the marker, but it did not target equality between women and men nor the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. The project, therefore, presents a risk of worsening gender inequalities and vulnerabilities or will maintain existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. It may offer an opportunity to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, but it does not include specific measures to do so.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on the GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity, and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.2.3. Implementation of an Early Warning System in CAR

3.2.3.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: The project will contribute to reducing emissions, as the development of an early warning system will be used to prevent the impacts of climate change in the country's various sectors.

Potential for a Paradigm Shift: The project will enable a paradigm shift in the way climate change impacts can be predicted in CAR using early warning systems.

Sustainable Development Potential: This project focuses on the development of early warning systems. It will also help to develop strategies for adapting to the impacts of climate change, particularly in rural communities. The awareness of women and girls, the most vulnerable group of the population to climate change, will be strengthened as they will actively participate in the development of early warning systems.

Needs of Beneficiaries: Farmers and other stakeholders in CAR will benefit from the project as early warning systems will be used to prevent the adverse effects of climate change in the forestry, agriculture, water, energy, and health sectors.

Country Ownership: The project is aligned with the country's priority (POS/CC) of improving the management of climate change impacts through the development of early warning systems.

Added Value of the GCF: The added value of the project stems from its originality and makes it possible to combat climate change in all sectors of the CAR.

- **Expected Outcomes**

Outcome 1: The country has an early warning system, which is integrated into national policies, strategies, and plans

Outcome 2: The capacity of disaster risk reduction institutions is strengthened at the national and local levels through the development of early warning systems

Total Estimated Cost: USD30 million

3.2.3.2. GSI Assessment of the PIN - implementation of an early warning system in CAR according to the gender marker

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 16: GSI Assessment of the PIN – Implementation of an early warning system in CAR by gender marker

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Comments/Remarks
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous peoples and minorities, public administration officials, civil society, parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.
2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	1	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. Raising awareness among women and girls is an objective of developing potential. However, gender and inclusion are not considered as a whole.
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks?	1	There is an existing activity on gender and social inclusion focusing on capacity building for women and girls.

		If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?		
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		2/4	

- **General Comments on the Assessment**

The table above shows that the PIN for implementing an early warning system in CAR, according to the GSIM grid, is a score 2 project where gender mainstreaming is weak.

The project or programme was reviewed according to the marker Gender equality, and social inclusion were not explicit objectives. This score acknowledges the efforts made to design a gender and inclusion project/programme that is “neutral,” i.e., that applies the same conditions to men and women and other categories without distinction. The consequence is that it considers the needs and interests of all populations without distinction of sub-categories. Equality between men and women and social inclusion issues are only considered to a limited extent. Not only are these aspects not an objective of the project or programme, but they are also not the main reason for conducting it. All the same, the targeted interventions could affect both women and men, girls and boys.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on the GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity, and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.2.4. Mitigating the post-conflict consequences of climate vulnerabilities and risks on agricultural production and food security

3.2.4.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: Overall, the agricultural sector and the food chain, in general, are primary global sources of greenhouse gas emissions. The potential impact can be summed up by the three critical strategic approaches to reducing GHG emissions in the food system: 1. Measures to reduce agricultural emissions through better farming practices include soil carbon sequestration, nutrient use efficiency, manure and other product management, and the use of renewable energy. 2. Measures to reduce emissions beyond the farms through decarbonisation of energy inputs, energy efficiency and waste management (not considered here). 3. Measures to alter consumption patterns and to reduce demand for GHG-intensive meat and dairy products, combined with measures to encourage consumers to avoid food waste.

Needs of Beneficiaries: Food demand and supply in terms of calories, with average food consumption at 2,400 calories per person per day at regular times. If this level is to be maintained or increased, the country's food supply will have to keep pace with population growth despite the impact of climate change.

Country Ownership: In CAR, various national and international initiatives are aimed at sustainable development.

Strategies and Policies: This project is in line with national policy priorities (Rural Development, Agriculture and Food Security Strategy (SDRASA) and the revised National Programme for Agricultural Investment, Food Security and Nutrition (PNIASAN), National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan (RCPCA).

Added Value of the GCF: Support from the Green Climate Fund is necessary. It has high added value in terms of financing studies on sectoral vulnerabilities to climate shocks and the country's capacity to adapt. It will also help the country to achieve an acceptable level of environmental governance. The investment of the GCF will respond to climate risks in agriculture, fisheries, and food security through joint action and the sharing of experience, which will add value to the mechanisms for integrating climate risks into agriculture, fisheries, and food security.

- **Expected Outcomes**

The following outcomes are expected to achieve the objectives set:

Outcome 1: Institutional, political, and financial capacities are developed and improved for planning and managing climate risks in the agricultural sector

Outcome 2: Climate-resilient seeds and breeds are disseminated

Outcome 3: Adaptation options for the agro-pastoral sector are implemented in key vulnerable sites

Outcome 4: The knowledge generated by the project is capitalised on and disseminated

Total Estimated Cost: USD70 million

3.2.4.2. GSI Assessment of the PIN - Mitigation of the post-conflict consequences of climate vulnerabilities and risks on agricultural production and food security according to the gender marker

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to the GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 17: GSI assessment of the PIN - Mitigation of the post-conflict consequences of climate vulnerabilities and risks on agricultural production and food security

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous peoples and minorities, public administration officials, civil society, parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.

2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	0	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. The project does not include any results on social inclusion.
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	0	The project does not include any activities relating to social inclusion.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		0/4	

- **General Comments on the Assessment**

The table shows that the PIN - Mitigating the post-conflict consequences of climate vulnerabilities and risks on agricultural production and food security, assessed according to the GSIM, is a score 1 project. In other words, there is a heightened risk of gender inequality and inclusion.

The project was reviewed according to the marker, but it did not target equality between women and men and the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. The project, therefore, presents a risk of worsening gender inequalities and vulnerabilities or will maintain existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. It may offer an opportunity to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, but it does not include specific measures to do so.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on the GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.2.5. Sustainable management of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems in the northeast and southeast of CAR

3.2.5.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: The carbon sequestration potential of forestry and agricultural systems will be improved, thereby contributing to a reduction in emissions.

Potential for a Paradigm Shift: The project will contribute to a paradigm shift in the sense that it will simultaneously lead to the reduction of emissions in the forestry, livestock, and agriculture sectors.

Sustainable Development Potential: The project is ecologically sustainable due to the fact that it will lead to the reforestation of degraded and deforested ecosystems through forestry.

Needs of Beneficiaries: Farmers, forest-dependent communities and livestock breeders will benefit from the project as it aims to promote practices that will be beneficial to them.

Country Ownership: The project is aligned with government priorities in the forestry and agricultural sectors.

Added value of the GCF: The project has added value in that it will combine techniques used in forestry (such as tree domestication techniques) with sustainable agricultural and livestock practices to improve agro-sylvo-pastoral systems in the project sites.

- **Expected Outcomes**

Outcome 1: More trees are planted in deforested and degraded ecosystems

Outcome 2: Farmers in the project sites are equipped with tree domestication and improvement techniques

Outcome 3: Methane reduction in livestock systems is adequate

Total Estimated Cost: USD40 million

3.2.5.2. GSI Assessment of the PIN sustainable management of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems in the northeast and southeast of the CAR according to the gender marker

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to the GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 18: GSI assessment of the PIN sustainable management of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems in the northeast and southeast of the CAR

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview, or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous peoples and minorities, public administration officials, civil society, parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.

2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	0	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. The project does not include any objectives or outcomes relating to Social Inclusion.
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	0	The project does not include any activities relating to social inclusion.
4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		0/4	

- **General Comments on the Assessment**

The table shows that the PIN sustainable management of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems in the northeast and southeast of the CAR, assessed according to the GSIM, is a score 1 project. In other words, there is a heightened risk of gender inequality and inclusion.

The project was reviewed according to the marker, but it did not target equality between women and men and the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. The project, therefore, presents a risk of worsening gender inequalities and vulnerabilities or will maintain existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. It may offer an opportunity to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, but it does not include specific measures to do so.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on the GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.2.6. Development of the banks of the Ubangi River

3.2.6.1. Summary Presentation of the Project Idea

- **Relevance to GCF (investment criteria and added value)**

Potential Impact: The project will contribute to the reduction of flooding on the project site.

Potential for a Paradigm Shift: The project is the first of its kind and will contribute significantly to the sustainable management of the banks of the Ubangi River.

Sustainable Development Potential: The project will lead to sustainable management of the banks of the Ubangi River.

Needs of Beneficiaries: Communities living in the vicinity of the river will benefit from the project as it will lead to a reduction in flooding.

Country Ownership: The project will be owned and implemented by the Ministry of Water Resources, whose vision is to transform the sector into a sustainable, modernised, and diversified one.

Added Value of the GCF: The project has added value in that it will be used to solve the problems associated with flooding on the Ubangi River.

- **Expected Outcomes**

Outcome 1: Monitoring of the Ubangi River

Outcome 2: Sustainable management of the banks of the Ubangi River

Total Estimated Cost: USD40 million

3.2.6.2. GSI assessment of the PIN development of the banks of the Ubangi River according to the gender marker

The aim is to review the elements of the PIN according to the GSIM criteria. The table below presents the GSIM assessment.

Table 19: GSI Assessment of the PIN for the development of the banks of the Ubangi River using the gender marker

No.	Scoring Criteria	Control questions asked	Scoring	Remarks/ Comments
1	Analysis of gender and social inclusion issues in the background and rationale of the project/programme	When the project or programme is formulated, does the overview, or needs assessment consider an analysis of the situation of men and women, girls and boys and other groups vulnerable to climate change, and is this clearly captured in the background and rationale of the project? Has the project or programme been linked to the National Gender Policy?	0	Although the stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the country programme, which led to the identification of the PINs included both men and women, Indigenous peoples and minorities, public administration officials, civil society, parliament and technical and financial partners, a gender and social inclusion analysis was not conducted in the background. Furthermore, no reference was made to the National Gender Policy.
2	Existence of one or more gender and social inclusion objectives, components, outcomes, outputs, etc., in the results chain	Does the project or programme include one or more objectives that influence the situation and relations between men and women, girls and boys, and various social categories, particularly vulnerable groups?	0	The PINs for the country programme do not present components or objectives but rather outcomes and activities. The project does not include any outcomes on the Gender and Social Inclusion Marker.
3	Existence of one or more gender-sensitive and social inclusion actions, activities, or tasks with a substantial budget.	Are gender issues (men and women, girls and boys) and social inclusion (young people, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, etc.) clearly set out in the actions, activities, and tasks? If so, is there a budget for gender-sensitive and inclusive actions, activities, and tasks?	0	The project does not include any activities relating to social inclusion.

4	Existence of one or more indicators disaggregated by gender or age, type of status or vulnerability under the results chain.	Are the data (indicators, benchmarks, targets) used to monitor the extent to which the objectives of the project or programme, actions or activities were achieved broken down by gender, age, and other types of vulnerability?	0	The indicators are not specified in the project idea sheet.
	Total		0/4	

- **General Comments on the Assessment**

The table shows that the PIN for developing the banks of the Ubangi, assessed according to the GSIM, is a score 1 project. In other words, there is a heightened risk of gender inequality and inclusion.

The project was reviewed according to the marker, but it did not target equality between women and men and the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. The project, therefore, presents a risk of worsening gender inequalities and vulnerabilities or will maintain existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. It may offer an opportunity to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, but it does not include specific measures to do so.

Such a PIN, developed as currently presented in the later stages of its maturation, is unlikely to have a significant impact on the GSI and be eligible for GCF. Any manager wishing to develop this PIN must conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the project. They must also align with the NGCCS, the law on parity and other laws relating to social inclusion.

3.3. Summary of the GSI analysis of Project Idea Notes in the GCF pipeline

Table 20 summarises the assessment of the 12 project ideas in the GCF country programme.

