



Project Identification Form (PIF) entry – Full Sized Project – GEF - 7

Inclusive Conservation Initiative

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10404

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

☐ CBIT

☐ NGI

Project Title

Inclusive Conservation Initiative

Countries

Global

Agency(ies)

CI, IUCN

Other Executing Partner(s)

Executing Partner Type

Others

GEF Focal Area

Biodiversity

Taxonomy

Biodiversity, Focal Areas, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Livelihoods, Climate Change Mitigation, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Sustainable Livelihoods, Forest, Drylands, Congo, Amazon, Forest and Landscape Restoration, REDD - REDD+, Financial and Accounting, Conservation Finance, Supplementary Protocol to the CBD, Access to Genetic Resources Benefit Sharing, Biomes, Grasslands, Temperate Forests, Coral Reefs, Mangroves, Tropical Rain Forests, Tropical Dry Forests, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Influencing models, Demonstrate innovative approach, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Stakeholders, Beneficiaries, Communications, Awareness Raising, Education, Local Communities, Type of Engagement, Participation, Partnership, Information Dissemination, Consultation, Community Based Organization, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Indigenous Peoples, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Women groups, Gender results areas, Access and control over natural resources, Participation and leadership, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Knowledge Generation, Learning, Theory of change, Indicators to measure change

Rio Markers**Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 0

Duration

60 In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

2,028,220

Submission Date

10/11/2019

A. Indicative Focal/Non-Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
BD-1-5	GET	22,535,780	68,500,000
Total Project Cost (\$)		22,535,780	68,500,000

B. Indicative Project description summary

Project Objective

Enhance Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' (IPLCs) efforts to steward land, waters and natural resources to deliver global environmental benefits.

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
Component 1: Local IPLC Action to Deliver Global Environmental Benefits (GEB): Established on-the-ground projects led by IPLC organizations.	Investment	<p>Outcome 1.1: Inclusive Conservation Initiative (ICI) Projects, led by IPLC organizations, have delivered global environmental benefits.</p> <p><i>Indicator 1.1.1: Area of landscapes and marine habitat under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas). [Target: at least 3,000,000 ha]</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 1.1.2: IPLC terrestrial and marine protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (hectares) verified by the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) adapted for ICI. [Target: at least 480,000 ha]</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 1.1.3: Number of ICI Impact Strategies delivering IPLC-led conservation in areas of high-biodiversity. [Target: at least 8]</i></p>	<p>Output 1.1.1: IPLC organizations engaged in ICI Priority Geographies.</p> <p>Output 1.1.2: Impact Strategies developed to guide project implementation</p> <p>.</p> <p>Output 1.1.3: ICI Grant Portfolios developed and managed for implementation of Impact Strategies.</p> <p>Output 1.1.4: Activities implemented for enhancing IPLC rights and governance of natural resources.</p>	GET	18,045,148	33,500,000

<i>Indicator 1.1.4: Area of land restored (hectares). [Target: at least 75,000 ha]</i>	Output 1.1.5: Activities implemented for improving management of natural and cultural resources in IPLC lands and territories..
<i>Indicator 1.1.5: Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated (Metric tons of CO₂). [Target: at least 12M tons]</i>	Output 1.1.6: Activities implemented for addressing the drivers of environmental degradation affecting IPLC sustainable development
<i>Indicator 1.1.6: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment. [Target: 60,000]</i>	Output 1.1.7: Activities implemented to support the economic and financial sustainability of IPLC-led conservation
<i>Indicator 1.1.7: Percentage of beneficiaries of ICI projects that report increased livelihood benefits to the communities (gender disaggregated). [Target: ≥50%]</i>	Output 1.1.8: ICI Project Steering Committee launched and supported
<i>Indicator 1.1.8: Percentage of ICI Projects integrating Gender Responsive strategies. [Target: 100%]</i>	
<i>Indicator 1.1.9: Percentage of funding leveraged by subgrantees to sustain project activities. [Target: 30%]</i>	
Outcome 1.2: Project implementation capacity of IPLC partner organizations substantially increased.	
<i>Indicator 1.2.1: Number of IPLC partner organizations that show at least 20% improvement in capacity assessment scorecards. [Target: 6-18]</i>	

Indicator 1.2.2: Percentage of ICI supported projects that receive an overall project rating of “satisfactory” or better. [Target: ≥75%]

Indicator 1.2.3: Percentage of awardees from the Experiential Learning Program for IPLC Young Project Implementers who report increased skills and capacities to deliver their project outcomes. [Target: 75%]

Output 1.2.1: Capacity assessments and capacity building plans of IPLC partner organizations prepared.

Output 1.2.2: Project implementation capacities of IPLC partner organizations substantially strengthened.

Output 1.2.3: Experiential Learning Grants for IPLC Young Project Implementers awarded.

Component 2: Global IPLC Capacity Building: IPLC capacity strengthened and increased

Technical Assistance

Outcome 2.1: IPLC capacity strengthened within and beyond ICI priority geographies.

Output 2.1.1: ICI Learning Academy

GET

1,535,000

12,250,000

access to long-term sustainable financing mechanisms.

Indicator 2.1.1: Number and percentage of IPLC trainees who successfully complete Learning Academy training modules (disaggregated by gender, person-hours of capacity building, affiliation, country, theme). [Target: at least 400, 50% women]
Indicator 2.1.2: Capacity building modules developed with support of IPLC Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy (ICLA) from which 100% include a Gender section. [Target: ≥10-15]
Indicator 2.1.3: Ratio of trainer to trainee committed by ≥75% of people who participated in capacity building delivered with support of IPLC Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy. [Target: 1:25]
Indicator 2.1.4: Percentage of ICI partner organizations certified in project management. [Target: ≥70%]

Curricula designed.
 Output 2.1.2: IPLC Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy established.
 Output 2.1.3: Organizational development and capacity building of IPLC organizations strengthened.
 Output 2.1.4: ICI Certification established and implemented.
 Output 2.1.5: Learning Evaluation completed of IPLC Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy.

Outcome 2.2: Cross-regional IPLC organization partnerships and networks strengthened through ICI Learning Exchanges.

Indicator 2.2.1: Number of partnerships established in each Inclusive Conservation Priority Geographies (ICPG) to strengthen collaboration

*outside priority geographies
and build linkages with the
ICI Community of Practice.*

[Target: $\geq 2-5$]

*Indicator 2.2.2: Percentage
of IPLC Organizations who
report greater collaboration
after participating at
Learning Exchanges
(disaggregated by gender,
affiliation, country, theme).*

[Target: $\geq 75\%$]

**Outcome 2.3: IPLC
organizational capacity
increased to formulate
sustainable financing
strategies.**

*Indicator 2.3.1: Number of
ICI partner organizations
that show at least 10%
improvement in sustainable
financing organizational
capacity assessment
scorecards. [Target: 4-16]*

*Indicator 2.3.2: Percentage
of ICI partner organizations
that report greater capacity
in proposal development
and fundraising skills.*

[Target: 60%]

Output 2.2.1:
IPLC
organizations
mapped to
strengthen
collaboration
within and
beyond priority
geographies.
Output 2.2.2:
Inclusive
Conservation
Learning
Exchanges
delivered.

Output 2.3.1:

Financial
Opportunity
Analysis
completed.

Output 2.3.2:

Capacity
Building in
sustainable
financing
delivered.

Component 3 – IPLC Leadership in International Environmental Policy: Building the pathway from local action to global impact built through targeted engagement in international environmental policy fora and relevant international platforms.	Technical Assistance	Outcome 3.1: Strengthened influence of IPLCs in relevant regional and international decision-making processes. <i>Indicator 3.1.1: Number of IPLC leaders who report greater opportunity to influence international environmental policy with support of ICI (disaggregated by gender, affiliation, IPLC status, county, convention, and accreditation). [Target: ≥40, 50% women]</i> <i>Indicator 3.1.2: Number of ICI partners engaging with and providing technical support to national delegations. (disaggregated by gender, affiliation, country, convention) [Target: 10]</i>	Output 3.1.1: ICI Policy Coordination Mechanisms developed to support IPLC engagement across Rio Conventions and other fora. Output 3.1.2: ICI International Environmental Policy Negotiations Curricula developed and delivered. Output 3.1.3: ICI International Environmental Policy Fellows Program established and supported. Output 3.1.4: IPLC representation and recognition increased at the Rio Conventions and other relevant international conventions and platforms.	GET	826,500	12,750,000
Component– 4 - ICI Knowledge to Action: Transforming		Outcome 4.1:		GET	1,056,000	8,500,000

Inclusive Conservation
Knowledge and Lessons
Learned into demonstration
models that expand support
and advance field of IPLC-led
conservation.

**The field of IPLC-led
conservation advanced with
improved knowledge
management.**

Indicator 4.1.1: Publications, reports, communication materials or tools that advance the field of IPLC-led conservation [Target: ≥ 36]
Indicator 4.1.2: Number of partnerships identified in each region to strengthen collaboration outside priority geographies and build linkages with the ICI Community of Practice. [Target >2-5 partnerships]
Indicator 4.1.3: Percentage of IPLC organizations who report greater collaboration after participating in Community of Practice (disaggregated by gender, affiliation, country, theme). [Target >75% IPLC Organization]

Output 4.1.1:
ICI Knowledge
Management
Platform
established-
Output 4.1.2:
ICI Knowledge
Products
developed with
IPLC
organizations
in multiple
languages and
culturally
appropriate
formats-
Output 4.1.3:
ICI Community
of Practice
established and
supported.

**Outcome 4.2:
Expanded audience engaged
in IPLC-led conservation.**

Indicator 4.2.1: Number of average monthly visits to ICI Knowledge Platform. [Target: 500]
Indicator 4.2.2: Number of members of ICI Community of Practice (disaggregated by gender, IPLC status, county, field of expertise). [Target: ≥ 900]

Indicator 4.2.3: Percent increase in project communications performance scorecard (disaggregated by priority geography). [Target: 10%]

Output 4.2.1:
ICI communication
s needs assessed, and
communication
s strategy developed.
Output 4.2.2:
ICI Communication
Program executed.

Sub Total (\$)	21,462,648	67,000,000
----------------	------------	------------

Project Management Cost (PMC)

GET	1,073,132	1,500,000
-----	-----------	-----------

Sub Total(\$)	1,073,132	1,500,000
---------------	-----------	-----------

Total Project Cost(\$)	22,535,780	68,500,000
------------------------	------------	------------

C. Indicative sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	Conservation International	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	18,000,000
GEF Agency	Conservation International	Grant	Investment mobilized	7,000,000
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3,000,000
Others	National Geographic	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5,000,000
Others	Global Wildlife Conservation	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5,000,000
Donor Agency	The Tenure Facility	Grant	Investment mobilized	5,000,000
GEF Agency	IUCN/BMU-IKI	Grant	Investment mobilized	2,500,000
Donor Agency	NICFI	Grant	Investment mobilized	3,000,000
GEF Agency	IUCN	Grant	Investment mobilized	10,000,000
GEF Agency	IUCN	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	10,000,000
Total Project Cost(\$)				68,500,000

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

"Investment Mobilized" refers to additional funding that will be deployed over GEF's seven-year investment period to support Inclusive Conservation, catalyzed by GEF's investment. This includes both public and private co-financing and grant funding to support the delivery of the investment strategy. It is expected that, by the end of the GEF investment period in 2025, circa US\$100 million will have been mobilized. CI through its campaign will assist in identifying donors to support its commitment and will also leverage recent commitments to the developing Amazon Fund. During the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase as investment sites are being selected, CI and IUCN will conduct an assessment of donor opportunities for each of the ICI sites in order to mobilize further investment. For example, the leadership of Nia Tero, a new organization working with indigenous peoples sustain large-scale ecosystems within their collective territories, sees "significant potential for Nia Tero and Inclusive Conservation to co-finance Indigenous Peoples' efforts within geographies and at the global scale." They have indicated that they would like to engage in the PPG phase to better align investments.

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

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
CI	GET	Global	Biodiversity	BD Global/Regional Set-Aside	11,267,890	1,014,110	12,282,000
IUCN	GET	Global	Biodiversity	BD Global/Regional Set-Aside	11,267,890	1,014,110	12,282,000
Total GEF Resources(\$)					22,535,780	2,028,220	24,564,000

E. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Amount (\$)

400,000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

36,000

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
CI	GET	Global	Biodiversity	BD Global/Regional Set-Aside	200,000	18,000	218,000
IUCN	GET	Global	Biodiversity	BD Global/Regional Set-Aside	200,000	18,000	218,000
Total Project Costs(\$)					400,000	36,000	436,000

Please provide justification

The Inclusive Conservation Initiative (ICI) is a global project designed to assist Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) in their efforts to safeguard a significant fraction of Earth's natural ecosystems by enabling organizations and communities on the ground to face the growing drivers of global environmental degradation. Given the global nature of the project, CI and IUCN will conduct extensive consultations with IPLC stakeholders to identify priority geographies for investments, as well as to identify IPLC partners who will be responsible for executing GEF funding within the selected geographies. In view of the extensive consultation required, CI and IUCN are requesting that the PPG investment be increased to US\$400,000. The main deliverables will include stakeholders consultations, the GEF CEO Project Endorsement Package, priority geographies analysis, and the ICI Governance and Operational Framework. It is expected that there will be consultation meetings at the international level as well as regional meetings as a key element of the process of selecting geographies and partners. In addition, in order to ensure full and effective participation in the process by indigenous peoples and local communities, materials will need to be developed in multiple languages and interpretation will be required during some of the consultation meetings. Finally, the CI and IUCN Agencies will also convene the Interim Steering Committee (ISC) at the inception, midway and final phase of the PPG (in-person and virtually) to advise on and approve the final project design.

Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
300,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
----------------------------	---------	---------------	----------------------------	--	----------------------------	---------------------------

Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
300,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
		Others	300,000.00						



Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
180,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
----------------------------	---------	---------------	----------------------------	--	----------------------------	---------------------------

Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
180,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
		Others	180,000.00						



Indicator 3 Area of land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
75000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
37,500.00			

Indicator 3.2 Area of Forest and Forest Land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
37,500.00			

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and shrublands restored

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

Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (incl. estuaries, mangroves) restored

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

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

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

2600000.00

0.00

0.00

0.00

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

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

1,600,000.00

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes that meets national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (hectares)

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

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

1,000,000.00

Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided

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

Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title	Submitted
-------	-----------

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)	12000000	0	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)	0	0	0	0

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)	12,000,000			
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)				

Anticipated start year of accounting
Duration of accounting

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
----------------------	----------	----------------------	-------------------	------------------

Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)
Anticipated start year of accounting
Duration of accounting

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

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

Target Energy Saved (MJ)

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

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)
-------------------	--	--	--	---------------------------------------

Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	35,000			
Male	35,000			
Total	70000	0	0	0

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

Project activities will be based on self-determined initiatives by IPLCs. The principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) will apply throughout the project. The proposed targets are based on the following assumptions and criteria: at least 80% of GEF Project Financing (Section D) will be directly invested in projects within priority geographies. The estimated total area under improved management (3,555,000 ha) is based on a review of similar projects and the targets will be subject to revision and validation across the different regions. The estimated area includes 300,000 ha of terrestrial protected areas with improved management effectiveness; 180,000 ha of marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness; 37,500 ha of degraded agricultural land restored; 37,500 ha of forest and forest land restored; 1,600,000 ha of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity; 1,000,000 ha of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems; and 400,000 ha of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity. Estimated GHG emissions mitigated by the project are the sum of avoided emissions and carbon sequestration. For avoided emissions we assume a forest cover of 50% of the total area reported under core indicator 4, with a baseline annual deforestation rate of 0.25% and an average carbon stock of 150 tons CO₂eq, and – due to the project – deforestation fully avoided over a period of 20 years. For land restoration activities we conservatively estimate a total of 30 tons of CO₂eq sequestered per hectare on average over a period of 20 years for the total area reported under core indicator 3. In terms of direct beneficiaries, there will be an estimated 60,000 beneficiaries under Component 1 and at least 10,000 beneficiaries under project Components 2-4. All the indicator targets are subject to further refinement according to the priority geographies and scope of on-the-ground activities prioritized in ICI projects.