Table 20: Summary of idea notes of country programme projects classified by gender marker

Score	Number of project ideas	List of project ideas	Scoring	Comment
Score 1 Aggravated risk	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Sustainable management and development of southwestern CAR, II. Dimoli Hydroelectric Plant in CAR, III. Promotion of solar energy in rural areas of CAR, IV. Risk management and natural disasters in CAR, V. Management of surface water collection in the Sudano-Sahelian and Sudanian zones of CAR, VI. Mitigating the post-conflict consequences of climate vulnerabilities and risks on agricultural production and food security, VII. Sustainable management of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems in the northeast and southeast of CAR, VIII. PIN development of banks of the Ubangi. 	0/4	Project or programme with an objective presenting a risk of worsening gender inequalities and social discrimination in the CC: Value 0
Score 2 Weak	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IX. Restoration of the urban and peri-urban forest landscapes of Bangui, X. Renewable energy production and energy efficiency in CAR, XI. Promoting sustainable agriculture in CAR (PAD-CAR), XII. Implementing an early warning system in CAR, 	1 and 2/4	Projects with an objective, component or result that incidentally addresses equality and inclusion in the CC: Value 1
Score 3 Significant	0		3/4	Projects with an objective, component or outcome that significantly addresses gender equality and social inclusion in the CC: Value 2
Score 4 Principal	0		4/4	Projects with objectives addressing gender equality and social inclusion in climate change: Value 3

The assessment, according to the GSIM of the GCF programme country document, highlights the following information:

- No project idea reached a score of 3/4 or 4/4, according to the GSIM,
- Eight (8) project ideas scored 0/4 (5 in adaptation and 3 in mitigation). These project ideas are classified as aggravated risk according to the gender marker used,
- Four (4) mitigation Project Idea Notes are rated 2/4 and classified as low risk.

In general, the assessment clearly shows a lack of consideration of gender and social inclusion in the various project ideas in the CAR country programme for engagement with the GCF. Two categories of PIN should be considered:

- PINs at score 1 according to the GSIM criteria:** i.e. these PINs, developed as they are, will lead to the implementation of projects where there is an aggravated risk of gender inequalities and inclusion. The PINs did not target gender equality and the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. These projects, therefore, present a risk of aggravating gender inequalities and vulnerabilities or will maintain existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. It may offer an opportunity to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, but it does not include any specific measures to this end,
- PINs at a score of 2 according to the GSIM criteria.** This score shows that gender mainstreaming is weak. It means that gender equality and social inclusion were not explicit objectives. This score does, however, recognise the efforts made to design a gender and inclusion project/programme that is "neutral", i.e., that applies the same conditions to men and women and other categories without distinction. The consequence is that it considers the needs and interests of all populations without distinction of sub-categories. Equality between men and women and social inclusion issues are only considered to a limited extent. Not only are these aspects not an objective of the project or programme, but they are also not the main reason for conducting it. All the same, the targeted interventions could affect both women and men, girls and boys.

However, to be eligible for the GCF, projects must be on a score of 4 or at least 3. In other words, a project or programme with an objective that primarily addresses gender equality and social inclusion in climate change. In other words, equality between women and men and the inclusion of vulnerable groups are the main objectives of the project/programme, and its pursuit fundamentally determines its design and the expected outcomes. These types of projects or programmes also fall within the pipeline of GCF and other donors.

Given all these considerations, a strong recommendation is made to all project managers who will accept these PINs to conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis and to integrate the outcomes into the background and rationale of the various projects to be developed. They must also align it with the NGCCS, the law on parity and other laws relating to social inclusion. The same will apply

to projects arising from the NDC (which has a gender strategy for its implementation) and the NAP. In concrete terms, managers must:

1. Consult with all parties (an in-depth consultation in the case of Indigenous populations) and avoid focusing on the initial consultations that enabled project ideas to be identified and the country document to be developed. These consultations must be disaggregated according to gender and vulnerability strata: consultation of youth organisations, women's organisations, organisations of persons with disabilities, Indigenous people's organisations, etc. Managers can refer to the Gender and Climate Change Strategy for the implementation of the NDC, which provides guidelines and indicators for consultation at the various stages of project development,
2. In addition to these consultations, a gender and SI analysis must be conducted in accordance with GCF requirements. Use the outcomes of this analysis in the project background and rationale (concept note),
3. For the setting of objectives, outcomes, activities, and even components, the gender and social inclusion dimension should be integrated into the problem tree analysis. Six (6) years after the preparation of the country document, the context and even the priorities of the stakeholders may change. For this reason, the analysis of the project integrating the GSI remains one of the doors for managers to dimension projects that take these issues into account,
4. Align the project with the law on parity, the NGCCS, the GCCS/NDC, international conventions and national laws that protect the vulnerable: Indigenous people, girls, women, older people, people with disabilities, etc.

One fact is worth noting. Five (5) of the eight (8) score 1 projects are adaptation projects. It so happens that these PINs in the adaptation sector are linked to livelihood projects, which means the direct use of natural resources. In this sector, women, Indigenous peoples, and minorities, for example, are very dependent on these resources. The development of projects in this sector must place gender and social inclusion at the centre of all concerns. It is why the NDA is asked to use the GSIM to assess all the proposals it receives in these sectors systematically and meticulously and to make strong recommendations to the managers for the systematic integration of the GSI before giving its opinion of no objection to the continuation of the process.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Analyses conducted using the GSIM tool reveal a significant absence of gender and social inclusion (GSI) considerations in CAR's pipeline of climate change projects. These deficiencies, originating from gaps in the country programme, are clearly reflected in the two concept notes intended for submission to the GCF. When GSI is overlooked during the identification phase, it poses challenges for integration in subsequent stages of the project cycle.

The Gender and Social Inclusion Marker (GSIM) tool highlights that the country programme includes project concepts with significant risks of increasing gender inequalities and excluding vulnerable groups. Based on these findings, and to improve the integration of GSI in future projects and ensure they are eligible for funding from the GCF and other climate finance sources, the following measures are recommended:

- 1) 1) Systematically conduct a gender and social inclusion analysis of intervention sectors for all climate change projects or programmes. This applies to various project concept notes of the revised Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), which are accompanied by a Gender and Climate Change Strategy (GCCS/NDC).
- 2) 2) When analysing the background of the projects developed, consider national instruments for promoting gender and social inclusion. These include the law on gender parity enacted in 2016, laws on social inclusion (protection of minorities, disabled persons, older persons, women, etc.), the National Gender and Climate Change Strategy (NGCCS, 2023), the Gender and Climate Change Strategy (GCCS/NDC) developed in 2022, and the gender strategy for implementing the initial National Adaptation Plan developed in 2022.
- 3) Integrate capacity-building programmes for all project planners and managers on gender mainstreaming, gender-sensitive budgeting⁴, gender and social inclusion analysis and assessment tools, etc., into all climate change projects and programmes (including readiness programmes). These capacity-building programmes should also aim to make it easier for all stakeholders involved in implementing the portfolio to understand the links between gender and climate change.
- 4) Provide the necessary resources in project proposals for the mobilisation of human resources, the in-depth consultation of stakeholders in an inclusive manner for the identification of challenges and needs in terms of GSI and the proposal of adequate corrective measures in all the different phases of the project cycle,
- 5) The plan is to update the GCF country programme document by revisiting project ideas so that they integrate gender and social inclusion from the identification phase onwards.

This evaluation shows us that the GSIAF developed can effectively help the NDA formulate clear and precise recommendations to accredited entities seeking a letter of no objection to submitting their project to the GCF.

⁴ A set of capacity-building themes are identified and planned in the GCCS/NDC, which projects can use.

ANNEXES

Annexe 1 : Réduction de la tendance à la déforestation et dégradation des forêts au Sud-ouest de la Centrafrique

Simplified Approval Process Concept Note

Project/Programme Title: **Réduction de la tendance à la déforestation et dégradation des forêts au Sud-ouest de la Centrafrique**

Country(ies): **Central African Republic**

National Designated Authority(ies) (NDA): **National Climate Coordination/Ministry of Environment et Sustainable Développement**

Accredited Entity(ies) (AE): **WWF**

Date of first submission: YYYY-MM-DD [V.0]

Date of current submission: [YYYY-MM-DD] [V.0]

Version:



Eligibility for SAP is determined by the review of the concept note and the ESS screening.

A. Project / Programme Summary (max. 1 page)

A.1. Project or programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project <input type="checkbox"/> Programme	A.2. Public or private sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public sector <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector	A.3 RFP	Not applicable
A.4. Indicate the result areas for the project/programme	<p><i>Check the applicable GCF result area(s) that the proposed project/programme targets. Indicate for each checked result area(s) the estimated percentage of GCF budget devoted to it. The summed up percentage should be equal to 100%.</i></p> <p>Mitigation: Reduced emissions from:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy access and power generation: <u>Enter number</u> % <input type="checkbox"/> Low emission transport: <u>Enter number</u> % <input type="checkbox"/> Buildings, cities and industries and appliances: <u>Enter number</u> % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry and land use: <u>Enter number</u> % Adaptation: Increased resilience of: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Most vulnerable people and communities: <u>Enter number</u> % <input type="checkbox"/> Health and well-being, and food and water security: <u>Enter number</u> % <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure and built environment: <u>Enter number</u> % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem and ecosystem services: <u>Enter number</u> %				
A.5. Impact potential	A.5.1. Estimated mitigation impact (tCO ₂ eq over project lifespan)	<u>780</u> tCO ₂ eq			
	A.5.2. Estimated adaptation impact (number of direct beneficiaries)	<u>30 000</u> Peoples direct beneficiaries			
	A.5.3. Estimated adaptation impact (number of indirect beneficiaries)	<u>1000 000</u> indirect beneficiaries			
	A.5.4. Estimated adaptation impact (% of total population)	<u>20 %</u> % of the country's total population			
A.6. Financing information					
A. 6.1. Indicative GCF funding requested (max USD 25M)	REEN LIMATE JND Amount: 9,9 Millions Currency: USD Financial Instrument: Grants <i>Please expand the information if needed.</i>				
A.6.2. Indicative co-financing	Amount: 4 Millions Currency: USD Financial Instrument: Grants (If other financial instrument is opted, please specify: _____) <i>* Please expand the information if needed.</i>				
A.6.3. Indicative total project cost (GCF + co-finance)	Amount: 13,9 Millions Currency: USD				

A.7. Implementation period:	a) disbursement period: 2024 b) repayment period, if applicable: 2029	A.7.2. Total project/ programme lifespan	5 years
A.8. Is funding from the Project Preparation Facility needed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	A.9. Is the Environmental and Social Safeguards Category C or I-3?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
A.10. Provide rationale for the ESS categorization (max 100 words)	In reference to the environmental and social standards of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Project is classified in category C because the activities will have practically no adverse impacts on the environmental and social components of the environment and specifically in terms of environmental and social risks, based on the proposed components, the project is a concrete response to the reduction of environmental risks, in particular relating to external events caused by climate change, notably to reduce the vulnerability of local populations to climate change and to improve living conditions. This categorisation takes into account the environmental and social protection requirements of the VCF as well as the requirements specified in the environmental code on environmental impact studies applicable in the Central African Republic.		
A.11. Has the CN been shared with the NDA?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	A.12. Confidentiality⁵	<input type="checkbox"/> Confidential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not confidential
A.13. Executing Entity information			
A.14. Project/Programme rationale, objectives and approach of programme/project (max 100 words)	Ce Projet a pour objectif de réduire la tendance actuelle de déforestation et dégradation des forêts dans le massif forestier du Sud-ouest de la RCA. Concrètement, le Projet vise à réduire environ 780 kt éq-CO2 des émissions provenant de l'utilisation non durable des forêts à travers une batterie d'interventions comprenant entre autres le renforcement du cadre réglementaire et institutionnel du secteur de la foresterie, de l'agriculture, du foncier et du bois-énergie, le développement et la vulgarisation des itinéraires techniques agricoles climato-intelligents et la structuration de la chaîne de valeur du bois-énergie. Le Projet mis en œuvre par la COMIFAC bénéficiera à environ 30.000 personnes, plus particulièrement les femmes, les jeunes et les populations autochtones.		

B. Project / Programme information

B.1. Context and Baseline (500 words)

La République Centrafricaine (RCA) est résolument engagée dans un tournant décisif de son histoire. Après plusieurs années de crise politico-militaire, les récents accords de paix et le retour à l'ordre constitutionnelle ont ouvert la voie à la mise en œuvre de ses objectifs de développement durables et particulièrement de lutte contre les changements climatiques. En effet, les changements climatiques sont une réalité en RCA. D'après la Banque Mondiale, la température moyenne a augmenté à un taux de 0.3°C par décennie depuis 1978 et les projections futures indiquent une augmentation entre 0.7-3°C d'ici 2080. Les précipitations ont connu une diminution entre 1978-2009 avec des variations interannuelles et une légère amélioration cette dernière décennie. Les projections futures indiquent une augmentation de la moyenne annuelle avec phénomènes extrêmes plus récurrents⁶. Ces changements climatiques ont des effets adverses importants sur les populations et leurs écosystèmes. En

⁵ Concept notes (or sections of) not marked as confidential may be published in accordance with the Information Disclosure Policy ([Decision B.12/35](#)) and the Review of the Initial Proposal Approval Process ([Decision B.17/18](#)).

⁶ <https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/central-african-republic/climate-data-historical>

parallèle au besoin d'adaptation qu'il considère prioritaire, le Gouvernement Centrafricain entend apporter une contribution significative aux efforts globaux de réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre (GES).

Dans l'ensemble la RCA est un net puit de carbone. Elle dispose d'un potentiel d'environ 5,4 millions d'hectares de forêts denses humides repartis en deux blocs parmi lesquels le massif du Sud-ouest qui s'étend sur 3.787.777 ha avec 2.608.700 ha de domaine productif et un potentiel global de 866 millions de m³. D'après les inventaires réalisés en 2010, les émissions de GES s'élèvent à 116.285,49 kt éq-CO₂ pour une contribution sectorielle de 89,46% pour les changements d'affectation des terres et foresterie (CATF), 5,26% pour l'agriculture, 5,19% pour l'énergie dont 4,91% pour le bois. Le potentiel de séquestration est évalué à 330 000 kt éq-CO₂. La RCA ambitionne de réduire ses émissions d'au moins 5% et 25% respectivement par rapport au niveau de référence aux horizons 2030 et 2050. En absence d'interventions, les émissions de GES devraient augmenter d'environ 63% par rapport à 2010 pour une contribution sectorielle de 68,4% pour les CAFT, 13,4% pour l'énergie dont 10,7% pour le bois énergie, 13,4% pour l'agriculture, 3,2% pour les déchets et enfin 1,6% pour les procédés industriels et l'utilisation des solvants⁷. Ces prévisions suggèrent une diminution des émissions dans le secteur des CAFT et plus d'un doublement du niveau des émissions dans le secteur de l'agriculture et du bois énergie. Ce projet a pour objectif de renverser cette tendance à l'augmentation des émissions de GES dans les secteurs spécifiques de l'agriculture et du bois énergie.

Ce projet est en harmonie avec les priorités nationales telles que formulées dans les programmes, plans et stratégies nationales de développement et de lutte contre les changements climatiques, notamment le Plan national de relèvement et de consolidation de la paix (RCPCA), la Contribution Déterminée Nationale (CDN) et la Proposition de préparation à la readiness (R-PP). En vue de promouvoir le relèvement et la consolidation de la paix, le RCPCA identifie trois piliers prioritaires auxquels il adjoint des objectifs transversaux, notamment une exploitation des ressources naturelles durable génératrice de revenus et sensible au Genre. La CDN identifie parmi les mesures d'atténuation des GES la réduction de l'évolution du front agricole par l'abandon progressif de l'agriculture itinérante sur brûlis, ainsi que le renforcement de l'offre énergétique durable à travers notamment la promotion des foyers améliorés. Le R-PP a retenu quatre options et plusieurs sous-options stratégiques pour réduire la déforestation et la dégradation des forêts en RCA, notamment le développement d'une stratégie énergie domestique et l'amélioration des techniques et rendements agro-sylvo-pastoraux.

La principale cause de la déforestation et la dégradation des forêts en RCA est l'émergence du secteur de l'économie informelle due à l'effondrement quasi-total des institutions publiques, notamment celles chargées de la gestion des secteurs de l'agriculture, des forêts et de l'énergie du fait de longues années de conflits politico-militaires ayant entraîné leur inaptitude à exécuter leurs fonctions régaliennes de supervision et de contrôle. Des efforts et des investissements massifs doivent être déployés pour renforcer les capacités humaines et institutionnelles dans ces secteurs. Une autre cause aussi essentielle est un régime foncier inadéquat limitant l'accès à la propriété foncière par les communautés locales et autochtones. Par ailleurs, il faudrait mentionner l'absence de promotion de technologies à fort rendement énergétique visant à réduire la consommation de bois énergie, ainsi que l'utilisation des itinéraires techniques agricoles inappropriés et non durables dans un contexte de croissance démographique aigue. A titre d'exemple, seuls 20% des ménages agricoles utilisent des engrais⁸. D'après la FAO (2011), 37.500 ha de forêt ont été coupés en 2010 pour satisfaire les besoins en bois de feu de la ville de Bangui et ce volume est projeté à 52.500 ha en 2020.

B.2. Project / Programme description (1000 words)

Le projet a pour objectif principal de réduire la tendance actuelle à la déforestation et dégradation des forêts dans le massif forestier du Sud-ouest de la RCA à travers les composantes et activités ci-dessous :

Composante 1 : Les cultures pérennes et l'agriculture de subsistance sont développées suivant une approche climato-intelligente et soutenues par une assistance technique renforcée

Le Projet va appuyer le développement participatif du plan de zonage pilote du massif forestier du Sud-ouest permettant une meilleure planification de l'utilisation des terres en vue de minimiser les facteurs de pression sur les forêts. Les codes agropastoral, foncier, forestier et minier seront réexaminés, révisés, harmonisés et vulgarisés en vue de renforcer la sécurisation foncière auprès des communautés, ainsi que la mise en œuvre des activités alternatives génératrices de revenus par le biais de nouvelles techniques. Une stratégie nationale de recherche agricole, ayant pour objet d'accroître la productivité et réduire les impacts sur les forêts sera adoptée. Des agropoles multifonctionnelles seront créées dans les centres ruraux pour œuvrer en matière de formation, vulgarisation technologique et accès au crédit et intrants agricoles (ex. appui au producteurs locaux de

⁷ Contribution Déterminée au niveau National 2015

⁸ Gapia, M. et Bele, Y. 2012 Adaptation et atténuation en République centrafricaine : Acteurs et processus politiques. Document de travail 100. CIFOR, Bogor, Indonésie

semences, etc.) pour l'adoption et l'appropriation des itinéraires techniques agricoles climato-intelligentes. Les potentiels agroécologiques seront cartographiés et des études de marché associées permettront d'identifier les cultures commerciales et les chaînes de valeur les plus susceptibles de créer des emplois et d'accroître les recettes tout en limitant l'impact négatif sur les forêts. Les activités alternatives génératrices de revenus (ex. PFNL, aquaculture, pisciculture, ecotourisme, etc.) seront soutenues y compris une mise à échelle du programme de « caisses de résilience » en cours au niveau communautaire et cibleront particulièrement les femmes, les jeunes et les populations autochtones. Des agropoles multifonctionnelles seront créées dans les centres ruraux pour faciliter les interventions en matière de formation, développement/transfert et adoption des technologies et d'accès au crédit, et comme base pour les industries de transformation locales.

Composante 2 : La chaîne de valeur de production durable et consommation efficace du bois-énergie est renforcée à travers la mise en place d'un cadre structurant, le transfert, l'adoption et la vulgarisation des technologies améliorées

Le Projet va revitaliser le Comité national de reboisement et soutenir le développement d'une politique nationale de reboisement, ainsi qu'une stratégie de reboisement à grande échelle (identification/cartographie des sites, sélection des espèces, sécurisation foncière, formation, etc.). Le projet va appuyer le développement d'une stratégie énergie domestique (y compris des schémas directeurs types d'approvisionnement en bois énergie des villes) et l'élaboration des textes réglementaires sur l'exploitation artisanale, la transformation (dans le cas du charbon), le commerce, le transport et la taxation de bois de chauffe et charbon de bois. Le projet va contribuer à l'émergence d'un entrepreneuriat local formel (petites et moyennes entreprises) dans le secteur du bois-énergie qui bénéficiera d'un appui technique et opérationnel en vue de développer et vulgariser les techniques modernes de carbonisation (meules améliorées) et de consommation du bois (foyers et fumeurs améliorés) afin d'améliorer le bilan carbone des filières bois énergie.

Composante 3 : Les capacités humaines et institutionnelles sont renforcées (appui matériel, financier et technique), les connaissances et leçons apprises sont partagées et vulgarisées

Le Projet va revitaliser et renforcer les capacités techniques et opérationnelles de diverses institutions et acteurs sectoriels, notamment le Centre de formation des gardes forestiers (CFGF) chargé de la formation des agents forestiers responsables de la surveillance et la protection des forêts et l'Institut centrafricain de recherche agronomique (ICRA). Le Projet va appuyer la (re)structuration et le renforcement des capacités techniques des ONGs, associations et réseaux d'ONGs œuvrant dans le secteur de la gestion durable des forêts. Il est également envisagé d'intégrer la gestion durable des forêts et les changements climatiques dans les programmes pédagogiques, d'élaborer et disséminer les supports didactiques. En fin, le Projet va établir des cadres de partages d'expériences à travers des rencontres diverses (ex. séminaires, voyages d'études, etc.) entre les acteurs nationaux d'une part et entre les acteurs nationaux et internationaux d'autre part.

Le Projet pourra être mis à échelle du fait que les causes de la déforestation et dégradation des forêts sont relativement similaires sur l'ensemble du territoire de la RCA et même dans les forêts du Bassin du Congo. En conséquence, les leçons apprises du fait de la mise en œuvre du projet dans le massif forestier du Sud-ouest pourront être répliquées dans le massif forestier du Sud-est et potentiellement dans la sous-région du Bassin du Congo.

Le potentiel de transformation ou de changement de paradigme du projet est remarquable dans la mesure où il entend changer fondamentalement le système de production agricole actuel, ainsi que l'approche de production et consommation du bois-énergie, en leur inscrivant sur la voie de production et de consommation durable à faible émission de carbone suivant une approche multi-sectorielle et participative promouvant l'émergence d'un entrepreneuriat local sensible au Genre et garantissant l'amélioration des conditions de vie des populations.

Des projets similaires ont été ou sont en cours de mise en œuvre aussi bien en RCA que dans la sous-région. Deux projets importants peuvent être cités en RCA. Il s'agit notamment du projet « Restauration des forêts et paysages en appui à la résilience des paysages et des moyens de subsistance en RCA » mis en œuvre par la FAO et ayant pour but de contribuer à la restauration et maintenance des paysages critiques en vue de générer des bénéfices environnementaux globaux et un développement économique et des moyens de subsistance plus résilients. Il s'agit également du projet « Approvisionnement de la ville de Bangui en bois énergie par une politique de gestion durable des ressources naturelles » mis en œuvre par World Resources Institute (WRI). Au niveau de la sous-région on peut citer le projet de « Vulgarisation des techniques de production et consommation du charbon écologique » financé par la Banque Mondiale dans la ville de Mbouda au Cameroun et mis en œuvre par le Centre africain des technologies appropriées et des énergies nouvelles et renouvelables (ACREST), ainsi que le « projet agroforestier REDD+ Novacel au Sud Kwamouth en RDC » financé par la Banque africaine de développement (BAD) et mis en œuvre par WRI et ONFI. Les coûts et bénéfices de ces interventions similaires sont relativement bien documentés.

La COMIFAC qui agira comme agence accréditée est très bien placée pour superviser la mise en œuvre de ce Projet, notamment du fait de son rôle comme cadre de référence et de coordination de toutes les interventions en matière de conservation et gestion durable des écosystèmes forestiers en Afrique Centrale. La COMIFAC jouit d'une expérience de plus de 20 ans dans la mise en œuvre d'initiatives similaires en Afrique Centrale en général et en RCA en particulier. La COMIFAC dispose et au besoin établira des Protocoles d'Accord avec les entités nationales et internationales qui seront chargées de mettre en œuvre les interventions du projet.