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

The Inclusive Conservation Initiative is designed to enhance Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) efforts to steward lands, waters and natural resources that deliver global environmental benefits and address the growing drivers of global environmental degradation. While other initiatives exist to assist IPLCs, they tend to be small and of limited scope. Inclusive Conservation Initiative, approved as part of the GEF-7 Programming Directions, will empower IPLCs to deliver global environmental benefits through access to larger volumes of resources required for larger-scale biodiversity conservation and natural resource management activities.

The ICI on-the-ground IPLC-led project portfolios have the potential to improve the management of 3,555,000 ha of landscapes and seascapes in biodiversity hotspots where indigenous peoples and local communities hold areas of high biodiversity under customary or statutory tenure rights. ICI Impact Strategies will expand on contributions to several of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 15, which focuses on conservation of biodiversity and critical ecosystems (See Annex I) underpinning the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework and Sustainable Development Goals (see Annex V), mitigating at least 12 million metrics tons of CO₂ (carbon dioxide) and directly benefiting at least 60,000 people from on-the-ground project activities as well as 10,000 beneficiaries from capacity building and global component project activities.

The ICI will increase the volume of investment available to assist IPLCs and will invest directly in IPLCs, enabling them to address the growing drivers of environmental degradation impacting their lands and resources. By combining substantial investments in specific locations with support to magnify local results through global capacity-building, policy influence and demonstration of large-scale impacts, the ICI will catalyze the transformational changes needed to secure and enhance support for the contributions of IPLCs to biodiversity and other global environmental benefits.

1a) Global Environmental Problems:

The 2019 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services^[i], prepared by 145 leading experts from 50 countries tells us that nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history – and the rate of species extinctions is accelerating at an alarming rate with 1 million species at risk of extinction – more than ever before in human history.

In this context, the lands and territories owned or managed by indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLC) play a critical role in conserving biodiversity and contributing global environmental benefits. Indigenous peoples own or have tenure rights over at least 25% of the world's land surface, including approximately 40% of terrestrial protected areas and 37% of ecologically intact landscapes.^[ii] The IPBES Global Assessment^[iii] highlights a wide range of local communities, including farmers, fishers, herders, hunters and forest users hold and manage significant areas of land under diverse tenure regimes. Forests managed by IPLCs are critical for global climate mitigation, as they contain at least 24% of the total carbon stored above-ground in tropical forests.^[iv] In the marine realm, 12% of the most biodiverse marine areas in the world and 20% of coral reefs are under IPLC management.^[v]

Indigenous and community stewardship of these lands and waters conserves biodiversity, sequesters carbon, supplies local livelihoods benefits, and sustains cultures and traditional knowledge proven to effectively maintain both local and global environmental benefits. A review of experience from 14 forest-rich countries around the world concluded that the lands of IPLCs with recognized forest rights and government protection of those rights have lower deforestation and correspondingly lower carbon emissions than surrounding areas.^[vi] Several studies have found that indigenous land management has equal or greater impacts on reducing deforestation than state managed protected areas.^[vii] The IPBES Global Assessment highlights that IPLCs are often better able to contribute knowledge on local biodiversity and environmental changes than scientists and highlights the important and differentiated contributions of IPLC women and men to biodiversity conservation at multiple levels. The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report also emphasizes that climate decision-making is enhanced by the inclusion of groups including women and IPLCs.^[viii]

Nature managed by IPLCs is under increasing pressure, including from resource extraction, commodity production, mining, and transport and energy infrastructure. The IPBES Global Assessment documents that while nature is generally declining less rapidly in IPLCs land than on other lands, it is declining there as well. The negative impacts of these pressures include continued loss of subsistence and traditional livelihoods, impacts on health and well-being and loss of economic development opportunities from the sustainable use of natural resources. These impacts also impede traditional management practices, the transmission of indigenous and local knowledge, and the ability of IPLCs to effectively manage natural resources that are relevant to the broader society.^[ix] Indigenous peoples and local communities are also experiencing increasing violence and harassment as they seek to defend their lands and environments in the face of these threats.^[x]

1b) Root Causes:

- **Unsustainable development pressures:** Threats to lands and territories owned and managed by IPLCs are increasing from infrastructure developments^[xi] such as hydropower^[xii] and roads, and extractive industries such as oil, gas^[xiii] and mining, as well as large-scale agricultural production. The Global Land Matrix^[xiv] showed global land acquisitions totaling approximately 70 million hectares. Lack of full legal recognition and unequal power dynamics mean that land acquisitions for concessions often involve IPLC lands, which generate conflicts and negative impacts on IPLCs.^[xv] ^[xvi]
- **Insecure Land and Resource Tenure:** Tenure security is a critical foundation for achieving global environmental benefits from the significant lands, territories and resources held by IPLCs. Tenure security creates enabling conditions for IPLCs to invest in long term stewardship, address external threats, and generate income streams that can support management activities. Over 2.5 billion people around the world are estimated to live in areas governed under collective tenure systems. There is a significant global gap between land that is held under IPLC customary rights and that which is recognized under statutory law. Pressures from powerful development interests, lack of political will, and insufficient government capacity mean that even if land rights are formally recognized, they may not be supported or enforced.^[xvii]
- **Exclusive conservation approaches:** Misguided government policies and conservation approaches in many countries have historically and continue to relegate IPLCs to the sidelines of conservation or directly exclude them from their traditional lands. Unsurprisingly, indigenous peoples are often opposed to protected areas. All conservation policies and programs that work with IPLCs to protect biodiversity or carbon on their lands must ensure that they have strong local support, align with self-determined priorities and motivations, and do not create risks to IPLCs without provision of adequate land tenure security, resources and support.^[xxi] ^[xxii]

- ***Lack of recognition of traditional knowledge systems and practices in resource management:*** While there has been an increase in the number of studies affirming the role of indigenous and traditional knowledge systems and practices in the sustainable governance of territories, there are still policy gaps in terms of acknowledging and supporting these systems. In fact, there have been instances where traditional practices were criminalized, e.g. rotational farming in upland communities. There is a need for a more systematic presentation of evidence linking the biodiversity benefits of utilizing indigenous knowledge systems.

The desired long-term situation is for IPLCs to be fully empowered to develop and carry out their own initiatives to conserve biodiversity and generate global environmental benefits, in keeping with their local knowledge and governance systems. Achieving this vision requires an integrated approach that empowers IPLCs to effectively address development pressures impacting their lands and resources, enhance tenure security as a foundation for land and resource stewardship, manage resources in accordance with local knowledge and management practices, and build sustainable income-generating activities that support ongoing stewardship. Globally there is a growing impetus for such IPLC-led conservation approaches, and positive enabling conditions for them are also increasing. For example, a 2018 study found that 73 of 100 countries surveyed had adopted legislation allowing for some form of recognition of community tenure rights. Governance by indigenous peoples and local communities is recognized as an IUCN Protected Area governance type and the 2018 Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) decision on “other effective area based conservation measures” opens new opportunities for recognition of areas conserved by IPLCs as a key approach for biodiversity conservation.

At the same time, significant barriers continue to impede the achievement of IPLC-led conservation solutions. While barriers are present to different degrees and play out in different ways in specific national contexts, frequent barriers include:

Barriers:

- **Insufficient participation in development and environmental decision-making:** National, regional and global decision-making processes continue to lack sufficient pathways for full and effective participation of IPLCs. IPLCs face social, political, cultural, language and financial barriers to participating in decision-making spaces at these multiple levels, and often face discrimination and lack of recognition of their rights to participation and the importance of including their voices in decision-making.
- **Barriers to enhancing tenure security:** Complex procedures and gaps in legal, policy and technical support create barriers to IPLC efforts to enhance tenure security. Legal frameworks remain absent in some countries, while in others regulations to implement them are lacking, or land and natural resource rights are separated in ways that are not conducive to conservation. Procedures for formalizing community land rights are often much more complex and time consuming than procedures for other actors such as the private sector, putting IPLCs at a disadvantage.
- **Lack of inclusion in environmental programs and solutions:** IPLC-led initiatives often continue to be overlooked in national environmental and sustainable development programs. For example, in 2015 only 21 Nationally Designated Commitments (NDCs) included community-based tenure or natural resource management strategies as part of their climate change mitigation plans. As highlighted in the 2018 Protected Planet Report, less than 0.6% of reported protected areas in the World Database on Protected Areas are governed by IPLCs, in contrast to the nearly 82% under governments.
- **Limited access to technology and capacity needs for territorial governance:** IPLCs are often under severe threats from infrastructure and extractive projects; however, their unequal access to technologies for monitoring and mapping their territories limits their ability to detect and report threats. The wide-ranging needs of IPLC territorial management demands diverse and often new forms of capacity for self-determined activities ranging from building sustainable development visions, spatial planning, establishment of conservation areas, and income-generation from local enterprises or sustainable financing mechanisms.
- **Gender barriers and inequalities:** Barriers to women’s systematic engagement in environmental decision-making and leadership spaces are complex and are intertwined with their more limited access to productive resources as well as education and technical assistance. These limitations increase the risks of negative impacts from environmental degradation on women and girls and also that the knowledge, interests and priorities women bring to conservation are lost.

Two cross-cutting barriers further reinforce the barriers above to impede IPLC-led conservation:

- **Lack of investment in IPLC-led Conservation:** Globally, about US\$20 billion per year is spent on conservation; US\$1.5 billion of which flows through mainstream conservation organizations. Studies and IPLC consultations, including by the GEF, have highlighted significant limitations in the level of funding reaching IPLC organizations, particularly in light of their important roles in management of globally significant lands and waters. According to the Evaluation of GEF Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, most of the projects involving indigenous peoples fall into the full-size category, and have been implemented by just four of the GEF accredited agencies, FAO, UNDP, UNEP, and the World Bank, and not directly by indigenous peoples organizations. Two-thirds of all projects identified to be with indigenous peoples show “limited” participation or “moderate” involvement of indigenous peoples; thus far, projects exclusively driven by indigenous peoples are in the minority.
- **Limited capacity to access and manage financing for IPLC-led conservation:** In 2015, Norway funded two capacity needs assessments of a wide range of indigenous peoples’ organizations, which found gaps in capacity to formulate projects and to meet the rigorous financial management standards and review processes of funding institutions such as the GEF; thus limiting IPLC access to more direct financing. The GEF study on engagement with indigenous peoples cited above identified that IPOs face barriers even in accessing the Small Grants Programme (SGP) funding, due largely to limited capacity in administrative management skills and communications technology, as well as language barriers. Medium and full-sized investments in IPLC-led projects that would deliver GEBs at a scale commensurate with the amount of land under IPLC management have remained virtually out of reach to IPLC organizations.

2) Baseline Scenario

The above barriers create a baseline scenario in which the significant global biodiversity, as well as carbon, cultural and social values of IPLC lands, territories and resources risk being lost without increased concerted action and investment. There is a clear need and opportunity to stimulate transformational change through restoring, strengthening, or establishing sound and inclusive community-based governance of traditional “commons” to achieve global environmental benefits. Facilitating IPLC-led planning, management and stewardship activities is fundamental to IPLC’s full and effective participation in decision-making on their lands, and has been formalized in many national frameworks and international frameworks such as the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. A growing body of evidence demonstrates the significant contributions that IPLC are making to biodiversity conservation of all kinds, yet IPLC roles and participation in biodiversity conservation and climate mitigation strategies are not supported and financed to a degree commensurate with their importance for the global environment. IPLCs have frequently called for greater support in numerous science and policy forums (e.g. in REDD+, protected areas, Indigenous Community Conserved Areas) and have highlighted the contributions they can make to global environmental goals with this support.

Also forming part of the baseline situation are a range of project investments from GEF, other donors and international initiatives that are helping to support transformational changes towards Inclusive Conservation. The ICI will engage with these initiatives to build synergies and ensure that GEF investments are complementing and adding value to existing work, as detailed further below.

Among GEF Initiatives:

The GEF (administered by UNDP) Small Grants Programme[xxxi] the GEF-Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP) was established in 1992, it provides financial and technical support to projects that conserve and restore the environment. In its 25-year history, the SGP has invested US\$600 million to civil society organizations (CSOs). SGP works in 125 countries and has provided funds of up to US\$50,000 to indigenous and local communities as well as civil society organizations. The SGP has adopted innovative methodologies for grant applications and reporting to reflect the cultures and on-the ground realities of the communities with which it works. It has also launched a fellowship program that allows fellows to be embedded in the United Nations Development

Programme (UNDP) national offices to learn and participate in UNDP field activities. It ensures that a capacity building component is built into every project. The Inclusive Conservation Initiative will work to cooperate and leverage the experience, networks and lessons from the GEF Small Grants Programme, implemented by UNDP in the following ways:

- Seek recommendations from IPLC partners who are SGP grantees and graduate organizations that may be potential candidates for Inclusive Conservation investments in selected geographies and territories;
- Engage with the SGP during the formation of the Steering Committee envisaged as part of the PPG Phase of the ICI;
- Build on and coordinate with SGP's existing mechanism and experiences with IPLCs for consultation and coordination in target ICI geographies and territories;
- Engage in policy initiatives with SGP in ICI countries, including appropriate recognition of indigenous peoples' and community conserved areas and territories (ICCAs), and post-2020 United Nations Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) negotiations;
- Collaborate on SGP's CSO-Government Dialogues in ICI countries with respect to IPLCs land, territories and resources; and,
- Develop and collaborate on learning and capacity building initiatives, including the Indigenous Peoples fellowship programmes.

The ICI will engage with SGP and explore opportunities to scale up thematic outputs from the SGP Innovation Programmes, including work on youth and climate change, indigenous peoples' access to energy, artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), and the blue economy.

GEF-7 Sustainable Forest Management Impact Programs[xxxii] is addressing the long-term health of three, high priority biomes: the Amazon, Congo Basin, and some important drylands landscapes. The Congo, for example, is the global region with the lowest level of recognition of IPLC land tenure.[xxxiii] ICI will also engage with the Sustainable Forest Management Impact Programs to identify synergies and opportunities to collaboration with IPLCs in areas of investment.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) [xxxiv]: FAO's Schools of Life is focusing on traditional knowledge and indigenous livelihoods. This concept, built on FAO's Junior Farmers and Life Schools programs, offers a unique methodology for teaching vulnerable children and young people. This methodology been adapted to address the needs of indigenous peoples and is inclusive of traditional knowledge and practices. Through ICI, we will conduct outreach to the FAO's Schools of Life Program to explore synergies and potential applications with IPLC partners.

Other initiatives providing on-ground investments in interventions relevant to the project include:

The ICCA Consortium[xxxv] is an international association that helps countries to meet CBD Aichi Targets as part of a broad focus on improving the diversity and quality of governance for protected areas. The ICCA Consortium promotes and supports sustainable livelihoods, wellbeing and self-determination of IPLCs. Of special relevance to the GEF7 Inclusive Conservation Initiative will be the Global Support Initiative for Indigenous Peoples and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA-GSI) implemented by the SGP in 26 countries. The ICCA-GSI has supported the networking and creation of CSO coalitions in support of protected and conserved areas at national, regional and global levels. Notable results relevant to the ICI may include: (i) analysis of threats and opportunities for ICCAs in target geographies; (ii) assessment of legal and policy frameworks required to enhance ICCA recognition; and (iii) development and field-testing of tracking tools including the ICCA Security Index, self-strengthening methodology for territories of life, and protected area governance scorecards.

Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (DGM)[xxxvi] [xxxvii] is a unique climate action partnership governed and implemented by IPLCs. Between 2015 and 2019, the DGM included an IPLC governance network of 12 steering committees with 231 IPLC leaders, including 54 women; eight active country projects with US\$50 million in approved budgets; more than 400 community-led subprojects and over 200,000 beneficiaries. DGM subprojects are helping improve livelihoods, tenure security and rights-based approaches through non-timber forest production, agroforestry, land titling, community enterprise support, capacity building, and value chain development.

IUCN Indigenous Peoples' Organization (IPO) Members platform[xxxviii]: Indigenous Peoples' Organization Members of IUCN works collectively to implement an IPO self-determined strategy for conservation, with a focus on institutional strengthening, on-the-ground conservation and influencing global environmental policy. Members will be engaged through the PPG phase in consultation on priority geographies, site selection, portfolio development and identifying IPLC partners, as well as on policy development and capacity-building.