Le principal risque financier est relatif à la capacité d'absorption des financements au niveau national du fait que la plupart des structures nationales sont en phase de reconstruction ou de restructuration. Pour y remédier, le Projet va développer un plan prévisionnel de dépenses au début de chaque année. Ce plan prévisionnel de dépenses identifiera les entraves potentielles, ainsi que les mesures nécessaires de manière à s'assurer d'une utilisation diligente et effective des financements. Le principal risque opérationnel est relatif à des potentiels résistances des populations face aux changements envisagés puisque le Projet envisage un changement radical des comportements dans les systèmes de production agricole et de production et consommation du bois-énergie dont les populations sont déjà habituées depuis plusieurs générations. Pour y remédier, le Projet mettra un accent particulier sur la formation et la vulgarisation en s'appuyant davantage sur les leaders (ex. chefs religieux et traditionnelles, leaders politiques et d'opinions) au sein de la société Centrafricaine.

B.3.Expected performance against the GCF investment criteria (500 words)⁹

Les impacts attendus du Projet vis-à-vis des critères d'investissement du FVC sont les suivants :

Impact potentiel : Le Projet va renforcer l'accès à une énergie à faible potentiel d'émissions de carbone auprès d'environ 10.000 ménages (environ 30.000 personnes) à travers la formation et la vulgarisation des techniques modernes de carbonisation (meules améliorées) et de consommation du bois (foyers et fumoirs améliorés). Par ailleurs, le Projet va réduire d'un quart (1/4) la quantité moyenne annuelle des émissions par personne (26 tonnes éq-CO₂), soit environ 6.5 tonnes éq-CO₂/personne par an à partir de la deuxième année du projet. Au total, au moins 780 kt éq-CO₂ seront réduits pendant la période de mise en œuvre du projet.

Changement de paradigme : Le Projet va changer fondamentalement le système de production agricole en l'orientant vers une agriculture intensive à faible émission de carbone et fondée sur une approche intégrée et participative de gestion des terres. Par ailleurs, le Projet va changer systématiquement l'approche actuelle de production et de consommation du bois-énergie à travers la mise en place d'un cadre structurant et d'un environnement habilitant, ainsi que le développement et la vulgarisation des techniques modernes de carbonisation (meules améliorées) et de consommation du bois (foyers et fumoirs améliorés).

Développement durable : Le Projet aura des co-bénéfices économiques, sociaux, et environnementaux importants. Sur le plan économique, le projet va stimuler l'essor d'un entrepreneuriat local dans les secteurs de l'agriculture et du bois-énergie à travers un appui technique et financier permettant à échéance de générer des ressources financières durables pour l'Etat et les communautés. Sur le plan social, le Projet mettra un accent particulier sur l'engagement des couches défavorisées de la population, notamment les populations autochtones, les jeunes et des femmes, permettant ainsi d'améliorer de manière significative leurs conditions de vie, de lutter contre la pauvreté, tout en renforçant le tissu de cohésion social fragilisé par les années d'instabilités. Du point de vue de co-bénéfice environnemental, le Projet va contribuer à la conservation de la biodiversité à travers la gestion durable du massif forestier du Sud-ouest, ainsi que la préservation des services écosystémiques que celui-ci procure. Le Projet contribuera également à l'amélioration de la qualité de l'air du fait de la réduction des émissions de polluants issus de la combustion du bois tel que le monoxyde de carbone.

Besoin des bénéficiaires : Le Projet permet de répondre à un nombre important de besoins de la RCA tels que formulés dans le PCRCA et le Programme Pays du FVC, notamment le renforcement des capacités institutionnelles pour le redéploiement de l'administration, la lutte contre la pauvreté à travers le relèvement économique et la relance des secteurs productifs, notamment l'agriculture, la promotion et la valorisation des Produits forestiers non ligneux (PFNL).

Appropriation par le pays : Le Projet contribue aux priorités de la RCA en matière de réduction des émissions et de développement résilient au climat telles qu'identifiées dans sa CDN, en s'attaquant particulièrement à deux principales causes des émissions de carbone (bois-énergie et agriculture itinérante), permettant à la RCA de répondre à ses engagements internationaux en la matière tout en poursuivant ses objectifs de développement durable. Le Projet est une initiative du

⁹ For more information please refer to Annex XIV of document [GCF/B.07/11](#)

Gouvernement de la RCA et il a fait l'objet de larges consultations des acteurs du secteur public, du secteur privé et de la société civile.

B.4 Stakeholders consultation and engagement (300 words)

Cette note conceptuelle a été élaborée à travers plusieurs mécanismes de consultations impliquant une multitude de parties prenantes. D'entrée de jeu, elle tire son fondement du Programme Pays de la RCA pour FVC dans lequel des idées de projets prioritaires ont été préalablement retenues à la suite de larges consultations aux niveaux national et régional. Ce Projet constitue en effet l'une des idées de projets prioritaires du Programme Pays qui a été sélectionné à la suite d'une réunion de concertation entre le Point Focal du FVC et le Coordonnateur National de la Coordination Nationale Climat (CN-Climat) agissant en tant que Autorité Nationale Désignée (NDA). L'idée de projet prioritaire faisant l'objet de cette note conceptuelle a par la suite été présentée pour validation aux différentes parties prenantes de la lutte contre les changements climatiques en RCA, y compris les entités accréditées potentielles de mise en œuvre (ex. WWF, FAO, PNUD, etc.), dans le cadre d'un atelier qui avait entre autres objets l'établissement d'une liste restreinte d'idées de projets prioritaires et qui s'est tenu le 21 mars 2019 à Bangui dans les locaux du Ministère de l'Environnement, de l'Ecologie et du Développement Durable. Cet atelier a par ailleurs permis à une vingtaine de participants de déterminer les différents éléments du projet, notamment les objectifs, les composantes et activités potentielles, les partenaires de mise en œuvre, le montant de financement requis et la durée du projet. Par la suite, un atelier de validation a été organisé du 05 au 06 juin 2019 à Bangui avec pour but de permettre à l'ensemble des parties prenantes clés de la lutte contre le changement climatique de valider de manière participative et consensuelle cette note conceptuelle. Cet atelier a bénéficié de la participation de 45 participants (12 femmes) représentant différents départements ministériels, notamment : la Primature, l'Environnement et développement Durable, les Eaux, Forêts, Chasse et Pêche, le Développement Rural, l'Urbanisme, le Tourisme, les Mines, les Finances, l'Economie, Plan et Coopération, l'Université de Bangui, les représentants des Organisations de la Société Civile, les représentants des parlementaires, ainsi que les partenaires techniques et financiers. Il est par la suite envisagé la soumission d'une proposition de préparation de projet (PPF) afin d'obtenir les fonds nécessaires pour le développement du document de projet au cours duquel les consultations publiques devront se poursuivre.

C. Indicative financing information (max. 2 pages)

C.1. Financing by components

Component	Output	Indicative cost (USD)	GCF financing		Co-financing			
			Amount (USD)	Financial Instrument	Type	Amount (USD)	Financial Instrument	Name of Institutions
Component 1:	Click here to enter text.	6 Millions	4 Millions	Subvention	Choose an item.	2 Millions	Subvention	Banque Mondiale
Component 2:	Click here to enter text.	6 Millions	4 Millions	Subvention	Choose an item.	2 Millions	Subvention	COMIFAC
Composante 3:	Click here to enter text.	3 Millions	2 Million	Subvention	Choose an item.	1 Million	Subvention	RCA
Indicative total cost (USD)		15 Millions	10 Millions		5 Million			

For private sector proposal, provide an overview (diagram) of the proposed financing structure.

C.2. Justification of GCF Funding Request (300 words)

Les besoins financiers de la RCA s'élevaient à 3,802 milliards USD sur la période d'engagement soit 2,248 milliards USD pour l'atténuation (2,022 milliards USD de conditionnel) et 1,554 milliards USD (1,441 milliards USD de conditionnel) pour l'adaptation (CDN 2015). La RCA ne sera pas en mesure de répondre à ses engagements internationaux en matière de lutte contre les changements climatiques sans l'appui de ses partenaires techniques et financiers internationaux, en particulier le FVC. En effet, la RCA se remet de plus de deux décennies d'instabilités politico-militaire qui ont ravagées l'économie du pays et conduit à l'effondrement des principaux secteurs productifs. En 2014, le revenu national brut (RNB) par habitant était le plus faible du monde et estimé à 600 USD (PPA). Les finances publiques du pays ont connu une crise aiguë avec des recettes intérieures ne

représentant plus que 6% du PIB en moyenne pendant la transition. L'encours de la dette a augmenté, atteignant un peu plus de 50% du PIB en 2014 et les arriérés intérieurs ont rapidement accrus, passant d'environ 40 millions USD en 2013 à 290 millions USD en 2014¹⁰. Ceux-ci ont entamé la capacité déjà faible de l'Etat à fournir les services de base et sont jusqu'à lors de nature à compromettre la ferme volonté de la RCA de répondre à ses engagements internationaux en matière de lutte contre les changements climatiques. Les partenaires techniques et financiers de la RCA seront donc appelés à fournir un appui financier significatif pour accompagner les efforts en cours menés par le Gouvernement pour renforcer la paix et la sécurité, et poser les bases du relèvement et d'un développement économique durable.

C.3. Exit Strategy and Sustainability (300 words)

La durabilité du Projet est fondée entre autres sur la mise en place d'un cadre réglementaire et institutionnel habilitant, ainsi que le transfert et l'appropriation des nouvelles technologies. En effet, le développement d'un plan de zonage pilote pour le massif forestier du Sud-ouest, la révision et harmonisation des codes agropastoral, foncier, forestier et minier, le développement d'une stratégie énergie domestique et l'adoption d'une stratégie de recherche agricole sont autant de ressources dont fera usage les différentes parties prenantes au-delà de la durée du Projet. Il en est de même des agropoles multifonctionnelles qui seront créées, ainsi que des institutions qui seront renforcées à l'instar du Comité national de reboisement, l'ICRA et le CFGF. Par ailleurs, le transfert et l'appropriation par les parties prenantes des nouvelles technologies de production agricole à faible potentiel d'émissions de carbone, ainsi que les techniques modernes de carbonisation (meules améliorées) et de consommation du bois (foyers et fumoirs améliorés) permettront d'assurer la continuité des interventions du Projet à long-terme.

Le suivi des éléments de durabilité au-delà de la vie du projet se fera entre autres à travers les activités ou projets connexes mis en œuvre par les différents partenaires du Projet et dont la durée s'étend au-delà du Projet FVC. A cet effet, un cadre de concertation et d'échanges sera mis en place à l'effet de renforcer les synergies entre les interventions des différents partenaires, notamment l'établissement des relais potentiels entre les activités afin de renforcer la durabilité des différentes interventions. Par ailleurs, le Gouvernement Centrafricain est déterminé à continuer à mobiliser les financements internationaux en vue de répliquer ou portée à échelle les interventions du Projet sur la base des leçons apprises. Le suivi des éléments de durabilité pourra également s'inscrire dans cette démarche dans le cadre de nouveaux projets ou interventions.

D. Annexes

- ESS screening check list (Annex 1)
- Map indicating the location of the project/programme (as applicable)
- Evaluation Report of previous project (as applicable)

¹⁰ <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ct.html>

Annex 1: Environmental and Social Screening Checklist¹¹

Part A: Risk Factors

Please indicate your answers to the questions below and provide an explanation on the response selected. In cases when the TBD response is selected please explain briefly why you are not able to determine now and when in the project cycle the question will be addressed.

If the criteria is not applicable to the project you may write N/A in the justification box.

Risk Factors	YES	NO
Will the activities involve associated facilities and require further due diligence of such associated facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities involve trans-boundary impacts including those that would require further due diligence and notification to affected states?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities adversely affect working conditions and health and safety of workers or potentially employ vulnerable categories of workers including women and children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities potentially generate hazardous waste and pollutants including pesticides and contaminate lands that would require further studies on management, minimization and control and compliance to the country and applicable international environmental quality standards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities involve the construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation of critical infrastructure (like dams, water impoundments, coastal and river bank infrastructure) that would require further technical assessment and safety studies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the proposed activities potentially involve resettlement and dispossession, land acquisition, and economic displacement of persons and communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities be located in or in the vicinity of protected areas and areas of ecological significance including critical habitats, key biodiversity areas and internationally recognized conservation sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities affect indigenous peoples that would require further due diligence, free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) and documentation of development plans?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities be located in areas that are considered to have archaeological (prehistoric), paleontological, historical, cultural, artistic, and religious values or contains features considered as critical cultural heritage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		

Part B: Specific environmental and social risks and impacts

¹¹ In answering this checklist, you may refer to Annex 1: Guidance on Part A ESS Screening of the "[Guidelines for the environmental and social screening of activities proposed under the SAP](#)"

Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	YES	NO	TBD
Has the E&S risk category of the project been provided in the concept note?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Has the rationale for the categorization of the project been provided in the relevant sections of the concept note?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there any additional environmental, health and safety requirements under the national laws and regulations and relevant international treaties and agreements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Are the identification of risks and impacts based on recent or up-to-date information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Labour and Working Conditions	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially have impacts on the working conditions, particularly the terms of employment, worker's organization, non-discrimination, equal opportunity, child labour, and forced labour of direct, contracted and third-party workers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will the activities pose occupational health and safety risks to workers including supply chain workers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities generate (1) emissions to air; (2) discharges to water; (3) activity-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, (4) noise and vibration; and (5) wastes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will the activities utilize significant amount of natural resources including water and energy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will there be a need to develop detailed measures to reduce pollution and promote sustainable use of resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Community Health, Safety, and Security	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially generate risks and impacts to the health and safety of the affected communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will there be a need for an emergency preparedness and response plan that also outlines how the affected communities will be assisted in times of emergency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will there be risks posed by the security arrangements and potential conflicts at the project site to the workers and affected community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities likely involve land acquisition and/or physical or economic displacement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			

Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially introduce invasive alien species of flora and fauna affecting the biodiversity of the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will the activities have potential impacts on or be dependent on ecosystem services including production of living natural resources (eg.agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forestry)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Indigenous Peoples	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially have any indirect impacts on indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities, or vulnerable and marginalized groups?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Cultural Heritage	Yes	NO	TBD
Will the activities restrict access to the cultural heritage sites and properties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will there be a need to prepare a chance-find procedure in case of the discovery of cultural heritage assets?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Stakeholder engagement and grievance	Yes	NO	TBD
Will the activities include a continuing stakeholder engagement process and a grievance redress mechanism and integrated into the management/implementation plans?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			

Part C: Sign Off

Sign-off: *Specify the name and designation of the person responsible for the environmental and social screening and any other approvals as may be required in the accredited entity's own management system.*

Annexe 2: Early Warning and Disaster Risk Reduction System (EWDRRS)

Project/Programme Title: **Early Warning and Disaster Risk Reduction System (EWDRRS)**

Country(ies): **Central African Republic**

National Designated Authority(ies) (NDA): **National Climate Coordination/Ministry of Environment et Sustainable Développement**

Accredited Entity(ies) (AE): **United Nations Development Programme**

Date of first submission: **[2023-03-01] [V.0]**

Date of current submission: **[YYYY-MM-DD] [V.0]**

Version:

Eligibility for SAP is determined by the review of the concept note and the ESS screening.

E. Project / Programme Summary (max. 1 page)

A.1. Project or programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project <input type="checkbox"/> Programme	A.2. Public or private sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public sector <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector	A.3 RFP	Not applicable
A.4. Indicate the result areas for the project/programme	<p><i>Check the applicable GCF result areas that the proposed project/programme targets. Indicate for each checked result area(s) the estimated percentage of GCF budget devoted to it. The summed up percentage should be equal to 100%.</i></p> <p>Mitigation: Reduced emissions from:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy access and power generation: <u>Enter number</u> % <input type="checkbox"/> Low emission transport: <u>Enter number</u> % <input type="checkbox"/> Buildings, cities and industries and appliances: <u>Enter number</u> % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry and land use: <u>Enter number</u> % <p>Adaptation: Increased resilience of:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Most vulnerable people and communities: <u>Enter number</u> % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health and well-being, and food and water security: <u>Enter number</u> % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure and built environment: <u>Enter number</u> % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem and ecosystem services: <u>Enter number</u> %				
A.5. Impact potential	A.5.1. Estimated mitigation impact (tCO ₂ eq over project lifespan)		<u>Enter number</u> tCO ₂ eq		
A.5.2. Estimated adaptation impact (number of direct beneficiaries)		<u>1.7 000 000 Peoples</u> direct beneficiaries			
A.5.3. Estimated adaptation impact (number of indirect beneficiaries)		<u>Enter number</u> indirect beneficiaries			
A.5.4. Estimated adaptation impact (% of total population)		<u>25 %</u> % of the country's total population			
A.6. Financing information					
A. 6.1. Indicative GCF funding requested (max USD 25M)	Amount: 9,9 Millions Currency: USD Financial Instrument: Grants <i>* Please expand the information if needed.</i>				
A.6.2. Indicative co-financing	Amount: 4 Millions Currency: USD Financial Instrument: Grants (If other financial instrument is opted, please specify: _____) <i>* Please expand the information if needed.</i>				
A.6.3. Indicative total project cost (GCF + co-finance)	Amount: 13,9 Millions Currency: USD				
A.7. Implementation period:	a) disbursement period: b) repayment period, if applicable:	A.7.2. Total project/programme lifespan	5 years		

A.8. Is funding from the Project Preparation Facility needed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	A.9. Is the Environmental and Social Safeguards Category C or I-3?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
A.10. Provide rationale for the ESS categorization (max 100 words)	<p>In reference to the environmental and social standards of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Project is classified in category C because the activities will have practically no adverse impacts on the environmental and social components of the environment and specifically in terms of environmental and social risks, based on the proposed components, the project is a concrete response to the reduction of environmental risks, in particular relating to external events caused by climate change, notably to reduce the vulnerability of local populations to climate change and to improve living conditions. This categorisation takes into account the environmental and social protection requirements of the VCF as well as the requirements specified in the environmental code on environmental impact studies applicable in the Central African Republic.</p>		
A.11. Has the CN been shared with the NDA?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	A.12. Confidentiality¹²	<input type="checkbox"/> Confidential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not confidential
A.13. Executing Entity information	<p>The project is part of the UNDP Portfolio dedicated to Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation. The Central African Government will implement it, through the Ministry in charge of the Environment, according to an inclusive and participatory approach with the support of UNDP, as the designated entity of the Green Climate Fund. Based on UNDP's experience in managing Green Climate Fund financing, in accordance with the project's DOA, UNDP will implement the Initiation Plan in compliance with UNDP and GCF project management requirements. More specifically, at the programmatic level, under the leadership of the Deputy Resident Representative, the Program Officer in charge of the Environment, Energy and Climate Change pillar of the Country Office will ensure the coordination, management and quality control of all products, in conjunction with the National Focal Point designated by the Ministry in charge of the Environment. At the operational level, the competent services of the Country Office will provide the necessary support for the proper execution of the project activities according to the rules and procedures of UNDP in force.</p>		
A.14. Project/Programme rationale, objectives and approach of programme/project (max 100 words)	<p>This project aims to develop a strategic climate risk and disaster management framework to contribute to the growth of the green economy through resilient development in CAR by strengthening the technical and operational capacities of national institutions to plan for, prevent and manage risks and disasters. It also aims to strengthen the resilience of local people's livelihoods through informed decision making. The proposed actions are identified through an inclusive participatory approach with the contribution of different stakeholders (government, international communities and local populations) due to the recurrence of extreme climatic events (floods, droughts, forest fires...) that the country has experienced in a context of socio-political and economic fragility. With an estimated total cost of USD 9.9 million, the project is divided into three components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Component 1: Technical and operational capacity building for climate risk management 2. Component 2: Capacity building in climate information provision and integration into national and local development plans and adaptation capacities 3. Component 3: Building resilience to climate change at national, regional and community levels 		

¹² Concept notes (or sections of) not marked as confidential may be published in accordance with the Information Disclosure Policy ([Decision B.12/35](#)) and the Review of the Initial Proposal Approval Process ([Decision B.17/18](#)).

The project will be implemented by the Central African government following an inclusive and participatory approach with the support of UNDP and the Green Climate Fund and other financial partners present in CAR. The project will directly benefit more than 1.5 million people (50% of the total population), particularly the most vulnerable segments of the population, namely women and unemployed youth.

F. Project / Programme information

B.1. Context and Baseline (500 words)

The CAR has a humid tropical climate. The average annual temperatures across the country range from 23°C in the south to 27°C in the north. Rainfall varies between 1600 mm at the edge of the dense forest in the southwest and 800 mm in the savannah zone in the north (Kembe 2008). According to the World Bank, since 1978 the average temperature has increased by about 0.3°C per decade and future projections indicate an increase of 0.7-3°C by 2080. Precipitation data indicate a decrease of about 19 mm/year over the period 1978-2009 with interannual variations followed by a slight increase in rainfall in recent years. In particular, this is due to the increase in mean sea surface temperature (SST) and also to extreme weather events. Projections indicate an increase in the annual average of about 5% with more recurrent extreme events accompanied by droughts and floods.

Variation and modification of climate parameters significantly and recurrently affects public safety, infrastructure, community livelihoods and economic development in general, including the agriculture, forestry, water resources, energy transport and health sectors. The frequency of recurrence appears to be reducing from an average of 10 years to around two to three years. Agriculture and livestock represent 43.2% of the country's GDP and are dependent on climatic conditions will be the most affected sectors if no action is taken to predict extreme events and will affect this main source of income for at least 75% of the population. As an illustration, three quarters of the seedlings were lost during the rainy season, and livestock (both large and small) were decimated. In 2009, the socio-economic impact of the floods caused damage and annual losses estimated at 7 million USD for the city of Bangui alone and left more than ten thousand households homeless, and this number is increasing year after year. In October 2019, the Central African Red Cross counted more than 60,000 homeless people affected by the latest floods throughout the country, including 14,590 in Bangui and Bimbo. In the prefecture of Ouham, for which information is available, nearly 6,700 hectares of agricultural plots were flooded. The most affected areas include Bangui and its surroundings, as well as the prefectures of Basse-Kotto, Lobaye, Mbomou, Nana-Gribizi, Ombella M'poko, Ouaka, Ouham and Vakaga. The living conditions of the population, already very poor (70%) living on less than USD 1 per day, victims of the politico-military crisis for almost two decades, with approximately 2.6 million people in need of humanitarian assistance and 1.7 million in critical situation in need of emergency multisectoral assistance, will see their living conditions exacerbated by the catastrophic risks due to floods, epidemics such as COVID-19, cholera, Meningitis, Ebola etc. And they are unaware of the risks of disasters and ill-prepared to respond and thus become victims of enormous damage.

It should also be understood that the surprise effect of risks and disasters in CAR was aggravated not only by the absence of a national policy, inclusive response strategies and operational plans, but also by: i) a lack of a strategic and legislative framework to regulate disaster risk reduction, ii) weaknesses in humanitarian coordination capacities or a lack of a designated horizontal and vertical coordination structure (e.g., the limited mandate of the department in charge of humanitarian affairs), iii) the lack of a national disaster risk management strategy and a lack of a national disaster risk management strategy. (e.g., the limited mandate of the department in charge of humanitarian affairs for multi-sectoral coordination of disaster response and the lack of synergy between the Ministry of Civil Protection and other organisations involved in prevention and management of response plans), (iii) lack of human and material resource capacity due to insufficient qualified personnel to make seasonal and climatic forecasts, the non-existence of a network or stations for data collection throughout the country and information on the most vulnerable areas difficulties in linking climate information production services to institutional stakeholders and communities; and the lack of capacity and tools for translating forecasts to improve understanding and application of forecasting products and services by agencies and communities who are the end users.

Other factors that increase the vulnerability of the population to risks and disasters are: rapid and uncontrolled urbanisation and the uncontrolled settlement of populations in flood-prone areas, and inadequate drainage systems. Drought often causes severe fires in arable and forest lands, and increases annual crop losses due to traditional bushfire practices that are strongly

embedded in the habits of local communities with a destructive potential for the environment and an aggravating factor of climate change.