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)[xxxix]: Since CEPF's inception in 2000, more than US\$232 million in grants has been given to more than 2,300 civil society organizations and individuals in more than 93 countries and territories around the globe, leveraging more than US\$371 million in additional funds from other donors. Through its granting process, CEPF has supporting capacity building efforts of IPLCs and well as work around land tenure and environmental defenders. CEPF will be operating in East Melanesia, the Tropical Andes and Indo-Burma during the operation of the Inclusive Conservation Project and is open to leverage resources, skills and learning opportunities with Inclusive Conservation. In addition, with the final selection of investment geographies, CEPF would like to explore potential for co-investment geographies.

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation,[xl] Andes Amazon Initiative: The goal of the Andes-Amazon Initiative is to ensure the long-term ecological integrity and climatic function of the Amazon basin. According to current estimates, achieving that goal will require that at least 70% of historic forest cover remains intact. To date, the Moore Foundation has invested more than US\$350 million in conservation and supporting strategies, helping to bring over 170 million hectares — or nearly one-third of the original forest cover of the Amazon — under sustainable management. ICI will seek to coordinate with the Andes Amazon Initiative, in conjunction with GEF-7 Sustainable Forest Management Impact Program Landscapes, on investments related to IPLCs lands and territories as well as capacity building.

The Norwegian International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI) 2016-2020[xli] and 2020-2025 program of support to civil society organizations includes rights of Indigenous Peoples and other Local Populations as one of its focal themes and has provided direct grants to indigenous peoples' organizations in Indonesia, Southeast Asia, and several countries in the Amazon region. In 2019 NICFI granted EUR10.3 million to help secure land rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in tropical forest areas through the Tenure Facility. ICI will pursue co-financing through the next round of NICFI proposals and will also seek to collaborate with other grantees in the current and next round.

Nia Tero[xlii] is a new foundation that works in areas where indigenous peoples sustain large-scale ecosystems within their collective territories, supporting governance that can secure their successful guardianship through durable, long-term financial and technical support.

The Tenure Facility[xliii] provides grants to enhance the security of land and forest rights of IPLCs in targeted developing countries and has improved collective tenure security over more than 4.2 million hectares of land and forest to date. ICI will collaborate with the Tenure Facility in on-the-ground activities where project geographies align with Tenure Facility investments as well as in relation to global learning and capacity building activities.

Ford Foundation International Program^[xlv] supports a network of Indigenous Peoples Organizations (IPOs) to gain more secure rights over land and forests and increase the visibility of their contributions to conservation and climate change mitigation. ICI will engage the Ford Foundation to build synergies with their work both in geographies and on global capacity building, learning and communication.

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Capacity Building Program (CBP)^[xlv] works to enhance the understanding of forest peoples and Southern CSOs about Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) and their ability to engage more meaningfully in REDD+ Readiness activities. ICI will utilize lessons learned from this program.

Conservation Agreements Private Partnership Platform (CAPPP)^[xlvi] created in 2015, catalyzes private-sector support for biodiversity conservation and maintenance of ecosystem services in globally important sites. ICI will engage with the CAPPP to evaluate lessons-learned in order to inform private sector engagement with IPLC-led businesses related to biodiversity conservation.

Coalition for Private Investment in Conservation (CPIC)^[xlvii] launched in 2016, IUCN's CPIC aims to create new opportunities for return-seeking private investment in conservation. Coinciding with the launch of CPIC, the Natural Capital Coalition (NCC) released a new Natural Capital Protocol, a framework aiming to generate credible and actionable information for private sector decision makers.

Climate Land Use Alliance provides funding to support policies, practices, and partnerships that halt and reverse forest loss, advance sustainable land use and development, and secure the rights and livelihoods of indigenous and forest communities.

These initiatives demonstrate the strong and growing interest in a range of dimensions of IPLC-led conservation, and related work that could be harnessed to support IPLC-led conservation, and provide a strong base for partnership and synergies with GEF investments in the ICI. While the specific baseline these initiatives provide in particular places will depend on the priority geographies selected - and will be defined further as part of the PPG – the ICI responds broadly to several gaps that remain, including:

- Gaps in the level of financing to support large-scale IPLC actions and outcomes that meet the scale of current threats in many places;
- Gaps in a concerted focus on IPLC organizational capacity-building, including in ways that will enable IPLC to access and directly manage other existing sources of financing to sustain their efforts into the future;
- Gaps in integrated approaches across the types of interventions needed for successful outcomes, linking investments to strengthen tenure security, address threats, improve management and secure sustainable financing; and
- Gaps in local to global linkages that distill knowledge and experience from on-the-ground initiatives to inform international policy and inspire wider adoption and support.

In relation to international environmental policy, advocacy by IPLC organizations and openness on the part of government parties has led to significantly increased formal recognition of indigenous peoples and local communities in global and regional policy spaces. For example, key bodies include:

The International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC)^[xlviii] is a caucus for IPs participating in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) processes.

The Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP)^[xlix] established under the UNFCCC to strengthen IPLC knowledge related to climate change, facilitate the exchange of experience and enhance engagement of IPLCs in the UNFCCC process.

The International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Biodiversity (IIPFB)^[l], which facilitates the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD).

The Working Group on Article 8(j)^[ii] established under the CBD to promote and support implementation of the Articles to respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the conservation of biological diversity.

The Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network (IWBN) was formed in 1998 during the 4th Conference of Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The objective of the IWBN is to bring the issues of indigenous women to the forefront of international discussions while emphasizing the vital role they play in biodiversity conservation. The network facilitates a community of practice relating to the themes of this project – Indigenous Women, Traditional Knowledge, Policy, and Biodiversity Conservation. The network has members from seven (7) regions of the world – Africa, Asia, Arctic, North and Latin America, Pacific and Russia.

The presence and activities of these groups, and other initiatives, that support IPLC activities create a strong base of social capital and ongoing work that will complement the aims of the ICI. At the same time, the GEF IPAG and IPLC organizations have identified a number of key gaps that the ICI can play an important role in addressing. Identified needs include increased coordination across IPLC engagement in environmental policy spaces, capacity building of IPLC representatives and particularly youth to engage effectively in policy negotiations, targeted engagement in emerging policy spaces important for IPLCs, and enhanced linkages between global and national policy discussions (such as on NDCs, REDD+ and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans).

Increased knowledge and communication to build and share the evidence base for IPLC-led conservation have also long been highlighted by IPLC organizations as a gap limiting its wider spread and support. Several of the initiatives described above have knowledge-sharing dimensions and other key on-going initiatives include:

- **UNDP Equator Initiative**^[iii] brings together the United Nations, governments, civil society, businesses and grassroots organizations to recognize and advance local sustainable development solutions for people, nature and resilient communities.
- **UNESCO Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS)**^[iv] promotes local and indigenous knowledge and its inclusion in global climate science and policy processes.
- **SGP's CSO-Government Dialogues** that bring CSOs together with governments around issues related IPLCs land, territories and resources and policy development

The ICI will collaborate with existing knowledge initiatives, with a particular focus on filling gaps in demonstrating results from larger-scale investments, and in consolidating key data and resources in an accessible knowledge platform.

3) The Proposed Alternative Scenario

The ICI will increase the volume of investment available to assist IPLCs in their continuing efforts to safeguard a significant part of the Earth's natural ecosystems. It will invest directly in IPLCs, enabling them to address the growing drivers of environmental degradation impacting their lands and resources. By combining substantial investments in specific locations with support to magnify local results through global capacity-building, policy influence and demonstration of large-scale impacts, the ICI will catalyze the transformational changes needed to secure and enhance support for the contributions of IPLCs to biodiversity and other global environmental benefits.

Conservation International (CI) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) propose to serve as joint Implementing Agencies to bring their decades of collective experience working with IPLCs and regional and global expertise to the implementation of the GEF Inclusive Conservation Initiative. This joint proposal addresses the priorities established for the GEF-7 ICI by working inclusively with IPLCs, their regional and local organizations, governments,

NGOs, civil society and others to strengthen the capacity of IPLCs to conserve globally significant biodiversity and to achieve target contributions to global biodiversity benefits as defined by the GEF.

ICI Objective: Enhance Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) efforts to steward land, waters and natural resources that deliver global environmental benefits

The Inclusive Conservation Initiative (ICI) project will support IPLCs to secure and enhance their stewardship over an estimated area of 3,555,000 hectares of landscapes and seascapes with high biodiversity and irreplaceable ecosystems. It will provide resources, enhance capacities, and support 'hands-on' experiential learning that will enable IPLCs to define and demonstrate an inclusive model for conservation where IPLC women and men are recognized and empowered as decision-makers and key actors at all levels of conservation action, from local action on-the-ground, to national policies that impact their rights, to global fora that define conservation and sustainable development targets and approaches for environmental action (See Annex V and Annex VI).

In all components of the project, IPLC organizations will take the lead in designing strategies, developing inclusive, culturally appropriate and equitable processes for decision-making, and implementing action. The four components, with interconnected outputs that mutually support outcomes from local to global levels, are:

Component 1: Local IPLC Action to Deliver Global Environmental Benefits (GEB): This component will provide direct financial support to IPLC-led initiatives in priority areas that achieve global environmental benefits through improved large-scale management of IPLC lands, territories and resources.

Component 2: Global IPLC Capacity Building: This component will establish the platforms, peer learning networks and knowledge resources for enhanced IPLC capacity, focusing on project and financial management skills and design of sustainable financing mechanisms.

Component 3: IPLC Leadership in International Environmental Policy: This component will enable IPLC representatives (women, men and youth) to amplify their voices and influence in the international policy decisions that create either enabling or constraining conditions for on-ground inclusive conservation efforts.

Component 4: ICI Knowledge to Action: This component will support IPLC organizations to distil and share knowledge regarding inclusive conservation models to demonstrate large-scale impact and generate support for IPLC-led conservation.

Component 1: Local IPLC Action to Deliver Global Environmental Benefits (GEB): Established on-the-ground projects led by IPLC organizations.

Component 1 will establish on-the-ground projects in approximately 7-10 Inclusive Conservation Priority Geographies (ICPG), representing a diverse range of contexts and ecosystems (landscapes and seascapes) with high biodiversity value and potential to deliver GEBs. At least 80% of ICI project component funds will support IPLC organizations under Component 1. All ICI project grants will integrate gender responsive strategies. Funds will flow to IPLC-led activities through a three-tiered flexible and adaptable granting portfolio, as described below.

Opportunities to advance IPLC-led conservation are present across a wide range of regions and ecosystems. Priority geographies in which to demonstrate the potential of IPLC-led conservation are those where indigenous peoples and local communities hold large areas of high-biodiversity land under traditional governance systems (which may or may not have formal legal recognition). These include large areas of tropical forest as well as mountain, temperate and boreal forest, drylands and grasslands, and coastal and marine ecosystems.

Priority geographies for the ICI project will be identified during the PPG phase through an inclusive consultation process with IPLC organizations, grounded in and guided by a clear and transparent set of selection criteria. For this PIF stage, a set of Candidate Geographical Regions has been identified based on broad, initial criteria and consultations with the GEF's Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group (IPAG) and GEF Secretariat (see Table 5 below). These Candidate Geographical Regions will provide the basis for the further definition of specific project sites during the PPG phase, using progressively more refined criteria and broader consultations.

Criteria used to identify the universe of Candidate Geographical Regions at this PIF stage are:

- GEF eligibility: regions falling primarily or entirely in countries or territories of countries that are not GEF eligible have not been included.
- High biodiversity, with secondary consideration to high carbon storage: this has been broadly assessed with reference to global level spatial data on High Biodiversity Hotspots, High Biodiversity Wilderness Areas [see Map 1 in Annex I], global carbon storage [see Map 2 in Annex I], and global marine species richness (using data available for fish species) [see Map 3 in Annex I], as well as global carbon storage [see Map 2 in Annex I].
- Large areas of IPLC lands and/or waters: regions with large (terrestrial and marine) areas under traditional IPLC governance have been broadly identified drawing on existing global and regional data sources [see Map 4 in Annex I as one example] and expert inputs from the IPAG and the Project Agencies.
- Diversity of regions and ecosystem types: Candidate Geographical Regions have been identified for Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific and have been reviewed to check that they span multiple ecosystem types.

As described under Institutional Arrangements, an Interim Steering Committee will be created during the PPG phase to guide on full project development, including the selection of priority geographies. The selection process will combine analytical work and wide outreach and consultative process with IPLC organizations, as well as other experts and stakeholders, using a further set of clear and transparent criteria. Proposed criteria for narrowing the initial list of Candidate Geographical Regions and defining specific project geographies within them are:

- Clear delivery potential of Global Environmental Benefits (with priority to biodiversity benefits in line with the GEF biodiversity strategy, and additional consideration to climate benefits)
- Significant (terrestrial and marine) areas held by IPLCs under traditional governance systems – more detailed analysis drawing on regional data sources and consultations;
- Vulnerability of these IPLC lands/waters to threats – in keeping with the GEF-7 strategy for Inclusive Conservation;
- Presence of IPLC organization(s) with capacity and interest to take on leadership and management of IC work in that geography;
- Opportunities for ICI results – including the presence of enabling policy conditions for IPLC-led conservation, existence of successful IPLC-led conservation initiatives that could be scaled up with project support, and positive government support for IPLC-led conservation;
- Diversity of regions, ecosystems, cultures, and ways of life (e.g., forest, coastal/marine, pastoralist livelihoods) across the portfolio;
- Potential for co-financing and complementary activities to build synergies and magnify project results, including from existing initiatives of the Implementing Agencies and GEF; and,
- Consideration to avoiding duplication of effort and supporting underserved areas, in keeping with project goals.

Table 1. Candidate geographical regions (designated with the GEF IPAG during consultation meeting)

World Region	Candidate Geographies
Africa	East Africa Drylands
Africa	Coastal East Africa
Africa	Congo Basin
Americas	Andes/Amazon
Americas	Mesoamerica
Americas	Southern Cone
Americas	Gran Chaco
Asia	Himalayas
Asia	South East Asia (mainland)
Asia	South East Asia (islands)
Pacific	Melanesia

In addition to selection of a diverse set of priority geographies, the process of full project development, to be finalized during the PPG, will generate the following foundations for delivery of Component 1:

- **Selection of IPLC Executing Agencies**, based on a robust consultative process, guided by transparent criteria and overseen by the ICI Interim Steering Committee. An Organizational Capacity Assessment will evaluate each organization's ability to function as an Executing Agency (EA) and to meet GEF fiduciary standards (see Institutional Arrangements in section 6 for details).
- **Overarching project plan for each geography**: Once locations and partners are selected, a participatory process will be conducted in each geography with the IPLC EA (or EAs) to define an overall project plan for that geography, including contributions to GEF global targets. This work will involve broadly assessing threats, opportunities, and baseline conditions and projects specific to that geography and identifying priority actions for GEF grants that complement these existing interventions. It will also involve identifying and engaging partnerships needed for work in that area. A first iteration of these plans will be conducted during the PPG phase, and this work will be further refined in the early stages of project implementation through the development of Impact Strategies (Output 1.1.2).

Outcome 1.1: Inclusive Conservation Initiative (ICI) Projects, led by IPLC organizations, have delivered global environmental benefits.

Within each Priority Geography, ICI investments will flow to IPLC organizations or communities to carry out on-the-ground activities that generate GEB and benefits for local people. ICI will work to strengthen collaboration with local and national governments to enhance IPLC rights and governance of natural resources.