Another important factor in the vulnerability of populations and their ecosystems to the adverse effects of climate change in CAR is the absence of a functional early warning system to monitor, analyse and forecast climate hazards and disseminate related information for informed risk and disaster planning and management. This lack of technical capacity results in, inter alia, poor understanding of current and future risks, limited and inadequate response to impending disasters, seriously compromising human well-being and sustainable human development. In addition, the research and training framework for resilient agro-pastoral development (e.g., resistant and improved varieties) to climate change is ineffective, increasing the degree of vulnerability of populations to risks and disasters. Of the more than twenty existing agro-climatological and meteorological monitoring stations, most were destroyed during the political and military conflicts that the country has experienced. Of the country's 43 main cities, only three of the fifteen (15) non-automatic meteorological stations are operational. This inadequacy does not allow CAR to identify the meteorological trends necessary to establish reliable forecasts. The studies carried out by ASECNA have highlighted the following weaknesses in the country: the difficulty of setting up stations in inhospitable areas; the lack of funds for the rehabilitation and operation of equipment in the meteorological stations managed by the Direction de la Météorologie Nationale (DMN); the lack of qualified personnel; and the inadequate training of technical personnel for the maintenance of equipment;

The risks and disasters linked to climate change will exacerbate the vulnerability of 2.6 million people in need of humanitarian assistance linked to the politico-military crisis, of which 1.7 million in critical situation need emergency multisectoral assistance.

The interventions proposed under this project will contribute to the national priorities defined by the government in the framework of :

- National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan for the Central African Republic (RCPA) including the following three pillars: (i) Pillar 1: Supporting Peace, Security and Reconciliation; (ii) Pillar 2: Renewing the social contract between the state and society; (iii) Pillar 3: Ensuring economic recovery and the revival of productive sectors.
- National Determined Contribution (NDC, 2021) submitted to the Glasgow COP-26 on Climate Change aiming in particular at Adaptation Option 1: Adjusting the policy framework Objective 1. Integrate climate change adaptation measures into development policies and programmes for the most vulnerable priority sectors³; Objective 2. Improve awareness, education and communication on adaptation and climate change risks; Adaptation Option 2: Improving knowledge of resilience to climate change: Objective 3. Strengthen capacity to manage climate data at national, regional and local levels; Objective 4. Study the resilience mechanisms of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems; Objective 5. Establish an early warning system Adaptation Option 7: Improving public health systems: Objective 21. Develop an effective surveillance, prevention and response system for human diseases related to climate change. Adaptation Option 8: Sustainable water resources management: Objective 27. Develop a monitoring system for ground and surface water resources;
 - Country document for the mobilisation of the Green Climate Fund,
 - National Adaptation Programme, PANA (2008) whose priorities were reflected in the NDC (2015) and NDC (2021) defined at the strategic level priority actions relating to the establishment of an early warning and information system and the strengthening of adaptive capacities to floods and droughts and the strengthening of adaptive capacities in order to combat the adverse effects and capitalise on the positive effects of climate change

La Communication Nationale, dans le cadre de la Convention Cadre des Nations Unies sur le Changement Climatique, qui préconise le renforcement des systèmes d'observation existant et les programmes en cours ; le développement des télécommunications entre les stations et la promotion de la bonne gestion et du fonctionnement relatifs à la transmission, l'exploitation, l'utilisation et l'archivage des données climatiques ; l'amélioration de la qualité des données et l'accessibilité en temps réel et à moindre frais des données ; le renforcement des capacités humaines, institutionnelles et techniques des organes de presse pour répondre aux besoins d'information des populations ; la participation au programme de protection des données hydro-météorologiques ouvert aux pays membres de l'OMM ; l'intégration de la Stratégie Nationale de la

Météorologie dans le RCPCA ; et enfin, le développement d'un cadre de partenariat pour la diffusion des informations météorologiques et le transfert de technologie.

B.2. Project / Programme description (1000 words)

The objective of this project is to develop strategic management of climate-related risks and disasters for climate-resilient development in CAR. To this end, the project is structured around the following components and activities

Component 1: Strengthening technical and operational capacities for climate risk management

For this component, the Project will strengthen the human and technical capacities of the National Hydro-Agro-Meteorological Service in order to establish reliable seasonal and climatic forecasts and mitigate risks or prevent disasters. This includes strengthening and/or rehabilitating stations for data collection, processing, archiving and dissemination of hydro-meteorological and agro-meteorological information in the most vulnerable agro-ecological zones. It is also a question of establishing a reliable communication or data transfer system between the various local stations and a national coordination centre capable of disseminating accurate information in real time. It also involves developing and implementing an institutional and human capacity building strategy based on a prior capacity building needs assessment and institutional analysis carried out as part of the feasibility studies. Human capacity building could include, inter alia, the training of national experts on the use and maintenance of the early warning system, including the analysis, interpretation and communication of hydro-meteorological and agro-meteorological information for risk forecasting and disaster management. Particular emphasis will be placed on training women and youth. Institutional capacity building could include restructuring the National Hydro-Meteorological and Agro-Meteorological Service into an observatory (decision support tool) and strengthening the capacities of the Directorate General of Civil Protection and the fire and rescue centres, which are now equipped with adequate logistics and fully functional. In terms of outputs and indicative activities, these include.

Output 1.1: Improved climate observations, hydrometeorological monitoring capacity and infrastructure.

Activity 1.1.1 Expand coverage of hydrometeorological observation networks to ensure adequate observation and monitoring of the climate system as an important aspect of detecting adverse changes in the climate system throughout the country. They are important for initializing forecast models and validating their outputs. They are also important for obtaining climate information and services for decision-making, such as early warning and response. The aim is to rehabilitate the 13 meteorological stations destroyed during the politico-military crisis and to establish at least 10 additional stations in the country's agro-ecological zones.

Activity 1.1.2 Modernise and automate the hydrometeorological observation networks, using possible emerging cost-effective technologies. This would include automating meteorological and hydrological stations/posts/transmissions (e.g. for water levels in rivers), improving radar systems to ensure adequate coverage, increasing the number of sensors in existing stations (e.g. for agro-meteorology), and improving the quality of the weather forecast. This will be achieved through a number of activities, such as the development of new equipment (e.g. for agromet), upgrading and calibration of equipment, digitisation of records and acquisition of the necessary software, accompanied by a sustained programme of training of Meteo Directorate staff and capacity building.

Activity 1.1.3 Strengthen the Quality Management System in NHD covering the entire value chain of climate services (institutional, operational infrastructure, human resources, systems and processes). Among other things, this will ensure sustained operations and maintenance.

Output 1.2: Strengthened impact-based modelling and forecasting.

Activity 1.2.1 Enhance the Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) system and related weather forecasting and production process in the Meteo Directorate to improve the accuracy and timeliness of weather forecasts and to enable efficient production and dissemination of relevant weather information and products. NWP models and available data will be improved, including the implementation of a verification system for NWP data and final products. The weather forecasting process will also be upgraded with forecaster workstations, warning software and an automated production system to allow for the efficient delivery of an increased number of tailored end products to end users.

Activity 1.2.2: Introduce and promote the use of models and tools to predict floods, water availability, flood location, and other key climate-related elements in the country. Priority will be given to the introduction of models, tools, methods, systems, processes and products for operational climate services. In addition, the GIS capabilities of the NDB will be improved.

Activity 1.2.2 Make accurate impact-based forecasts - these are forecasts that take into account the vulnerability of people, livelihoods and assets, as well as the hydrometeorological hazard. This activity will introduce tools and methodologies to enable the NDB to access vulnerability and exposure information for targeted forecast users. In addition, it will introduce risk matrices combining impact with probability and will help NDB staff to build capacity to understand the relationships between spatial and temporal variations in vulnerability and exposure for various hazards such as floods.

Output 1.3: Harmonised vulnerability assessment and reporting on climate change impacts

Activity 1.3.1 Establish a common process for reporting climate information at the national level, building on existing national assessments and other documentation. Support capacity development of government entities, national scientific and educational communities to help the country comply with its regional and international obligations to report on climate-related agreements and frameworks.

Activity 1.3.2 Conduct harmonised assessments of CAR's vulnerability to climate change. This will be done through the collection and analysis of climate data and information, accompanied by training of relevant stakeholders, and will serve as a key resource for the government and stakeholders considering extending. . .the long-term impacts of climate change and adaptation scenarios.

Output 1.3: Access, analysis and use of climate information.

Activity 1.3.1 Establish a climate information system for the systematic collection, archiving, processing, management and dissemination of climate information for decision making. This includes hardware, software and human/social infrastructure, as well as systems and protocols for data access and information sharing. This intervention will build the capacity of the e-infrastructure, including climate data, information and knowledge management systems, data analysis, computing infrastructure and data governance.

Activity 1.3.2 Implement a user interface platform for climate information. This will strengthen interactions between the National Meteorological Directorate (as producers) and users of climate services to co-design and co-produce user-driven products and services for sectors such as agriculture and livestock, water management, health and tourism, and downscaled information products for communities, taking into account gender and age dimensions. It will also build the capacity of users to apply climate information in evidence-based decisions and livelihood strategies in ways that enable them to derive maximum benefits and impacts.

Activity 1.3.3 Improve the Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) system and related weather forecasting and production process in the Meteo Directorate to improve the accuracy and timeliness of weather forecasts and to enable the efficient production and dissemination of relevant weather information and products. NWP models and available data will be improved, including the implementation of a verification system for NWP data and final products. The weather forecasting process will also be upgraded with forecaster workstations, warning software and an automated production system to allow for the efficient delivery of an increased number of tailored end products to end users.

Activity 1.3.4 Introduce and promote the use of models and tools to forecast floods, water availability, flood location, drought and other key climate-related elements of the country. Priority will be given to the introduction of models, tools, methods, systems, processes and products for operational climate services. In addition, the GIS capacity of the National Database (NDB) will be improved.

Activity 1.3.5 Establish an accurate impact-based forecasting system - forecasts that take into account the vulnerability of people, livelihoods and assets, as well as hydrometeorological hazard. This activity will introduce tools and methodologies to enable the NDB to access vulnerability and exposure information for targeted forecast users. In addition, it will introduce risk

matrices combining impact with probability and will help NDB staff to strengthen their capacity to understand the relationships between spatial and temporal variations in vulnerability and exposure for various hazards such as floods.

Output 1.4: Strengthened impact-based modelling and forecasting.

Activity 1.4.1 Improve the Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) system and the associated weather forecasting and data production process in the Meteo Directorate to improve the accuracy and timeliness of weather forecasts and to enable the efficient production and dissemination of relevant weather information and products. NWP models and available data will be improved, including the implementation of a verification system for NWP data and final products. The weather forecasting process will also be upgraded with forecaster workstations, warning software and automated production system to allow for the efficient dissemination of more customised end products to end users.

Activity 1.4.2 Introduction and use of models and tools to forecast floods, water availability, flood location, and other key elements related to the country's climate. Priority will be given to the introduction of models, tools, methods, systems, processes and products for operational climate services. In addition, the GIS capabilities of the NDB will be improved.

Activity 1.4.3 Development of accurate impact-based forecasts - forecasts that take into account the vulnerability of people, livelihoods and assets, as well as hydrometeorological hazard. This activity will introduce tools and methodologies to enable the NDB to access vulnerability and exposure information for targeted forecast users. In addition, it will introduce risk matrices that combine impact with probability and will help NDB staff build capacity to understand the relationships between spatial and temporal variations in vulnerability and exposure for various hazards such as floods.