All the target indicators are subject to further refinement according to the priority geographies and scope of on-the-ground activities prioritized in ICI projects. The targets and indicators for this outcome are as follows:

Indicators	Targets
Indicator 1.1.1: Area (hectares) of landscapes and marine habitat under improved practices (excluding protected areas).	Target 1.1.1: >3,000,000 hectares
Indicator 1.1.2: Area (hectares) of IPLC terrestrial and marine protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use.	Target 1.1.2: >480,000 hectares
Indicator 1.1.3: Number of ICI Impact Strategies delivering IPLC-led conservation in areas of high-biodiversity under IPLC customary or statutory tenure rights.	Target 1.1.3: > 8 impact strategies
Indicator 1.1.4: Area (hectares) of land restored.	Target 1.1.4: >75,000 hectares
Indicator 1.1.5: Metric tons of CO ₂ Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated.	Target 1.1.5: >12M metric tons of CO ₂
Indicator 1.1.6: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender.	Target 1.1.6: 60,000 direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender
Indicator 1.1.7: Percentage of beneficiaries of ICI projects that report increased livelihood benefits to the communities. (gender disaggregated)	Target 1.1.7: ≥50 % of beneficiaries of ICI projects that report increased livelihood benefits (50 % of those beneficiaries will be women)
Indicator 1.1.8: Percentage of ICI projects integrating Gender Responsive strategies.	Target 1.1.8: ~100% of ICI projects integrating gender responsive strategies
Indicator 1.1.9: Percentage of funding leveraged to sustain project activities.	Target 1.1.9: ~30% of funding leveraged

Output 1.1.1: IPLC organizations engaged in ICI Priority Geographies.

Building on consultations and project development under the PPG, IPLC Executing Agencies will lead a process of further outreach to engage with IPLC organizations and communities through inception meetings within each priority geography. This work will provide a basis for facilitating the inclusion of a wider set of local IPLC actors in the development of the ICPG Impact Strategy (Output 1.1.2) and for engaging them in the ICI Grant Portfolios (Output 1.1.3).

Output 1.1.2: Impact Strategies developed to guide project design and implementation.

Building on the PPG project design and with support from the Steering Committee and Implementing Agencies (IA), each Executing Agency will work with IPLC partners to further refine an Impact Strategy to guide specific investments in each ICPG. The Impact Strategy will ensure that investments achieve transformational impact that generate the global environmental benefits targeted for the project. While strategies will be highly adapted to each context and shaped to add value to other relevant interventions, the strategy development process will take into account the main categories of strategic action described in Outputs 1.1.4-1.1.7. Strategies will emphasize transformative impact through interventions such as strengthening land and natural resource management systems (including sustainable wildlife); addressing barriers to recognition of land and resource tenure and equitable access; establishing new indigenous and community conserved areas; improving equitable benefit sharing; enhancing women's economic empowerment, leadership and secure access to productive resources; and promoting intergenerational knowledge transfer and social inclusion. Strategies will also identify partnership opportunities and long-term financial mechanisms. Each Impact Strategy will be reviewed and approved by the ICI Steering Committee and evaluated and adapted as part of annual planning and budgeting for the ICPGs. Impact Strategies will be gender inclusive, and will include monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plans to track the achievement of results through grant activities.

Output 1.1.3: ICI Grant Portfolios developed and managed for implementation of Impact Strategies.

Within each priority geography, ICI investments will flow to IPLC organizations or communities to carry out on-the-ground activities that generate GEBs. Funds will be provided through flexible grant instruments adapted to the IPLC organizations' capacities and needs, such as:

- Transformative Impact grants to support the core objectives of the Impact Strategy designed in each priority geography.
- Thematic grants to address specific issues or innovations contributing to achievement of the Impact Strategy; and
- Responsive grants responding to emergent issues or unlocking additional financial resources supporting sustainability in priority geographies.

It is anticipated that in each priority geography, investments will include a central Transformative Impact grant that may be complemented by Thematic or Responsive grants to answer to needs and opportunities that emerge over the course of the project. Projects will generally be led by the Executing Agency or Agencies (EA), in partnership with other IPLC and technical organizations as needed to achieve project results. The grant portfolios will harness the combined power of fully designed impact initiatives and responsive action, engaging a wide range of IPLC partners and responding flexibly to emerging innovations and needs. Grant decisions will be guided by the Impact Strategies developed through Output 1.1.2 and will support implementation of Outputs 1.1.4 to 1.1.7.

Output 1.1.4: Activities implemented for enhancing IPLC rights and governance of natural resources.

In line with the Impact Strategies for each project geography, ICI grants will invest in measures to enhance the security of IPLC land and natural resource tenure, and respect for traditional governance and knowledge systems. Depending on the context, these measures may focus on actions to address national policy and institutional enabling conditions for increased security and site-based measures such as mapping. Indicative activities include support for policy and legal services to address rights issues, strengthening collaboration with local and national governments to enhance IPLC rights and governance of natural resources, or support to implement the procedures required for recognition of land, territorial or resource rights under national legislation. Ensuring the equitable rights and access of IPLC women to resources will be an integral part of these activities.

Output 1.1.5: Activities implemented for improving management of natural and cultural resources in IPLC Lands and Territories.

Depending on needs defined through Impact Strategies for each ICPG, ICI Transformative Impact activities may include the community-based management of natural resources including wildlife, transfer and application of traditional knowledge systems relevant for environmental stewardship, spatial and land use or territorial planning (including social and natural resource mapping), development of "life plans" and other sustainable community visions, technical support for

sustainable productive activities and conservation measures such as forest restoration, and monitoring and enforcement measures. Recognition and support for indigenous and local knowledge and practices for conservation and sustainable use will be a key focus across these activities, along with inclusion of indigenous women in leadership and decision-making regarding land and natural resources.

Output 1.1.6: Activities implemented for addressing the drivers of environmental degradation affecting IPLC sustainable development.

The ICI grants portfolio will support IPLC initiatives to address emergent issues driving environmental degradation, including deforestation, in priority geographies such as potential impacts of infrastructure, extractives and large-scale agriculture investments. Focal sectors and approaches will be identified through the Impact Strategies, but may, for example, include support for increased IPLC presence and influence in national policy and planning for large-scale development, measures to strengthen consultation and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) or precedent-setting benefit-sharing agreements. The project will seek to support innovative approaches that enable IPLC land holders to engage in dialogue and decision-making with national governments on development agendas relevant to their lands, territories, resources and waters.

Output 1.1.7: Activities implemented to support the economic and financial sustainability of IPLC-led conservation.

ICI grants will support activities that unlock or generate the financial resources IPLCs need to sustain their livelihoods and roles as environmental stewards. This may include income-generating sustainable production activities or innovative and culturally appropriate financing mechanisms such as IPLC trust funds and payments for ecosystem services. Other illustrative measures include business incubators for small and medium IPLC enterprises that support enterprise development and connect owners to mainstream financing. Activities will include a focus on women's economic empowerment. Activities will be oriented to benefit IPLC women and men through long-term approaches that enable self-determined land and resource governance and help reduce dependence on external donor support (See Gender equality and Women's empowerment section).

Output 1.1.8: ICI Project Steering Committee launched and supported.

At project inception, the ICI Steering Committee will be launched as the governing body for the inclusive Conservation Initiative to leverage strong IPLC partnerships for transparent, inclusive and effective project governance (see Section 6. Coordination). The ICI Project Steering Committee (SC) will be selected through a gender inclusive consultative process, conducted during the PPG and guided by the members of the GEF's Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group (IPAG). The SC will provide guidance and advice to the Executing Agencies and other IPLC partners as they implement their work in each geography. The SC will also provide guidance, advice and direction to the development of Components 2-4 of the project.

Outcome 1.2: Project implementation capacity of IPLC partner organizations in priority geographies substantially increased.

All grants to IPLC partners in Priority Geographies will include a capacity building component, focused on skills to strengthen technical and management skills needed for the effective implementation of grant activities. A culturally appropriate capacity building plan will be customized for organizations based on a comprehensive assessment of existing capacity and needs. Performance will be monitored and evaluated through performance scoring of both project implementation results and completion of learning modules leading to a Certification of Competencies for qualifying organizations. The ICI will provide Learning Grants to support IPLC Young Project Implementers to include their perspective and to provide opportunities for inter-generational transfer of traditional knowledge and practice. Efforts will be made to ensure gender inclusiveness in all trainings.

All the target indicators are subject to further refinement according to the priority geographies and scope of on-the-ground activities prioritized in ICI projects. The targets and indicators for this outcome are as follows:

Indicators	Targets
Indicator 1.2.1: Number of ICI partner organizations show improvement in organizational capacity assessment scorecards.	Target 1.2.1: ~6-18 ICI partner organizations show at least 20% improvement
Indicator 1.2.2: Percentage of ICI projects which receive an overall project rating of “satisfactory” or better.	Target 1.2.2: ≥75% of ICI projects
Indicator 1.2.3: Percentage awardees from the Experiential Learning Program for IPLC Young Project Implementers who report increased skills and capacities to deliver their project outcomes.	Target 1.2.3: ~75% awardees

Output 1.2.1: Capacity assessments and capacity building plans of IPLC partners in priority geographies prepared.

A capacity building plan will be customized for each IPLC grantee, based on an assessment, addressing needs ranging from technical competencies to project and funds management. Plans will focus on building long-term capacity and will include a gender analysis and gender mainstreaming. Where lead IPLC organizations in priority geographies do not yet have capacity for the financial management required of GEF Executing Agencies, capacity building plans will include a particular focus on building this capacity over the project term. For this work, IPLC Executing Agencies and partners will be able to draw on assessment tools, action plan design tools, and support from the IPLC Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy (established under Output 2.2.1 of the project).

Output 1.2.2: Project implementation capacities of IPLC grantee organizations in priority geographies substantially strengthened.

The ICI will support or facilitate implementation of customized capacity building plans designed through Output 1.2.1. Experiential learning will link hands-on experience to capacity building topics, significantly increasing IPLCs opportunities to build skills in project management and implementation and in technical topics related to their grant's focus. IPLC partners will have access to curricula and support from the ICLA, for capacity building using methods best suited to the context and organization, including through online courses, learning exchanges, or sessions conducted by local experts. ICI will develop, adapt and test, with IPLC partners, a modified Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) as well as governance scorecards to measure improved management and results of indigenous and community conserved areas.

Output 1.2.3: Experiential Learning Grants for IPLC Young Project Implementers awarded. An IPLC Young Project Implementers (YPI) program will expand the pool of skilled IPLCs trained in technical and/or management skills needed for IPLC-led conservation initiatives. IPLC Young Project Implementers could serve as the EA or be attached to specific projects according to the needs of the different geographies. The YPI program provides an effective mechanism to build skills needed to include future leaders and knowledge managers of all genders into decision-making that impacts IPLC-led conservation. Young Project Implementers will also participate in intra-regional exchange sessions to build connections and encourage large-scale collaborative actions. The YPI will be gender inclusive and will seek 50% female participants.

Component 2: Global IPLC Capacity Building: IPLC capacity strengthened to improve management of lands, territories, waters and natural resources and increase access to public and long-term sustainable financing mechanisms.

Capacity building will ensure ICI project outcomes and the long-term sustainability of IPLC-led conservation from local to global levels. As a complement to the experiential learning that will be integrated into the implementation of ICPG grant activities under Component 1, Component 2 focuses on global, cross-cutting activities to increase the sustainability of capacity-building investments and magnify their reach by:

- Creating the culturally appropriate tools, knowledge resources and platforms that will support and increase IPLC access to learning at all levels of the ICI.
- Collating existing materials and linking to related platforms to increase access to and awareness of such materials. · Involving a wider range of IPLC organizations and networks, from within and beyond project geographies.
- Building and certifying the organizational capacity of IPLC institutions in order to grow and secure financing for future work beyond the project term.

To serve as the learning and knowledge hub of the project, the ICI will establish the IPLC Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy (ICLA), a cross-cutting virtual learning center. As in Component 1, much of the cross-cutting capacity building under Component 2 will be delivered by IPLC organizations, including EAs leading work in the geographies, IPLC organizations with extensive experience in capacity building, and individuals with specialized expertise. A particular focus of work under this Component will be the learning exchanges.

All the target indicators are subject to further refinement according to the priority geographies and scope of on-the-ground activities prioritized in ICI projects. The targets and indicators for this outcome are as follows:

Indicators	Targets
Indicator 2.1.1: Number and percentage of IPLC trainees who successfully complete ICI Learning Academy training modules (disaggregated by gender, person-hours of capacity building, affiliation, country, theme).	Target 2.1.1: at least 400 from which ~50% are women
Indicator 2.1.2: Capacity building modules developed with support of GEF Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy from which a percent includes a Gender section.	Target 2.1.2: ≥ 10 -15 capacity building modules from which ~100% include a Gender section.
Indicator 2.1.3: Ratio of trainer to trainee committed by a percentage of people who participated in capacity building delivered with support of GEF Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy.	Target 2.1.3: 1:25 Ratio of trainer to population committed by $\geq 75\%$ of participants
Indicator 2.1.4: Percentage of ICI partner organizations certified in project management.	Target 2.1.4: $\geq 70\%$ of partner organizations certified

Outcome 2.1: IPLC capacity substantially strengthened within and beyond ICI priority geographies.

To achieve this outcome, the project will establish a culturally appropriate IPLC Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy to support all technical and organizational aspects of capacity building for the ICI, including tools for assessing capacity needs, program design and delivery, and a competency certification for IPLC project implementers under Component 1; knowledge and learning resources to support cross-cutting capacity building and learning exchanges, which will include IPLC organizations outside the ICPGs, in Component 2; and training materials for policy negotiators in support of Component 3. It will build upon existing, successful platforms, activities, and materials. A learning evaluation of the ICLA will be conducted at project mid-term to evaluate impacts and identify needs and approaches to sustain Inclusive Conservation capacity-building beyond the project term.

Output 2.1.1: ICI Learning Academy Curricula designed.

The project will identify priorities for ICLA curricula, drawing on the ICPG partner needs assessments in Output 1.2.1 as well as consultations and learning from other IPLC capacity-building partners and initiatives. Based on these priorities, the project will design course materials and/or identify and create links to existing capacity building resources. Curricula design will include the tools and modules for capacity building of ICPG EAs where needed to strengthen their ability to manage the ICPG investments. Social inclusion and gender components will be included in all capacity building programs.

Output 2.1.2: IPLC Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy established.

The ICLA, a virtual learning center, will house culturally appropriate tools, modules and programs to support and expand organizational and technical global capacity-building of IPLC organizations, including by bringing together and building on existing relevant materials. The ICLA will be part of the Knowledge Platform established under Component 4 as a repository for project publications, documents and communication products. It will standardize the quality of

content delivered in ICI and include the spectrum of topics, formats and learning methods suitable to address the capacity building needs of IPLCs according to the findings from Output 2.1.1., ensuring use of culturally appropriate formats and languages. ICLA will also make core content available offline if possible where internet access is limited.

Output 2.1.3: Organizational Development and Capacity Building of IPLC organizations delivered through the ICLA.

Supported by the resources of ICLA, IPLC organizations with capacity building expertise or EA and IA staff will deliver the capacity building activities following the needs identified and the plans developed in identified in Output 2.1.1. All capacity building activities will be culturally appropriate and will utilize methods best suited to the context of the ICPG and other IPLC organizations, including workshops, online courses, learning exchanges, or sessions conducted by local experts. Executing Agencies will participate in organizational and professional development, based on their needs assessment, throughout the life of the project. The EAs will also reach out to IPLC organizations who are not directly involved with ICI grant portfolios to participate in the capacity building program and expand the influence of ICI models.

Output 2.1.4: Learning Evaluation completed of IPLC Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy.

The project will evaluate the results of ICI capacity building and its effect on enhancing the performance of on-the-ground conservation projects. This output will be conducted during the mid-term of ICI project, documenting the achievements and challenges of the ICI capacity building objectives, building the evidence of how IPLC-led conservation works in practice, and identifying opportunities and actions to sustain Inclusive Conservation learning activities beyond the project term. This output will also assess the skills developed by the IPLC in a myriad of ways, such as by spot checking financial statements or reviewing management plans.

Outcome 2.2: Cross-regional IPLC organization partnerships and networks strengthened through ICI Learning Exchanges.

To achieve this outcome, mapping of IPLC organizations will be conducted during early stages of project implementation. Identified IPLC organizations will participate in learning exchanges to strengthen IPLC network collaboration across and beyond the ICPGs.

All the target indicators are subject to further refinement according to the priority geographies and scope of on-the-ground activities prioritized in ICI projects. The targets and indicators for this outcome are as follows:

Indicators	Targets
Indicator 2.2.1: Number of partnerships established in each ICPG to strengthen collaboration outside priority geographies and build linkages with the ICI Community of Practice.	Target 2.2.1: ≥ 2 -5 Partnerships identified
Indicator 2.2.2: Percentage of IPLC Organizations who report greater capacity to advance IPLC-led conservation after participating at Learning Exchanges (disaggregated by gender, affiliation, country, theme).	Target 2.2.2: $\geq 75\%$ IPLC organizations reporting greater collaboration

Output 2.2.1: IPLC organizations mapped to strengthen collaboration within and beyond priority geographies.

Building on the mapping of IPLC organizations conducted early on in each ICPG, the project will undertake mapping of additional IPLC partners and networks that could contribute to the IPLC Learning Exchanges as well as to the ICI Community of Practice (under Component 4). This mapping will provide a basis for engagement with, and outreach to IPLC organizations within and beyond the ICPGs in order to build linkages, enhance cross-learning and strengthen inclusive collaborations for IPLC-led conservation. The project defines “inclusive” to include gender mainstreaming.

Output 2.2.2: Inclusive Conservation Learning Exchanges delivered.

ICPG EAs will consult with participating IPLC organizations (mapped in Output 2.2.1) to define topics for Learning Exchanges. Learning Exchanges will include IPLC participants from beyond ICI priority geographies to draw on and link to their wider experience and areas of expertise. Sessions will be linked to IPLC-led project objectives, such as livelihoods development, sustainable forest management, or rights and inclusion. The Learning Exchanges will be designed and organized to be gender inclusive and will also contribute to the development of the IC Community of Practice under Component 4.

Outcome 2.3: IPLC organizational capacity increased to formulate sustainable financing strategies.

Work under this Outcome will support the capacity of partner organizations in and beyond the ICPGs to design and establish sustainable financing mechanisms for IPLC-led conservation, such as payments for ecosystem services, trust funds or access to credit facilities for IPLC enterprises. This specialized capacity building will be supported by an Opportunity Analysis in each ICPG to define which financial mechanisms are appropriate to the ICPG context and to identify potential partners and sustainable finance investors to support the development of long-term financing mechanisms.

All the target indicators are subject to further refinement according to the priority geographies and scope of on-the-ground activities prioritized in ICI projects. The targets and indicators for this outcome are as follows:

Indicators	Targets
Indicator 2.3.1: Number of ICI partner organizations that show at least [%] improvement in sustainable financing organizational capacity assessment scorecards.	Target 2.3.1: 4-16 ICI partner organizations show at least 10% improvement.
Indicator 2.3.2: Percentage of ICI partner organizations report greater capacity in proposal development and fundraising skills.	Target 2.3.2: ~60% ICI partner organizations

Output 2.3.1: Financial Opportunity Analysis completed.

An Opportunity Analysis will be conducted to identify long-term finance mechanisms and impact investment opportunities in priority geographies. The analysis will define which financial mechanisms are appropriate to the ICPG context and to identify potential partners and sustainable finance investors to support the development of long-term financing mechanisms.

Output 2.3.2: Capacity Building in Sustainable Financing delivered.

The project will support capacity building of IPLC partners to understand sustainable financing options, how different mechanisms function, and the types of investors, partners or government agencies who will fund them. As part of each Impact Strategy, EAs will conduct outreach to establish collaborations and put an appropriate mechanism in place. Existing expertise at the Implementing Agency (IA) organizations will contribute to this output.

Component 3: IPLC Leadership in International Environmental Policy: *Building the pathway from local action to global impact through targeted engagement in international environmental policy and relevant international platforms.*

International environmental policy spaces are key arenas for setting directions and establishing commitments that create either enabling or constraining conditions for IPLC-led conservation. This project will invest in actions to enhance IPLC voices in decision-making at the Rio Conventions and other relevant fora in order to strengthen their provisions on IPLC rights and roles in relation to conservation, climate change and other environmental issues. The ICI will seek strategic opportunities to help systematize and strengthen IPLC representation, based on targeted representation with clear policy objectives, added value to existing initiatives and defined communication goals. These activities will be developed and implemented in collaboration with existing IPLC-led caucuses such as the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Biodiversity (IIPFB), the Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network and the UNFCCC LCIPP. IPLC International Policy Fellows, both men and women, will increase the pool of IPLC advocates for environmental policy.

Outcome 3.1: Strengthened influence of IPLCs in relevant regional and international decision-making processes.

Work under this Outcome will enhance IPLC influence on global policy and increase global awareness of IPLC-led conservation and its contribution to global biodiversity and GEBs in Rio Conventions and other relevant conventions (such as the Minamata Convention) and international platforms.

All the target indicators are subject to further refinement according to the priority geographies and scope of on-the-ground activities prioritized in ICI projects. The targets and indicators for this outcome are as follows:

Indicators	Targets
Indicator 3.1.1: Number of IPLC leaders who report greater opportunity to influence international environmental policy with support of ICI (disaggregated by gender, affiliation, IPLC status, country, convention, and accreditation).	Target 3.1.1: ≥40 IPLC leaders; 50% women
Indicator 3.1.2: Number of ICI partners engaging with and providing technical support to national delegations. (disaggregated by gender, affiliation, country, convention).	Target 3.1.2: ~10 Country delegations

Output 3.1.1: ICI Policy Coordination Mechanisms developed to support IPLC engagement across Rio Conventions and other fora.

The project will work with existing and emerging IPLC policy platforms to enhance engagement and coordination across conventions with a focus on increasing synergies on the Rio Conventions agenda items that affect IPLCs. The project will carry out this work in conjunction with platforms and forums actively engaged at the Rio and other relevant Conventions and other global fora, including recognized constituencies such as the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Biodiversity (IIPFB) and the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC).

Output 3.1.2: ICI International Environmental Policy Negotiations Curricula developed and delivered.

Capacity building to enhance negotiation skills will be delivered through this Output. Attendance at the conventions will provide hands-on experience of the workings of the Rio Conventions and other relevant conventions and global fora, such as the Minamata Convention and CITES. ICI capacity building resources in the ICLA will support delivery of this output, as will training offered by IPLC policy forums and caucuses. The focus will be on targeted engagement working in conjunction with the above-mentioned bodies, based on clear policy objectives and communication goals, and on skills to link global policy engagement to national policy engagement within the priority geographies.

Output 3.1.3: ICI International Environmental Policy Fellows Program established and supported.

IPLC International Environmental Policy Fellows will focus on building the next generation of female and male leaders in IPLC policy advocacy, building on experiences such as CI's Indigenous Leaders Conservation Fellowship.^[iviii] Policy Fellowships will expand the group of skilled IPLC policy advocates able to influence environmental policy. Selection of the Fellows will be managed by CI and IUCN, with final selection made by the ICI Steering Committee. The selection process will ensure gender inclusivity.

Output 3.1.4: IPLC representation and recognition increased at the Rio Conventions and other relevant international conventions and platforms.

The ICI IAs and EAs will work with existing IPLC Policy platforms and caucuses and other partners to organize high-level events and networking opportunities at policy meetings prioritized by IPLC partners (for example, these may include the Minamata Convention, Rio Conventions, CITES, Equator Initiative, New York Declaration on Forests, DGM, IUCN, ICCA Consortium). IPLC representatives from the ICPGs will share lessons from project activities related to biodiversity conservation, climate mitigation and sustainable livelihoods, highlighting the relevance of large-scale, on-the-ground action by IPLCs to international environmental policy.

Component 4: ICI Knowledge to Action: Transforming Inclusive Conservation Knowledge and Lessons Learned into demonstration models that expand support and advance field of IPLC-led conservation.

ICI leaders will generate, distill and disseminate results from the Initiative that show the impacts of their work, the application of traditional knowledge systems, lessons learned, and potential for replication and amplification of Inclusive Conservation models. Sharing of results and analysis will aim to shift the paradigm of conservation towards IPLC-led conservation by contributing evidence of the large-scale effectiveness of IPLC stewardship in achieving biodiversity and sustainable development goals.

All the target indicators are subject to further refinement according to the priority geographies and scope of on-the-ground activities prioritized in ICI projects. The targets and indicators for this outcome are as follows:

Indicators	Targets
Indicator 4.1.1: Publications, reports, communication materials or tools that advance the field of IPLC-led conservation.	Target 4.1.1: ≥ 36 publications, reports, communication materials or tools
Indicator 4.1.2: Number of partnerships identified in each Region to strengthen collaboration outside priority geographies and build linkages with the ICI Community of Practice.	Target 4.1.2: ≥ 2 -5 partnerships
Indicator 4.1.3: Percentage of IPLC Organizations who report greater collaboration after participating in Community of Practice (disaggregated by gender, affiliation, country, theme).	Target 4.1.3: $\geq 75\%$ IPLC Organizations

Outcome 4.1: The field of IPLC-led conservation advanced with improved knowledge management.

A comprehensive Knowledge Management Platform will be established to distill, disseminate and communicate the lessons and results of the ICI for both internal and external audiences. The Knowledge Management Platform will increase the evidence base for large-scale impacts from IPLC roles as stewards of the global environment, distill and disseminate Inclusive Conservation results to local and global audiences in culturally appropriate and inclusive formats and languages, host an ICI Community of Practice, and develop and manage communication channels to reach and inform key audiences. At project mid-term, ICI will capture results to review the impact strategy and document learning progress. The Knowledge Management Platform will also link to other important knowledge products and hubs such as the [ICCA Registry\[ix\]](#), the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's) [Earth Observations for Indigenous-led management\[ix\]](#), the [DGM Global Network\[ixi\]](#), [IUCN Panorama\[ixii\]](#) among others.

Output 4.1.1: ICI Knowledge Management Platform established.

The ICI Knowledge Management Platform will host the evidence base (increased by this project) for large-scale impacts from IPLC-led projects, and disseminate Inclusive Conservation results to local and global audiences in culturally appropriate and inclusive formats and languages. The Knowledge Management Platform will build upon existing successful IPLC learning platforms and activities such as the IUCN Panorama. It will host the IC Learning Academy developed under Component 2, gather and share knowledge resources on Inclusive Conservation approaches, experience and results, and serve as a virtual hub for the ICI Community of Practice. The Platform will also link to other relevant knowledge sources such as the ICCA Registry, the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's) Earth Observations for Indigenous-led management, the DGM Global Network, the IUCN/TRAFFIC/International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) learning platform People Not Poaching and/or IUCN Panorama among others.

Output 4.1.2: ICI Knowledge Products developed with IPLC organizations in multiple languages and culturally appropriate formats.

The project will generate evidence, lessons learned, best practices and innovative solutions to deliver GEBs through IPLC-led conservation. It will also explore and pursue opportunities for global analysis to fill knowledge gaps and marshal impactful evidence. In addition to being hosted on the Knowledge Platform, information will be disseminated through a variety of methods and platforms, including written publications, video storytelling, blogs, webinars and social

media. IPLC organizations, Young Project Implementers and Global Leader Fellows will be encouraged to organize community meetings to share project activities and results, and to engage government, private sector and other stakeholders and partners to enable sharing and expansion of ICI models.

Output 4.1.3: ICI Community of Practice established and supported.

The Community of Practice will bring together project grantees and other organizations and networks working to achieve common Inclusive Conservation goals. It will build on the ICI Learning Exchanges (Outcome 2.2) and other global policy events or partner initiatives (such as the Equator Initiative) that will contribute to the Community of Practice, and further strengthen networks and collaborations across IPLC organizations and international partners. The Community of Practice will operate through virtual interactions, facilitated through the Knowledge Management Platform, as well as through in-person activities. By participating in the Community of Practice, IPLC organizations will be empowered with substantive information they can use in their own activities to achieve IC and IPLC objectives. The Community of Practice will enable ICPG organizations to discuss management methods and progress toward their impact targets for improving IPLC-led biodiversity conservation and share methodologies and results of the ICI within and beyond project geographies.

Outcome 4.2: Expanded audience engaged in IPLC-led conservation.

ICI will require a strategy to expand the audiences engaged in the field of IPLC-led conservation, including national government policymakers and agencies, donors and other partners. A project-wide communications strategy, including needs assessment and performance tracking tools, will be developed in collaboration with regional IPLC EA partner organizations. Marketing and branding materials will be developed to build both local and global recognition and awareness of Inclusive Conservation's aims, results and relevance.

All the target indicators are subject to further refinement according to the priority geographies and scope of on-the-ground activities prioritized in ICI projects. The targets and indicators for this outcome are as follows:

Indicators	Targets
Indicator 4.2.1: Number of average monthly visits to ICI Knowledge Platform.	Target 4.2.1: ~500 average monthly visits
Indicator 4.2.2: Number of members of ICI Community of Practice (disaggregated by gender, IPLC status, county, field of expertise).	Target 4.2.2: ≥900 members (disaggregated by gender, IPLC status, county, field of expertise)
Indicator 4.2.3: Percent increase in project communications performance scorecard (disaggregated by Regional Node).	Target 4.2.3: 10% increase in project communications performance scorecard (disaggregated by (Priority Geography))

Output 4.2.1: ICI communications needs assessed, and communications strategy developed.

A communication needs assessment will be conducted for the overall ICI to understand key audiences and address communication gaps. A communications strategy will be developed in line with Impact Strategies (Output 1.1.3). The messages and communications channels identified will help expand support for gender-responsive ICI models and approaches, particularly those which are gender responsive.

Output 4.2.2: ICI Communications Program executed.

Based on the Communications Strategy, the ICI will execute a comprehensive and consistent Communications Program to address communications needs across all four components at ICPG and global levels and ensure the flow of information within the project and to outside audiences and stakeholders. ICI standard communications products (logo, guidelines, templates, photography), communication channels (website, social media, blogs, press releases), and trainings on program communications (messaging, social media management, crisis communications, performance analytic tools) will be provided to project partners. All ICPG Executing Agencies will identify a communications lead who will act as point person for ICI communications and receive training on the implementation of the Communications Program.

4) Alignment with GEF focal area and/or impact program strategies

The Inclusive Conservation Initiative is a Focal Area Investment under the GEF Biodiversity Strategy Framework. ICI project investments will align with the GEF's focal area investment strategy by selecting project geographies in vulnerable IPLC lands and territories with high biodiversity and potentially significant carbon stocks. ICI project investments will align the investment focus for IPLC lands and territories as follows:

- Site-based conservation and sustainable use: Investment through grants to IPLC organizations for projects that deliver GEBs in Component 1.
- Sustainable financing of IPLC-driven conservation: Capacity building and development of sustainable financing mechanisms in Component 2.
- Capacity development for IPLC organizations and integration of diverse knowledge systems to achieve conservation and sustainable natural resource management outcomes: Capacity building to strengthen IPLC organizations' management and implementation capacity and knowledge management to expand the ICI model across Components 1-4.

5) Incremental or additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF/SCCF and co-financing

Indigenous peoples remain limited beneficiaries of funding from the GEF. ICI will help move forward the IPLC agenda in the GEF, increasing and encouraging mainstreaming of IPLC issues into environmental programming. It will be a pioneer GEF project addressing IPLCs' requests to establish and strengthen dedicated funding opportunities for IPLC projects or organizations.^[ixiii] ICI will also address the following GEF STAP recommendations to GEF programs and projects that involve lands and resources managed by IPLCs:^[ixiv]

- Projects include institutional drivers (such as insecure or weak tenure) in problem analyses, and consider how shifting the rights, incentives, and capacities facing IPLCs could lead to transformative change; and,
- Projects to strengthen or establish community-based management incorporate fundamental design characteristics such as: encouraging the establishment of secure land and resource tenure for IPLCs; supporting inclusive, equitable, and effective community governance; and enhancing the financial and non-financial benefits that communities can gain from the sustainable use of wild resources and ecosystem services.

The GEF incremental investment will generate additional global environmental benefits by demonstrating the effectiveness of IPLC management systems and enhancing the financial and non-financial benefits that communities can gain from culturally appropriate and self-determined forms of sustainable use of natural resources and ecosystem services (see Table 2 below and Section E of this document). Further details will be completed during the PPG phase when priority geographies will be determined in consultation with the GEF's IPAG and other IPLC organizations.

Table 3. Project baseline, alternative scenarios and global environmental benefits.