Component 2: Capacity building in climate information provision and its integration into national and local development plans and adaptation capacities

As a first step, the Project will carry out an assessment of the specific needs of the different sectors and institutions for hydro-meteorological and agro-meteorological information for decision making (e.g. flood and/or drought warning, water management, etc.). Special efforts will be made to mobilise and establish partnerships with the private sector and to strengthen inter-institutional coordination. Secondly, the Project will develop in consultation with end-users products tailored to their specific needs. Specifically, the Project will facilitate the integration of climate risks into ongoing and future planning and budgeting processes at national and local levels, as well as the development of stakeholders' capacities to better assimilate and use climate information for informed decision-making. A climate information communication strategy (e.g. creation of radio and television weather stations, training of journalists in meteorological communication, etc.) adapted to the local context with particular emphasis on the socio-cultural realities of each priority agro-climatic zone will be developed and implemented. The project will strengthen research institutions (e.g. the Central African Agricultural Research Institute, ICRA), with a view to better understanding the effects of climatic variations on local crop varieties, as well as developing and popularising improved species adapted to climatic conditions. In order to ensure the sustainability of its interventions, a strategy for mobilising medium and long-term funding will be developed. For this component, the following indicative outputs are expected

Output 2.1: Institutional, policy and financial frameworks for climate information services and early warning

Activity 2.1.1 Establish an inter-ministerial and multi-stakeholder climate services and early warning coordination platform, which will assist policy and decision makers to coordinate and use climate information and services to inform decisions, integrated policies, manage the implementation of these policies, coordinate actions that will stimulate uptake of and investment in climate services, and foster relationships with neighbouring countries such as Georgia on climate services.

Activity 2.1.2 Development of a national policy and financial framework for effective climate services, This will facilitate the integration of climate services into key policies, strategies, plans and budgets and thus lay the foundation for the use of climate information in decision-making. In addition, it will facilitate long-term sustainable service delivery beyond the life of the project by identifying funding modalities for climate information products and promoting integration into the national budget.

Output 2.2: Access, analysis and use of climate information.

Activity 2.2.1 Establish a climate information system for the systematic collection, archiving, processing, management and dissemination of climate information for decision making. This includes hardware, software and human/social infrastructure, as well as systems and protocols for data access and information sharing. This intervention will build the capacity of the e-infrastructure, including climate data, information and knowledge management systems, data analysis, computing infrastructure and data governance.

Activity 2.2.2 Develop a user interface platform for climate information. This will strengthen interactions between the NHD (as producers) and users of climate services to co-design and co-produce user-driven products and services for sectors such as agriculture and livestock, water management, health and tourism, and downscaled information products for communities, taking into account gender and age dimensions. It will also build the capacity of users to apply climate information in evidence-based decisions and livelihood strategies in ways that enable them to derive maximum benefits and impacts.

Activity 2.2.3 Improve the Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) system and related weather forecasting and production process in the Meteo Directorate, to improve the accuracy and timeliness of weather forecasts and to enable efficient production and dissemination of relevant weather information and products. NWP models and available data will be improved, including the implementation of a verification system for NWP data and final products. The weather forecasting process will also be upgraded with forecaster workstations, warning software and automated production system to allow for the efficient dissemination of more customised end products to end users.

Activity 2.2.4 Introduce and promote the use of models and tools to forecast floods, water availability, flood location, and other key elements related to the country's climate. Priority will be given to the introduction of models, tools, methods, systems, processes and products for operational climate services. In addition, the GIS capabilities of the NDB will be improved.

Activity 2.2.5 Make accurate impact-based forecasts - forecasts that take into account the vulnerability of people, livelihoods and assets, as well as hydrometeorological hazard. This activity will introduce tools and methodologies to enable the NDB to access vulnerability and exposure information for targeted forecast users. In addition, it will introduce risk matrices that combine impact with probability and will help NDB staff build capacity to understand the relationships between spatial and temporal variations in vulnerability and exposure for various hazards such as floods.

Component 3: Building resilience to climate change at national, regional and community levels

The Project will develop a Natural Risk Reduction Plan (PRRN) as a planning and decision-making tool defining, for the city of Bangui and its surroundings, a mapping of natural hazards (e.g. flooding, etc.) and their intensity, the rules of good land use, as well as the associated zoning plans. The Project will also work towards the integration of the PRRN into national and local land use planning initiatives (e.g. National Land Use Plan, National Land Use Plan, etc.). Following the PRRN, the Project will draw up for each commune a Document d'information communal sur les risques majeurs (DICRIM) enabling the Mayor to inform the population of the safeguard measures to be taken in response to the risks in the commune. On the other hand, the Project will develop departmental/communal contingency plans as a tool to manage events of any kind, including emergencies, to coordinate the actions of a network of Civil Protection actors in the broad sense (public, private actors) in the preparation phase and in emergency situations, to provide elements of real-time decision support through procedural guides and finally to develop a shared risk culture and operational culture (action/reaction).

Output 3.1: Multi-hazard early warning system

Activity 3.1.1 Systematic data collection, processing and analysis and climate risk assessment to improve risk knowledge. In order to understand system dynamics, this would be combined with mapping and assessment of critical social, economic and environmental drivers of change at national and EU levels, and across sectors, space and time.

Activity 3.1.2 Design and implementation of impact-based and multiple risk forecasting models to predict hazards by location and potential impact. This would include the development, dissemination and use of risk maps (e.g. floods) combined with socio-economic data for planning and response to slow and rapid onset hazards.

Activity 3.1.3 Establish a comprehensive climate-related risk warning and prevention service. This would include the development and use of a vulnerability and exposure data monitoring tool to maintain relevant impact-based forecasting models over time and the provision of actionable information for effective response measures.

Output 3.2: Dissemination and communication of climate risk information and early warning messages

Activity 3.2.1 Develop and implement coordinated and integrated protocols and related capacity to communicate risk information, early warnings and early action messages in a timely manner. This would include the establishment of common alert protocols for warnings, the use of SMS, social media channels and interactive feedback loops for users.

Activity 3.2.2 Strengthen national, sub-national and community capacity to implement mitigation and preparedness measures in the window between a forecast and the potential event. This would include awareness raising and advocacy activities, as well as the establishment of an enabling legal and policy framework for early action.

Activity 3.2.3 Strengthen national and community response capacity and develop standard operating procedures or early action plans for institutions, sectors and decentralised levels of disaster management planning. This would include awareness-raising and sensitization activities, and the establishment of an enabling legal and policy framework for early warning.

Output 3.3 Sectoral and community awareness, education and outreach on climate risks

Activity 3.3.1 Develop and implement comprehensive national climate risk awareness programmes through workshops, seminars and campaigns to prepare the public to adapt to climate change, secure their lives, property and livelihoods in the event of climate-related hazards such as floods, and adopt alternative livelihood strategies.

Activity 3.3.2 Development and dissemination of targeted climate information and warning products for agriculture, water management, tourism, health and other relevant sectors. In addition to the development of sectoral climate change response strategies, this will improve their response capacity.

Output 3.4: Enhanced community capacity to respond to climate risks and hazards

Activity 3.4.1 Implement community-based early warning systems and community-based climate risk management approaches to complement the national MSEAS in selected communities, taking into account the needs of women, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. The selected communities will be relatively at risk, have short lead times for extreme events, have technical constraints for national systems to serve them effectively (e.g. due to their remote mountain locations).

Activity 3.4.2 Involve and train selected communities in the design, implementation and operation of early warning systems, including improving community understanding of climate-related hazards and exposure, establishing a monitoring and early warning service;

Activity 3.4.3 Establish appropriate dissemination and communication channels and build the capacity of communities to respond to climate-related hazards to secure their lives, property and livelihoods.

Activity 3.4.4 Establish pilot community-based climate information and early warning centres in prefectures (Basse-Kotto, Lobaye, Mbomou, Nana-Gribizi, Ombella M'poko, Ouaka, Ouham, and Vakaga) to serve as a "meeting point" This could involve the use or rehabilitation of an existing facility or the construction of new facilities to strengthen the already established network.

This project has real transformational potential in that it will promote the transfer of new technologies and the emergence of a new approach to climate risk management based on integrated, participatory and sustainable planning. Risk management will no longer be done in an ad hoc manner, but rather in a strategic manner based on integrated development plans and programmes. Similar projects have never been implemented in the least developed countries of Central Africa. In the specific case of the Central African Republic, sporadic support is provided by development partners, notably the European Union for capacity building of the Directorate General of Civil Protection and some fire and rescue centres, as well as the Programme for the Rehabilitation and Strengthening of the Resilience of the Socio-Ecological Systems of the Lake Chad Basin (PRESIBALT) funded by the African Development Bank. This project is therefore timely and the lessons learned can be replicated in other countries in the region. In terms of costs and benefits, the project interventions are well documented as several similar projects are implemented in a relatively identical context.

UNDP is an accredited agency, very well placed to oversee the implementation of this project in the context of global and national solidarity, particularly given its role as a reference and implementation framework for development and recovery

programmes and projects in the country. UNDP has a broad comparative advantage in the supervision of large-scale projects and programmes in Africa and in CAR in particular. UNDP has extensive experience in similar interventions in several countries around the world, in the country and has a pool of experts committed at the regional level to contribute to the achievement of the planned results. UNDP has a long history of partnership with the Government of the Central African Republic in the areas of development support, and targeted interventions at the policy and community level. UNDP and the government have worked together to support groups and associations, focusing on women and marginalized groups and to develop policy frameworks in the areas of governance, recovery and development. The government partnered with UNDP to integrate the green economy into national policies, plans and programmes, and biodiversity conservation. UNDP has supported the MEEDD in establishing a trust fund for sustainable financing of protected areas, an initiative that was praised by various stakeholders.

Some potential risks that may hamper the effective implementation of the Project and mitigation measures are as follows

Lack of human resources and data requirements: Regarding human resources, the Project will recruit international consultants to be joined by national consultants to ensure knowledge transfer. In parallel, the training of local people in number and quality will be integrated as an essential element of all project interventions. With regard to data, the Project will carry out an inventory of available data during the feasibility studies and a strategy will be developed for acquiring and improving the quality of data as needed.

Weak local communication infrastructure: The Project will favour the use of the mobile telecommunication network (GSM) for the operation of the early warning system as it provides the most reliable means of communication. However, if necessary, the Project may make use of other locally available means of communication when the latter is lacking, such as radio or satellite communication. Cloud computing will also be used in data management to ensure the security of the data and information produced.

Low institutional support and political commitment: This project is in line with CAR's national priorities for climate change adaptation and therefore has strong support from its government. UNDP will use this comparative advantage to establish strategic partnerships with other development partners in CAR. Direct links with ongoing or planned interventions by the government, development partners, the private sector and civil society will be established in order to raise co-financing and to promote the adherence and ownership of the Project's interventions by stakeholders. In this regard, COMIFAC will ensure the participation of a multitude of stakeholders during the Project's feasibility studies.

B.3.Expected performance against the GCF investment criteria (500 words)¹³

The potential impacts of the Project in relation to the VCF investment criteria are as follows:

Potential impact: The Project will directly benefit at least 1.7 million more vulnerable people, particularly women and youth, by providing them with timely and up-to-date information to integrate risks into their daily activities. In addition to improved access to improved seeds, the integration of climate risks into decision-making will enable them to increase production, which will enhance their adaptive capacity and reduce exposure to climate hazards.

Paradigm shift: The project will fundamentally change the current approach to climate risk and disaster management to one of forward-looking, integrated planning for climate risks by improvising through their integration into ongoing and future development programmes and plans. In addition, the proposed project will generate and disseminate critical information on climate risks that will enable the Central African government to design and implement transformational policies and plans to reduce the exposure and vulnerability of its population and productive sectors of the economy, particularly around critical infrastructure (roads, bridges, sanitation facilities, etc.) to the hazards and impacts of climate change. The project will therefore bring about a paradigm shift towards evidence-based early warning policies and practices for climate adaptation, risk reduction and multi-hazard. Furthermore, the project will contribute to the establishment of an enabling environment through the strengthening of the institutional capacities of the National Meteorological Service, the General Directorate of Civil Protection and Fire and Rescue Centres and the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs as well as the strengthening of human capacities for the production and effective use of climate information. The project will catalyse and increase the use of climate information and innovative approaches across government entities and stakeholders as follows

¹³ For more information please refer to Annex XIV of document [GCF/B.07/11](#)

Innovation: The project will create an enabling environment for a new and innovative business model for the provision and development of climate information-based services to different economic actors including the private and informal sector, which will contribute to long-term sustainability beyond the project duration. It is expected that the project will have a transformational impact on national institutions through the use of modern technology and the strengthening of its data collection and analysis capacities. And moreover its communication network that connects climate information producers directly to users (private, informal, grassroots communities).