Baseline	Alternative Scenario	Global Environmental Benefits
Major gaps in terms of IPLCs being able to access and manage funds directly to implement larger-scale IPLC-led conservation initiatives.	The project will invest directly in IPLCs, enabling them to address the growing drivers of environmental degradation impacting their lands and resources.	Strengthened IPLC-led management of landscapes and seascapes for conservation and sustainable development.
Gaps in integrated approaches that achieve larger-scale IPLC conservation results.	ICI will combine substantial investments in specific locations with support to magnify local results through global capacity-building, policy influence and demonstration of large-scale impacts.	Demonstrated effectiveness of IPLC management systems to deliver GEB.
Weak interaction between IPLCs and national governments in the implementation of international policies related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.	ICI will catalyze the transformational changes needed to secure and enhance support for the contributions of IPLCs to biodiversity and other global environmental benefits.	Strengthened local cultures, economies and livelihoods. Support of traditional knowledge systems.
Gap in specific investments in capacity-building to address implementation and sustainable financing needs.		Expand the audience and advance the field of IPLC-led conservation.
Gaps in local to global connections that ensure access to technical information and communication of IPLC-led conservation initiatives.		

6) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)

The Inclusive Conservation Initiative's on-the-ground IPLC-led project portfolios described in Component 1, have the potential to directly improve the management of approximately 3,555,000 hectares of landscapes and seascapes in biodiversity hotspots where indigenous peoples and local communities hold areas of high biodiversity under customary or statutory tenure rights. This includes the following:

- Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness: 300,000 hectares
- Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness: 180,000 hectares
- Agricultural and forest land restored: 75,000 hectares
- Landscape under improved practices: 2,600,000 hectares
- Marine habitat under improved practices: 400,000 hectares

ICI Impact Strategies (Output 1.1.3) will expand on contributions to several of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 15, which focuses on conservation of biodiversity and critical ecosystems (See Annex I). Impact Strategies will be based on self-determined initiatives and will guide project design and implementation of the ICI portfolio in priority geographies. Activities will encompass the following:

- Enhancing IPLC rights and governance of natural resources (Output 1.1.5),
- Improving management of natural and cultural resources in IPLC Lands and Territories (Output 1.1.6),
- Addressing the drivers of environmental degradation affecting IPLC sustainable development (Output 1.1.7), and
- Supporting the economic and financial sustainability of IPLC-led conservation (Output 1.1.8).

The IPLC-led conservation models will demonstrate the effectiveness of IPLC-led conservation in delivering global environmental benefits, underpinning the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework and Sustainable Development Goals (see Annex V), mitigating at least 12 million metrics tons of CO₂ and directly benefiting at least 60,000 people from on-the-ground project activities as well as 10,000 beneficiaries from capacity building and global component project activities. The capacity built with this project will equip IPLC partners to access larger conservation finance opportunities, influence decision-making of international environmental policy, and move forward the IPLC agenda of the GEF.

All these benefits will be further assessed and refined during the PPG phase once priority geographies are identified and scope of project sites are defined.

7) Innovation, sustainability, and potential for scaling up

Innovation: The GEF has a history of working with IPLCs and has actively involved indigenous peoples in 220 medium and full-size projects and more than 2,300 projects under the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) between 1991 and 2014. While these engagements have yielded positive results and the GEF Small Grants Programme continues to innovate in their role, the GEF has yet to create a pathway for IPLC organizations to access medium- and full-size grants at the scale necessary to implement larger-scale initiatives and deliver the greatest GEBs. The ICI will innovate by investing the larger volumes of resources required for larger-scale IPLC biodiversity conservation and natural resource management activities, while accompanying these with investments to strengthen project and financial management capacities. The ICI will also innovate by laying the groundwork for financial sustainability through the developments of trust funds, private sector investment in IPLC-led businesses and exploration of new models through impact investing.

The ICI will also catalyze and document innovations in generating global environmental benefits through integrated and scaled-up approaches that support the critical role IPLCs play in stewarding the world's biodiversity and forests. To date, there is growing experience and a plethora of studies showing the types of policy conditions and support that enable IPLC-led community-based institutions and local governance regimes to deliver critical GEBs. For example, there is growing evidence that increasing the security of IPLC tenure and benefit-sharing lowers deforestation rates and is essential to meeting local and global conservation goals. The ICI will build on this knowledge and further innovate by supporting integrated approaches linking across the types of interventions needed for successful IPLC conservation outcomes, such as strengthening tenure security, addressing threats, improving local management and generating sustainable income streams. The ICI will systematically document and share this evidence from this experience to inform wider practice.

Sustainability: Within the last decade there has been a strong push to increase IPLC's direct access to conservation finance. Pioneering platforms began less than a decade ago, followed by a second generation of grant facilities targeting specific IPLC issues. The Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (DGM) represents one of these innovative programs for fighting forest loss by putting project design and funding decisions in the hands of IPLCs and there is much to be learned from this mechanism. These lessons include IPLC governance, decision-making, project and grant management, policy influence, adaptability and IPLC leadership while delivering on forest investment strategies. ICI provides an opportunity to expand similar

experiences and build on foundational programs like the GEF Small Grants Programme to continue to move beyond small grants to larger investments that will yield the recognition IPLCs deserve and protect GEBs at a greater scale. The ICI will build on the achievements of the DGM, GEF Small Grants Programme, CEPF, and other related programs and mechanisms, contributing to more inclusive conservation practices and large-scale investments in IPLC-led conservation. ICI will lay the groundwork for financial sustainability beyond grants through the developments of trust funds, private sector investment in IPLC-led businesses and explore new financing models through impact investing.

Within the ICI, actions to secure sustainability are built into each project component, encompassing policy, social capital, capacity and financial dimensions of sustainability. For example, under Component 1 the project will support transformational foundations such as increased tenure security and the strengthening of community governance and “life plans” that will persist beyond the project term. Components 1 and 2 will both invest in building capacities of IPLC organizations that will enable them to further implement and secure financial resources for IPLC-led conservation into the future. In particular, the ICI will directly support financial and administrative capacity building with IPLCs to enable their direct access to sustainable financing. Component 3 will promote enabling international policy conditions that support the ongoing practice and expansion of IPLC-led conservation, while Component 4 provides an evidence base and engages wider constituencies to support inclusive conservation approaches beyond the project term.

Potential for Scaling up: The overall focus of the project is to increase the level of investment in IPLC communities and organizations, which will enable these IPLC communities and organizations to scale up their conservation and sustainable land management initiatives. These scaled up investments are the central focus of Component 1. Throughout the project, ICI will focus on continued engagement with potential partners and seek additional financing to support scaling up. ICI will also explore opportunities to scale up from past or current IPLC SGP grantees and graduate organizations that may be good candidates for IC investments in selected geographies and territories.

Capacity building under Component 2 also contributes to scaling up by including IPLC organizations from other parts of the world in capacity-building activities that will promote the spread of IPLC-led conservation action and impact beyond the project geographies and project term. Additionally, Component 2 includes a focus on sustainable financing mechanisms and capacity in fundraising and financial management to secure scaled up and longer-term investments in IPLC-led conservation. IUCN and CI as GEF IAs will play a role during the life of this project to enable IPLC organizations involved in the project to qualify for, apply to and obtain larger conservation finance opportunities. Relevant initiatives include IUCN's Coalition for Private Investment in Conservation (CPIC) and CI's support to the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (CEPF).

[i] IPBES (2019) Summary of Policymakers of the global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

[ii] Garnett, S. T., Burgess, N. D., Fa, J. E., Fernández-Llamazares, Á., Molnár, Z., Robinson, C. J., ... & Collier, N. F. (2018). A spatial overview of the global importance of Indigenous lands for conservation. *Nature Sustainability*, 1(7), 369.

[iii] IPBES (2019) Summary of Policymakers of the global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

[iv] Frechette, A.; Reynter, K.; Saini, S.; Walker, W. Toward a Global Baseline of Carbon Storage in Collective Lands: An updated analysis of Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' contributions to climate change mitigation. Washington, DC: RRI.

- [v] Selig, E. R., Turner, W. R., Troëng, S., Wallace, B. P., Halpern, B. S., Kaschner, K., ... & Mittermeier, R. A. (2014). Global priorities for marine biodiversity conservation. *PloS one*, 9(1), e82898.
- [vi] Stevens, C., Winterbottom, R., Springer, J., & Reytar, K. (2014). Securing rights, combating climate change: How strengthening community forest rights mitigates climate change. World Resources Institute: Washington, DC, USA, 56.
- [vii] Nelson, A., & Chomitz, K. M. (2011). Effectiveness of strict vs. multiple use protected areas in reducing tropical forest fires: a global analysis using matching methods. *PloS one*, 6(8), e22722.
- [viii] IPCC (2019) Summary of Policy Markers of the Special Report on Climate Change and Land.
- [ix] IPCC (2019) Summary of Policy Markers of the Special Report on Climate Change and Land.
- [x] Global Witness (2018). At What Cost? Irresponsible business and the murder of land and environmental defenders in 2017. London: Global Witness. <https://www.globalwitness.org/en-gb/campaigns/environmental-activists/at-what-cost>.
- [xi] Laurance, W. F., Peletier-Jellema, A., Geenen, B., Koster, H., Verweij, P., Van Dijck, P., ... & Van Kuijk, M. (2015). Reducing the global environmental impacts of rapid infrastructure expansion. *Current Biology*, 25(7), R259-R262.
- [xii] Anderson, E. P. et al. (2018). Fragmentation of Andes-to-Amazon connectivity by hydropower dams. *Science advances*, 4(1), eaao1642.
- [xiii] Cepek, M. L. (2018). Life in oil: Cofán survival in the petroleum fields of Amazonia. University of Texas Press.
- [xiv] Global Land Matrix (December 2017). Retrieved from [link](#).
- [xv] Hufe, Paul and Daniel F. Heuermann (2017). The local impacts of large-scale land acquisitions: a review of case study evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa. *Journal of Contemporary African Studies* Vol. 35, Iss. 2.
- [xvi] The Munden Project (2015). *Communities as Counterparties: Preliminary Review of Concessions and Conflict in Emerging and Frontier Market Concessions*. Washington, DC: Rights and Resources Initiative.
- [xvii] Springer, Jenny and Gerardo Segura 2019. Securing Forest Tenure Rights for Rural Development: An Analytical Framework. Program on Forests (PROFOR). Washington, DC: World Bank.
- [xviii] Alden Wily, L. (2018). Collective land ownership in the 21st century: Overview of global trends. *Land*, 7(2), 68
- [xix] Rights and Resources Initiative. (2015). Who Owns the World's Land? A global baseline of formally recognized indigenous and community land rights. RRI, Washington, DC.
- [xx] Warnholtz, G. S., Fernández, M., Smyle, J., & Springer, J. (2017). Securing Forest Tenure Rights for Rural Development. World Bank Publications.
- [xxi] Larson, A. M., & Pulhin, J. M. (2012). Enhancing forest tenure reforms through more responsive regulations. *Conservation and Society*, 10(2), 103.
- [xxii] Krause, T., Collen, W., & Nicholas, K. (2013). Evaluating safeguards in a conservation incentive program: participation, consent, and benefit sharing in indigenous communities of the Ecuadorian Amazon. *Ecology and Society*, 18(4).
- [xxiii] Waldron, A. et al. (2013). Targeting global conservation funding to limit immediate biodiversity declines. *PNAS* 110(29): 12144–12148
- [xxiv] Global Environment Facility Independent Evaluation Office (2018). Evaluation of GEF Engagement with Indigenous Peoples. Evaluation Report No. 119.

[xxv] Ibid.

[xxvi] White, A., Schmidt, R., Coyle, I., Colley, J. D., & Bigda, L. Indigenous Peoples and Local Community Tenure in the INDCs.

[xxvii] IPBES (2019) Summary of Policymakers of the global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

[xxviii] Notess, L. et al.(2018). The Scramble for Land Rights: Reducing Inequity between Communities and Companies. World Resources Institute, Washington, DC.

[xxix] Schleicher et al.2017

[xxx] Child, B., Cooney, R. (2019). Local Commons for Global Benefits: Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel to the Global Environmental Facility. GEF/STAP/C.56/inf.05Washington, DC.

[xxxi] GEF Small Grants Programme (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xxxii] GEF Impact Programs (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xxxiii] Child, B., Cooney, R. (2019). Local Commons for Global Benefits: Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel to the Global Environmental Facility. GEF/STAP/C.56/inf.05Washington, DC.

[xxxiv] FAO (2010) Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools. Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xxxv] ICCA Consortium (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xxxvi] DGM Global (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xxxvii] DGM Annual Report (2018) Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xxxviii] IUCN Governance and Rights (2019) Retrieved from:) [link](#)

[xxxix] The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xl] The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xli] NICFI (2019) retrieved from: [link](#).

[xlii] Nia Tero (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xliii] The Tenure Facility (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xliv] Ford Foundation (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xlv] FCPF Capacity Building Program (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

[xlvi] Conservation Agreements Private Partnership Platform (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

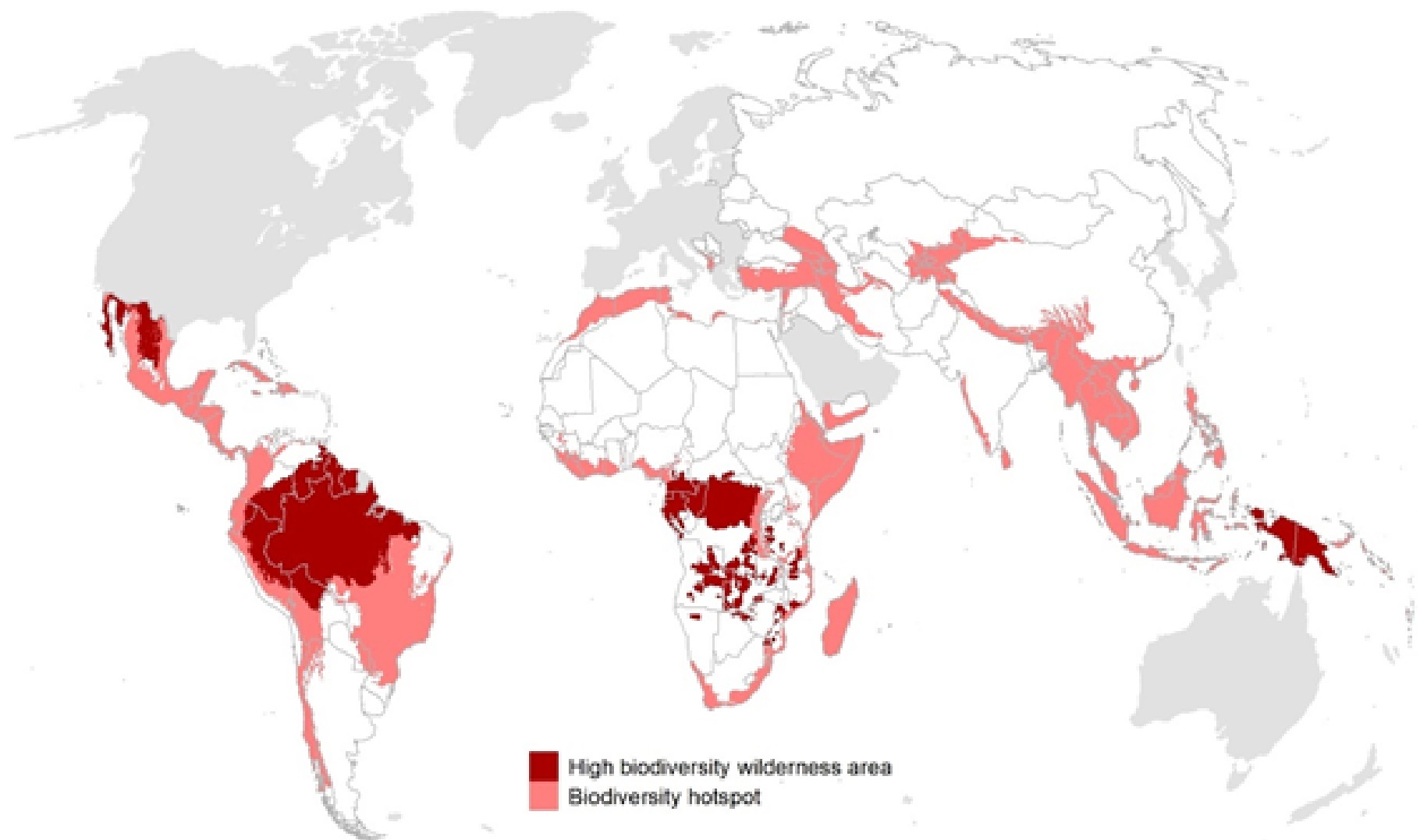
[xlvii] Coalition for Private Investment in Conservation (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

- [xlvi] International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [xlix] Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [i] The International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Biodiversity (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [ii] Working Group on Article 8(j) (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [iii] UNDP Equator Initiative (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [iiii] UNESCO Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [iv] Climate Land Use Alliance (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [iv] Global estimates of annual average above-ground biomass carbon (ABC) for 1993-2012.
- [ivi] Jenkins, C.N. & K. Van Houtan. (2016). Global and regional priorities for marine biodiversity protection. Biological Conservation doi:10.1016/j.biocon.2016.10.005
- [lvii] Garnett et al. (2018) Global map of lands managed and/or controlled by Indigenous Peoples.
- [lviii] Conservation International (2019) Indigenous Leaders Conservation Fellowship. Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [lix] ICCA Registry (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [lx] NASA EO4IM (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [lxi] DGM Global (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [lxii] IUCN Panorama (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)
- [lxiii] Global Environment Facility Independent Evaluation Office (2018). Evaluation of GEF Engagement with Indigenous Peoples. Evaluation Report No. 119.
- [lxiv] Child, B., Cooney, R. (2019). Local Commons for Global Benefits: Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel to the Global Environmental Facility. GEF/STAP/C.56/inf.05 Washington, DC.
- [lxv] Blackman, A., Corral, L., Lima, E., & Asner, G. (2017). Titling indigenous communities protects forests in the Peruvian Amazon. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A., 114, 123-128.
- [lxvi] Schleicher, J., Peres, C. A., Amano, T., Llahtayo, W., & Leader-Williams, N. (2017). Conservation performance of different conservation governance regimes in the Peruvian Amazon. Scientific reports, 7(1), 11318.
- [lxvii] Rights and Resources Initiative. (2016). Toward a Global Baseline of Carbon Storage in Collective Lands: An updated analysis of Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' contributions to climate change mitigation. Washington, DC: RRI.

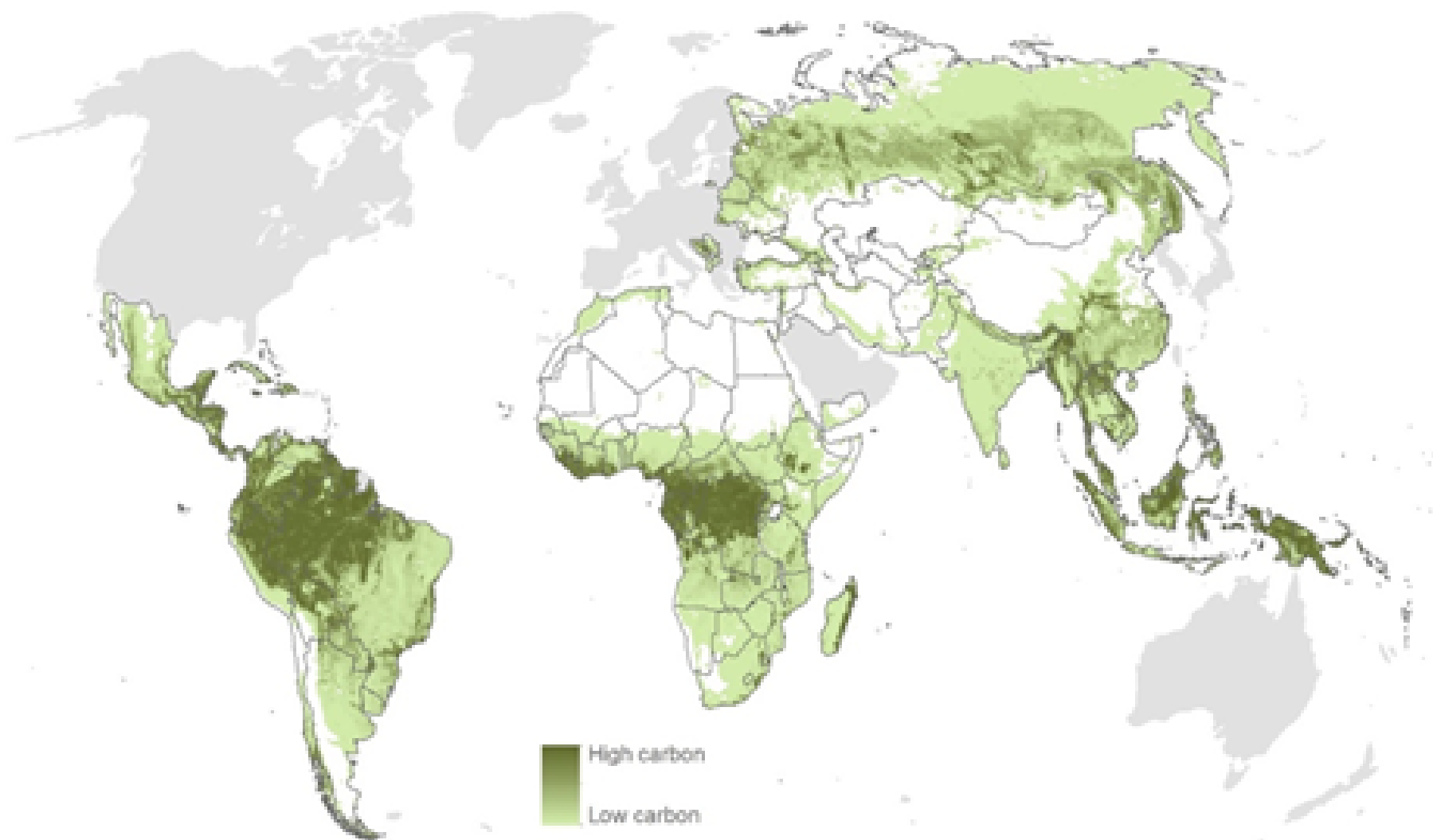
1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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

Map 1: High Biodiversity Areas

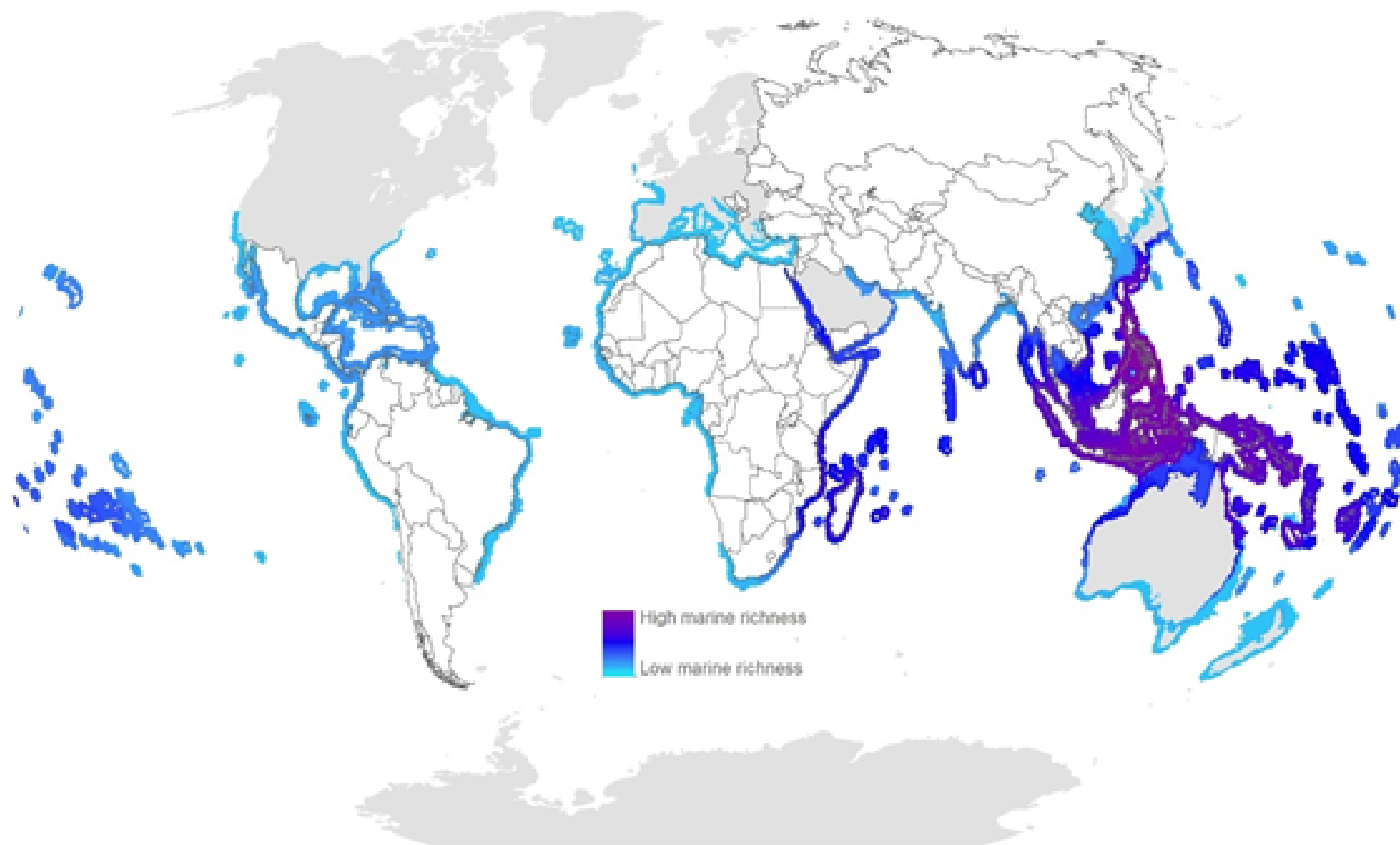


Myers, N., Mittermeier, R. A., Mittermeier, C. G., da Fonseca, G. A. B. & Kent, J. Biodiversity hotspots for conservation priorities. *Nature* 403, 853–858 (2000); Brooks, T. M. et al. Global biodiversity conservation priorities. *Science* 313: 58-61 (2006)

Map 2: High above-ground biomass carbon areas

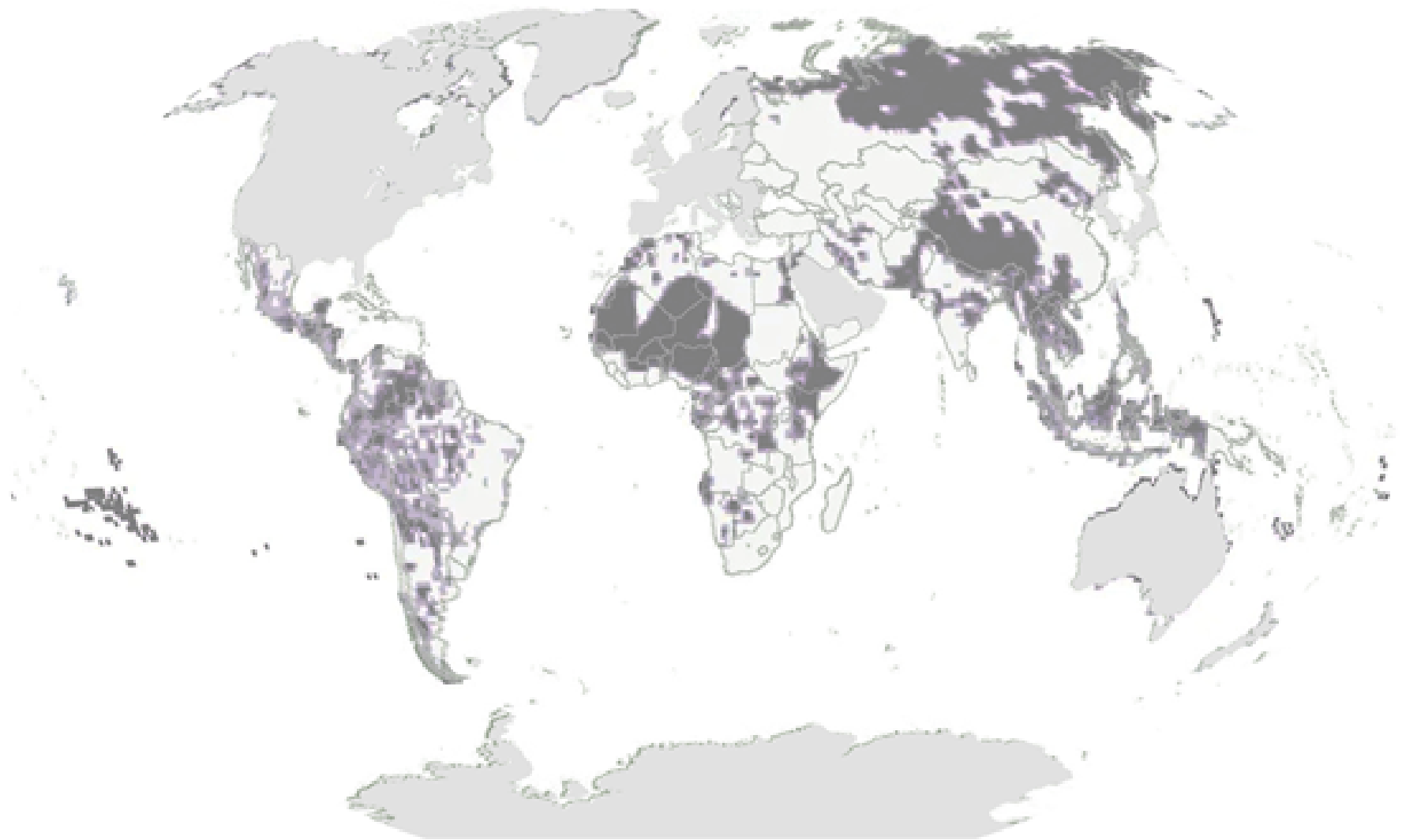
Global estimates of annual average above-ground biomass carbon (ABC) for 2012. Liu, Y.Y., A.I.J.M. van Dijk, R.A.M. de Jeu, J.G. Canadell, M.F. McCabe, J.P. Evans and G. Wang (2015) Recent reversal in loss of global terrestrial biomass, Nature Climate Change 5

Map 3: Marine Biodiversity Areas (only fish diversity)



Jenkins, C.N. & K. Van Houtan. (2016). Global and regional priorities for marine biodiversity protection. *Biological Conservation*

Map 4: Lands managed or controlled by IPs



Garnett et al. (2018) Global map of lands managed and/or controlled by Indigenous Peoples.

2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Yes

Civil Society Organizations

Private Sector Entities

If none of the above, please explain why:

In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.

The objective of ICI is to enhance Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) efforts to steward land, waters and natural resources that deliver global environmental benefits through access to resources required for large-scale conservation and natural resource management activities. Thus, IPLCs are primary stakeholders for engagement in the entire process from PIF development, through the PPG phase and project implementation. While IPLCs are the primary stakeholders for ICI, the Agencies have begun and will continue to engage with local organizations, national governments and donors throughout the process to ensure coherence and relevance, mitigate conflict and leverage financial or technical resources. The goal of stakeholder engagement is to involve all project stakeholders, as early as possible in the design and implementation and to make sure their views and input are received and taken into consideration.

In all cases, IPLC-led organizations will be the primary decision makers. FPIC will be a guiding principle in the selection of ICI-supported projects. Proponents will be asked to demonstrate how FPIC was obtained with the targeted communities.

Engagement with the GEF Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group (IPAG)

Upon selection of the ICI Implementing Agencies, a two-day consultation meeting was held with GEF's IPAG to review the Agency proposal and consult on further inputs specifically pertaining to geographies, traditional knowledge and overall project scope. The Implementing Agencies, CI and IUCN, have incorporated comments and feedback from the IPAG into the PIF. Once the PIF is approved, CI and IUCN will work with the IPAG to design the consultation process for the project preparation phase. This will include the terms of reference and formation of the ISC.

The IPAG also clarified and outlined their role in relation to ICI. The role of the IPAG regarding the ICI is to provide advice and guidance rather than to serve as a decision-making group; IPAG views such an advisory role to provide important input to effective ICI implementation; and the role of IPAG should be kept under review over the course of the PPG and beyond. This role will be reviewed at each IPAG Steering Committee meeting.