Potential for scaling up: The project will have a transformative impact on climate and weather risk management in the Central African Republic and the Central African sub-region. The project will also facilitate a better understanding of the long-term impacts of climate change. This will have a strong development potential, facilitated by existing regional cooperation mechanisms within the COMIFAC space. In addition, the establishment of pilot early warning systems in the targeted regions for community use will have a strong potential for replication in other communities in the Central African Republic and neighbouring countries. Replication will be facilitated by matching the collection and analysis of hydrometeorological data to specific climate change threats and thus aggregating the information to meet the needs of specific end-users at the sectoral and community levels.

In addition, the lessons learned from the implementation of the project, which is the first of its kind in Central Africa, can be replicated in other countries in the region.

Sustainable development potential: The project will have significant long-term economic, social and environmental co-benefits. Economically, the integration of climate risk into decision-making will prevent increased productivity in the agricultural, transport and infrastructure sectors and thus reduce the income of poor and vulnerable people. Socially, disaster losses are generally disproportionately inflicted on the poor and vulnerable, who make up 70% of the Central African population, as a result of a combination of factors such as lack of capacity to create adaptation conditions and slower recovery rates. This leads to entrenched inequalities within societies and perpetuates and increases suffering. Furthermore, the Project through its various activities will be a direct and indirect source of employment for a large number of people, especially youth and women. This will result in significant social co-benefits, including the strengthening of social cohesion and stability through the social inclusion of the unemployed exposed to social ills. The project is fully aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the decisions of the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework.

Need of the beneficiary: The project responds to a fundamental need of the CAR, that of equipping itself with an integrated climate risk management system. Indeed, CAR is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate risks in the world. However, the CAR does not yet have a climate risk management system. It is with this in mind that the implementation of an integrated planning approach for climate risk management was selected by the Central African Government as an absolute adaptation priority in its NAPA and NDC.

Country ownership: This project is developed at the initiative of the Central African Government in order to implement its adaptation priorities as identified in the NAPA and the NDC. It was developed following a participatory approach involving a wide range of civil society, public and private sector actors following the CVF Public Consultation Guidelines with a particular focus on the participation of women and youth (see validation report).

Effectiveness and efficiency: The Project will be implemented using best practices and technologies in order to ensure a level of effectiveness and efficiency above the relevant standards. The Project also intends to generate significant co-financing from other financial partners in CAR in order to minimise total implementation costs.

B.4 Stakeholders consultation and engagement (300 words)

This concept note was developed through several consultation mechanisms involving a multitude of stakeholders. At the outset, it is based on the CAR Country Programme for VFC, in which priority project ideas were previously selected following broad consultations at national and regional levels. This project is indeed one of the priority project ideas of the Country Programme which was selected following a consultation meeting between the Focal Point of the FVC and the National Coordinator of the National Climate Coordination (CN-Climat) acting as the Designated National Authority (NDA). The priority project idea that is the subject of this concept note was then presented for validation to the various stakeholders in the fight against climate change in CAR, including potential accredited implementing entities (e.g. WWF, FAO, UNDP, etc.), as part of

a workshop that had among its objectives the establishment of a short list of priority project ideas and was held on 21 March 2019 in Bangui on the premises of the Ministry of the Environment, Ecology and Sustainable Development. This workshop also allowed some twenty participants to determine the various elements of the project, including the objectives, potential components and activities, implementing partners, the amount of funding required and the duration of the project. Subsequently, a validation workshop was organised from 05 to 06 June 2019 in Bangui with the aim of enabling all key stakeholders in the fight against climate change to validate this concept note in a participatory and consensual manner. This workshop was attended by 45 participants (12 women) representing various ministerial departments, including: the Prime Minister's Office, Environment and Sustainable Development, Water, Forestry, Hunting and Fishing, Rural Development, Urban Planning, Tourism, Mining, Finance, Economy, Planning and Cooperation, the University of Bangui, representatives of Civil Society Organisations, representatives of parliamentarians, as well as technical and financial partners. It is subsequently envisaged that a Project Preparation Proposal (PPF) will be submitted in order to obtain the necessary funds for the development of the project document, during which public consultations will continue.

G. Indicative financing information (max. 2 pages)

C.1. Financing by components

Component	Output	Indicative cost (USD)	GCF financing		Co-financing			
			Amount (USD)	Financial Instrument	Type	Amount (USD)	Financial Instrument	Name of Institutions
Component 1:	Click here to enter text.	5,5 Millions	3,5 Millions	Subvention	Choose an item.	2 Million	Subvention	Banque Mondiale/FAO
Component 2:	Click here to enter text.	4,2 Millions	3,2 Millions	Subvention	Choose an item.	1 Million	Subvention	PNUD
Component 3:	Click here to enter text.	3 Millions	3 Million	Subvention	Choose an item.	1 Million	Subvention	OMM
Indicative total cost (USD)		13,9 Millions	9,9 Millions		4 Million			

For private sector proposal, provide an overview (diagram) of the proposed financing structure.

C.2. Justification of GCF Funding Request (300 words)

CAR's financial needs amount to USD 3.802 billion over the commitment period, i.e. USD 2.248 billion for mitigation (USD 2.022 billion conditional) and USD 1.554 billion (USD 1.441 billion conditional) for adaptation (NDC 2015). The CAR will not be able to meet its international commitments to combat climate change without the support of its international technical and financial partners, in particular the GCF. Indeed, CAR is recovering from more than two decades of politico-military instability which ravaged the country's economy and led to the collapse of the main productive sectors. In 2014, gross national income (GNI) per capita was the lowest in the world, estimated at USD 600 (PPP). The country's public finances have been in acute crisis with domestic revenues averaging only 6% of GDP during the transition. The stock of debt increased to just over 50% of GDP in 2014 and domestic arrears grew rapidly from about USD 40 million in 2013 to USD 290 million in 2014. This has undermined the state's weak capacity to deliver basic services and is so far likely to undermine CAR's strong commitment to meet its international commitments to combat climate change. CAR's technical and financial partners will therefore be called upon to provide significant support to accompany the Government's ongoing efforts to strengthen peace and security, and lay the foundations for recovery and sustainable economic development

This proposed project is in line with CVF Council decision B.22/11 on the Fund's 2020-2021 work programme on supporting the adaptation planning process that contributes to strengthening national adaptation governance and coordination, a strong

climate science and knowledge base, transformative plans and strategies to catalyse action and investment, and adaptation projects prioritising technical assistance to the vulnerable country.

It is expected that the project will generate interest in the private sector and other stakeholders in the use of climate information products and the various institutions involved in water management, but cost recovery is not considered feasible during the project period. Bilateral donor support is currently not available for the required scaling up. The CVF is best placed to provide this grant, as no other funding institution, private company or donor is currently likely to do so. The Central African population is also not in a position to pay for climate information services and cost recovery for these essential services for the public is therefore not feasible. Since it can be difficult to leverage public and private finance for a public good of this nature, the project includes activities dedicated to mainstreaming climate information services at the national level.

The project is very well aligned with the national priorities outlined in section B.3. under "Country ownership", as well as the government's plans to strengthen the NHD. The proposed activities and outputs are fully in line with the objectives of the GCF as well as the priorities emerging in the national GCF readiness programme.

C.3. Exit Strategy and Sustainability (300 words)

The sustainability of the project is based on, among other things, the establishment of an enabling institutional framework and the transfer and appropriation of new early warning technologies. Indeed, capacity and institutional strengthening of the National Meteorological Service, the General Directorate of Civil Protection and the fire and rescue centres, and the integration of climate risks into development programmes and plans will ensure the sustainability of the Project's interventions beyond the implementation period. Furthermore, capacity building of stakeholders in the use and maintenance of the early warning system, as well as in the integration of climate information into decision-making processes will ensure the sustainability of the Project's interventions beyond its implementation period.

The monitoring of sustainability elements beyond the life of the Project will be done, among others, through the activities or related projects implemented by the different Project partners and whose duration extends beyond the VCF Project. To this end, a framework for consultation and exchange will be set up to strengthen synergies between the interventions of the various partners, in particular to establish potential relays between the activities in order to strengthen the sustainability of the various interventions of the FVC Project. In addition, the Central African Government is determined to continue to mobilise international funding with a view to replicating or scaling up the Project's interventions on the basis of lessons learned. The monitoring of sustainability elements could also be part of this approach in the framework of new projects or new interventions.

H. Annexes

- ESS screening check list (Annex 1)
- Map indicating the location of the project/programme (as applicable)
- Evaluation Report of previous project (as applicable)

Annex 1: Environmental and Social Screening Checklist¹⁴

Part A: Risk Factors

Please indicate your answers to the questions below and provide an explanation on the response selected. In cases when the TBD response was selected please explain briefly why you are not able to determine now and when in the project cycle the question will be addressed.

If the criteria is not applicable to the project you may write N/A in the justification box.

Risk Factors	YES	NO
Will the activities involve associated facilities and require further due diligence of such associated facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities involve trans-boundary impacts including those that would require further due diligence and notification to affected states?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities adversely affect working conditions and health and safety of workers or potentially employ vulnerable categories of workers including women and children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities potentially generate hazardous waste and pollutants including pesticides and contaminate lands that would require further studies on management, minimization and control and compliance to the country and applicable international environmental quality standards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities involve the construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation of critical infrastructure (like dams, water impoundments, coastal and river bank infrastructure) that would require further technical assessment and safety studies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the proposed activities potentially involve resettlement and dispossession, land acquisition, and economic displacement of persons and communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities be located in or in the vicinity of protected areas and areas of ecological significance including critical habitats, key biodiversity areas and internationally recognized conservation sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities affect indigenous peoples that would require further due diligence, free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) and documentation of development plans?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		
Will the activities be located in areas that are considered to have archaeological (prehistoric), paleontological, historical, cultural, artistic, and religious values or contains features considered as critical cultural heritage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>		

¹⁴ In answering this checklist, you may refer to Annex 1: Guidance on Part A ESS Screening of the "[Guidelines for the environmental and social screening of activities proposed under the SAP](#)"

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Part B: Specific environmental and social risks and impacts

Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	YES	NO	TBD
Has the E&S risk category of the project been provided in the concept note?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Has the rationale for the categorization of the project been provided in the relevant sections of the concept note?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there any additional environmental, health and safety requirements under the national laws and regulations and relevant international treaties and agreements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Are the identification of risks and impacts based on recent or up-to-date information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Labour and Working Conditions	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially have impacts on the working conditions, particularly the terms of employment, worker's organization, non-discrimination, equal opportunity, child labour, and forced labour of direct, contracted and third-party workers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will the activities pose occupational health and safety risks to workers including supply chain workers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities generate (1) emissions to air; (2) discharges to water; (3) activity-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, (4) noise and vibration; and (5) wastes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will the activities utilize significant amount of natural resources including water and energy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will there be a need to develop detailed measures to reduce pollution and promote sustainable use of resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Community Health, Safety, and Security	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially generate risks and impacts to the health and safety of the affected communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will there be a need for an emergency preparedness and response plan that also outlines how the affected communities will be assisted in times of emergency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			

Will there be risks posed by the security arrangements and potential conflicts at the project site to the workers and affected community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities likely involve land acquisition and/or physical or economic displacement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially introduce invasive alien species of flora and fauna affecting the biodiversity of the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will the activities have potential impacts on or be dependent on ecosystem services including production of living natural resources (eg.agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forestry)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Indigenous Peoples	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially have any indirect impacts on indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities, or vulnerable and marginalized groups?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Cultural Heritage	Yes	NO	TBD
Will the activities restrict access to the cultural heritage sites and properties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Will there be a need to prepare a chance-find procedure in case of the discovery of cultural heritage assets?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			
Stakeholder engagement and grievance	Yes	NO	TBD
Will the activities include a continuing stakeholder engagement process and a grievance redress mechanism and integrated into the management/implementation plans?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please provide a justification of your answer:</i>			

Part C: Sign Off

Sign-off: *Specify the name and designation of the person responsible for the environmental and social screening and any other approvals as may be required in the accredited entity's own management system.*