Engagement with IPO Networks

CI and IUCN have initiated and will continue engagement with CI's Indigenous Advisory Group and IUCN's member IPOs to further facilitate discussions with regional, national and international organizations and networks. CI and IUCN will also hold virtual discussions, and where possible have in-person meetings with regional organizations, such as the Coordinating Body of Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon (COICA), Indigenous Peoples of Africa Co-ordinating

Committee (IPACC), Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) and others, as well as with international caucuses such as the Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network (IWBN), International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB), International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC), IP Major Group on the SDGs, and with other international organizations and networks such as the DGM Global Steering Committee and the ICCA Consortium. These organizations and fora have their own dynamics and priorities that will be taken into consideration when developing the full project. IUCN and CI have had discussions via our in-country offices working with IPLCs to get input from our partners on ICI. Further work will be done with these groups and many others during the PPG phase as part of the formal consultation process.

Engagement with other Stakeholders

Given that ICI investments will take place at sites located in countries where other stakeholders such as national and subnational governments, communities, NGOs and donors will be present, ICI will conduct outreach with stakeholders in and around proposed ICI sites as part of the site selection process during the PPG phase. This will ensure broad engagement, additional technical inputs, reduce or mitigate any potential conflicts and explore leverage of financial or technical resources. During the PIF stage, initial outreach was conducted with select organizations on leverage opportunities such as the GEF's SGP, Nia Tero, The Tenure Facility, NICFI, National Geographic, Climate Investment Funds, Global Wildlife Conservation, the World Bank and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Stakeholder Engagement in the PPG Phase

In accordance with the CI and IUCN Agencies' discussions with GEF's IPAG, all consultations during the stakeholder engagement process should be clear, open and transparent. During the PPG phase, the CI and IUCN GEF Agencies will work with the ISC to prepare an action plan to conduct broad-range global consultations to refine selection of the project geographies. There will be a particular emphasis in the global consultations with regional IPLC organizations. CI and IUCN will also work with the ISC to develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) and conduct a complete safeguards screening analysis during the PPG phase.

Once priority geographies are confirmed, CI and IUCN will engage IPLCs, local organizations, and national and subnational governments as prescribed in the ICI SEP and consultation process developed during the PPG phase.

In instances where regional organizations are present, both the leadership council and secretariat will be consulted to ensure buy-in by members. In cases where there is more than one IPLC organization willing and able to act as an executing partner, organizations should be given the time and space to discuss and come up with a solution.

Once sites are defined and EAs are selected, the EAs will also call upon their indigenous and non-indigenous partners' field offices to provide insights and inputs on the potential areas of focus and site level project design. Care will be taken to ensure that the consultations will include groups that are not often part of regional or international gatherings.

Key events in 2020 will be used opportunistically as part of the PPG consultation process. These include the IUCN World Conservation Congress in France, UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the CBD COP15 in China and regional meetings held by IPLC organizations. It is expected that several IPAG Members will attend these meetings and could be included as part of the consultative process. The possibility of launching the ICI at one or more of these meetings could also be considered.

The Role of the Interim Steering Committee (ISC)

The Steering Committee (SC) will assume authority at the inception of the project and will meet in-person once a year. An ISC will be created and convened by the Implementing Agencies during the PPG phase to inform and advise on the structure and membership of the SC and on full project development, including selection of priority geographies. The ISC will guide the final membership and selection of the SC through the development of a terms of reference. The ISC will be composed of five members: two indigenous members of the GEF IPAG, two additional indigenous representatives and one member of the GEF Secretariat. The addition of two non-GEF members will allow for a broader regional balance and technical expertise of the ISC. The ISC will convene (in person or virtually) at the beginning, midpoint and end of the PPG phase to review the final project design. The ISC will be called upon during the PPG phase for technical advice and to discuss targets. The CI and IUCN GEF Implementing Agencies will be responsible for convening the ISC as part of the PPG process.

Grievance and Redress Mechanism (GRM)

ICI will design, during the PPG phase, a tiered complaints redress mechanism and complaints handling structure, with an appeals procedure and escalation provisions. The ICI GRM will be consistent with the GEF requirements. These should apply at local and global levels and should draw from experience with similar mechanisms. The project GRM must be independent and transparent.

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis).

Gender is one of the most fundamental social characteristics that contributes to one’s use and knowledge of natural resources, one’s ability to control and make decisions about resources, and one’s ability to participate, and ultimately benefit, in natural resource management. Gendered use of natural resources is often even more apparent among IPLCs, who rely so heavily on natural resources in their day-to-day lives. General conclusions from extensive research and observation include that women tend to depend more on natural resources than men, their access and control of resources is more limited, and their ability to participate and make decisions about natural resources is restricted by gender norms and structural constraints. The ecological knowledge that men and women hold can be highly gendered as well.

Against that backdrop, this project – one that focuses on *inclusive* conservation – will take proactive and strategic steps to ensure that women and men can participate equitably and make decisions and benefit from the project activities equitably. To this end, the ICI will develop a Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP), based on a gender analysis, during the PPG phase of the project that will be fully aligned with the GEF Gender Equality Action Plan. This will help create a gender-responsive project that closes gender gaps in IPLC natural resource management and mitigates potentially adverse effects of the project on women and men.

Table 4. Examples of areas to be addressed within the GMP.

- ü All activities of the project will integrate gender considerations, including relevant and specific gender indicators, to make the activities gender responsive to women's and men's needs and interests, and provide opportunities for men and women's organizations to participate and benefit from ICI project activities.
- ü The ICI Steering Committee and all aspects of project governance will include equitable representation of both men and women.
- ü The Terms of Reference and selection process for the IPLC organizations considered for the Executing Agency role in each project region will include a minimum set of gender requirements (e.g. policy, staff capacity, etc.) to ensure effective gender mainstreaming within the organization.
- ü Executing Agencies and other IPLC organizations involved in the project will be provided technical support and tools to evaluate and address their own gender mainstreaming policies or guidelines.
- ü The ICI will mainstream gender considerations into the the project's grant portfolio.
- ü All capacity building tools and modules produced for the project will integrate gender considerations. Capacity building programs designed for the project will include a gender component, aim for equitable participation of men and women with specific efforts made to ensure they are accessible and safe for women to participate.
- ü All publications and communications tools resulting from the project will use gender sensitive language, highlight gender-related outcomes (where applicable) and be made equally accessible to men and women. Likewise, lessons related to gender will also be collected and communicated.

In addition, all projects funded through the ICI grants portfolio will be required to include a gender responsive strategy and will be tagged using a gender-marker system aligned with the GEF's three gender areas of interest. In terms of project monitoring, all indicators related to capacity building, grant-making and participation will require data disaggregated by sex and will contribute ICI efforts to monitor gender mainstreaming in:

Component 1

Indicator 1.1.6: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment. [Target: 60,000]

Indicator 1.1.7: Percentage of women beneficiaries of ICI projects that report increased livelihood benefits to the communities. [Target: ≥50%]

Indicator 1.1.8: Percentage of ICI Projects integrating Gender Responsive strategies. [Target: 100%]

Component 2

Indicator 2.1.1: Number and percentage of IPLC trainees who successfully complete ICI Learning Academy training modules (disaggregated by gender, person-hours of capacity building, affiliation, country, theme). [Target: 400, 50% women]

Indicator 2.1.2: Capacity building modules developed with support of IPLC Inclusive Conservation Learning Academy (ICLA) from which 100% include a gender section. [Target: ≥10-15]

Indicator 2.2.2: Percentage of IPLC Organizations who report greater collaboration after participating at Learning Exchanges (disaggregated by gender, affiliation, country, theme). [Target: ≥75%]

-

Component 3

Indicator 3.1.1: Number of IPLC leaders who report greater opportunity to influence international environmental policy with support of ICI (disaggregated by gender, affiliation, IPLC status, county, convention, and accreditation). [Target: ≥ 40 , 50% women]

Indicator 3.1.2: Number of ICI partners engaging with and providing technical support to national delegations. (disaggregated by gender, affiliation, country, convention). [Target: 10]

Indicator 4.2.2: Number of members of ICI Community of Practice (disaggregated by gender, IPLC status, county, field of expertise). [Target: ≥ 900]

-

Component 4

Indicator 4.2.2: Number of members of ICI Community of Practice (disaggregated by gender, IPLC status, county, field of expertise). [Target: ≥ 900]

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

closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources; Yes

improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or Yes

generating socio-economic benefits or services for women. Yes

Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

Please briefly explain the rationale behind your answer.

The ICI will seek to engage the private sector in project activities that will support IPLC-led businesses within and around territories recognizing that IPLCs engage in trade in a large number of wild products that support both economic and cultural practices. Engagement with the private sector should support both capacity and economic development in IPLC territories. Such engagements would be with impact investors, ecotourism entities, and small agricultural businesses that support nontimber forest products, coffee and cocoa production, as well as engagement with the sustainable seafood industry. Supporting culturally appropriate private sector opportunities with IPLC-led business will be a key strategy for financial sustainability.

The CI and IUCN GEF Agencies in conjunction with the ICI Global Steering Committee will develop a due diligence process to evaluate and assess private sector engagement in ICI sites. The GEF IPAG has advised the project not to engage with private sector actors who are in, or risk, conflict with the communities the project aims to serve. While situations vary around the world, in many places this would limit engagement with the extractive industry and large agribusiness actors.

5. Risks

Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the Project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the Project design (table format acceptable)

Key project risks and mitigation measures are summarized below:

Table 5. Project risks and mitigation measures

Risk	Level (low-moderate-substantial)	Mitigation Measure
Stakeholder expectations too high	Substantial	ICI will develop a consultation process that will include CI and IUCN, in conjunction with the ISC, the main IPLC regional organizations as well as the international caucuses (see Stakeholders section). The CI and IUCN Agencies will work to manage stakeholder expectations through clear communications about the projects and transparency.
Lack of transparency	Moderate to Substantial	IPLC organizations may favor specific constituencies in the allocation of resources. To mitigate this, the ICI SC (Output 1.1.) will set rules of procedure of project governance to avoid conflict of interest in the selection of subprojects and beneficiaries. The Grievance Mechanism will provide an opportunity for stakeholders and others to object if they note a lack of transparency in the project.
Ambition of Target Indicators too high	Substantial	Some of the project targets may appear ambitious given the spectrum of priority geographies available for project selection. To mitigate this, progress of ICI Impact Strategies (Output 1.1.3) will be aligned with annual workplans and budgets in each project site.
Lack of financial sustainability	Substantial	ICI Project portfolios will include an Opportunity Analysis (Output 2.3.1) to identify long-term finance mechanisms and impact investment opportunities in each geography as well as provide capacity building to formulate sustainable financing strategies (Output 2.3.2).
Fiduciary capacity of subproject recipient organizations	Substantial	ICI will strengthen the project management capacity of IPLC partner organizations through the life of the project following an experience

ients is low		ritional learning approach. One of the core project objectives is building the capacity of IPLC organizations in project management.
Identifying qualified staff can be difficult	Low	CI and IUCN will begin internal process for hiring as early as possible to quickly identify candidates.
Weak institutional capacity for planning, management and governance in targeted areas	Moderate	CI and IUCN and our partners have already been actively working in the identified candidate counties and are well aware of the capacity of local and regional government as well as IPLC partners. This capacity level was accounted for in the project design and capacity development is a specific component of the project with IPLCs. Furthermore, there are several other projects focused specifically on increasing capacity which the proposed project will coordinate with. (these projects have been highlighted in elsewhere in the PIF).
Coordination of many partners becomes unmanageable	Low	The project will require substantial coordination among many partners, which could be a risk to project delivery. To counter this the project proponents have made significant efforts to build coordination into the overall results framework. Significant time and resources will be directed to ensuring coordination and building on successes and will also be built into the PPG phase.
Government and civil instability	Moderate	CI and IUCN will assess risks with government or civil society as final sites are selected. There are inherent tensions between governments and IPLCs with respect to recognition and respect for rights as well as tenure and resource rights. The proponents of the project are knowledgeable on these issues and will work to understand risk and engage both IPLC and government partners to ensure that the project is developing in the appropriate manner.
Partner agencies in the government move too slowly	Moderate	The project will identify means to incentivize participation by the government agencies, where appropriate. CI, IUCN and our partners have worked with the agencies in question on other projects and have developed a trusting relationship that has created a desire on the part of the government to work in collaboration.
Local level partners are slow to participate or refuse	Low	During the PPG phase a clear mechanism for broader stakeholder engagement to expedite the process will be identified.
County-level governments conflict with	Low	CI and IUCN will engage with the local government and key community stakeholders. which should assist in avoiding conflict at t

th national-level governments		he site level of the ICI project.
Private sector does not wish to participate in project	Moderate	Engagement with the private sector can have both positive and negative impacts with respect to IPLCs. The project will engage the ICI steering committee and the selected EAs to assess and plan for private sector engagement as well as create a due diligence process for evaluating private sector partners. The project will likely not engage with the extractive sector given the nature of their relationships with IPLCs.
Natural disaster (and climate change impacts) delays project work	Substantial	Given that Inclusive Conservation is a global project and will engage in 7-10 sites around the world, natural disasters and climate change impacts will affect this work. We will likely be working with IPLCs in marine, forest and dryland ecosystems. Given these biomes there is potential for natural disasters such as forest fires or major storms (hurricanes, typhoons or cyclones). Climate is one of the greatest risks to IPLCs impacting their lands, resources and territories contributing to drought, floods, and causing migration. The project aims to introduce an adaptive management approach, giving local communities the tools, capacity and information to adapt to change, and to be able to overcome challenging conditions. ICI will also support IPLC efforts to both mitigate and adapt to climate change to build more resilient communities. During the PPG phase we will consider climate risk in the selection of sites and the overall project design. The tools that have already been developed to support adjusting to climate change will be identified and utilized for capacity building and shared on the ICI Knowledge Platform.
Local social tensions	Moderate	It should be anticipated that social tensions could arise from this project; however, all partners are deeply involved in the mitigation of social impacts and in assisting IPLCs. A grievance mechanism will be developed to allow anyone to voice their concerns or opinions on any aspect of the proposed project. The grievance mechanism can be used to support any social tensions that may arise.
Tenure issues	Moderate to Substantial	Indigenous peoples and local communities often live on lands governed by customary tenure and other community agreements; however, legal protection often does not exist. ICI will not consider formal tenure a requirement when determining the ICPG. Thus

		s, when formal tenure is not in place, ICI will provide the support necessary to ensure IPLC resource rights are honored. All project interventions will follow FPIC and ensure that any issues related to land tenure are addressed as thoroughly as possible in collaboration with the Land Authority.
Youth and migration issues	Moderate	The project seeks to support IPLCs in their territories, especially youth. It will do so by ensuring that sustainable economic development and training is targeted at communities and youth in particular that support of IPLC-led businesses and innovation.
Grievance	Moderate	Grievance mechanisms are an important component of the mandatory environmental and social safeguards in the PPG phase as well as implementation. ICI will develop a grievance mechanism at both global and local scale that will be independent and transparent. We will also explore additional options for community level grievances in order to raise complaints directly with Implementing Agencies. All grievance and mediation cases will be documented.
Conflict of Interest	Moderate	ICI will address conflicts of interest in an open and transparent manner, addressing both reality and perception. This will be carried out in disclosure agreements with ISC, SC and EAs. It is assumed such issues would mainly relate to where an individual or his/her organization stands to gain from the ICI project. All members of the SC and ISC will most likely have innate conflicts of interest and this should be clearly and explicitly addressed in the Terms of Reference (ToR) for both. ICI will also communicate clearly with both CI and IUCN national and regional offices in order to communicate the role of Implementing Agencies in the ICI project.
Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities not included in the Inclusive Conservation Initiative	Moderate	ICI will only be able to support between 7-10 geographies in GEF-7 and there is a risk that IPLCs will feel excluded from the project, particularly the trainings and the opportunities for funding. We will work to manage expectations around the project and invite other IPLCs to learn from our experience in ICI. We will also seek to leverage additional funding that could help expand the geographic scope of ICI.

6. Coordination

Outline the institutional structure of the project including monitoring and evaluation coordination at the project level. Describe possible coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

6a. Institutional Arrangements and Coordination

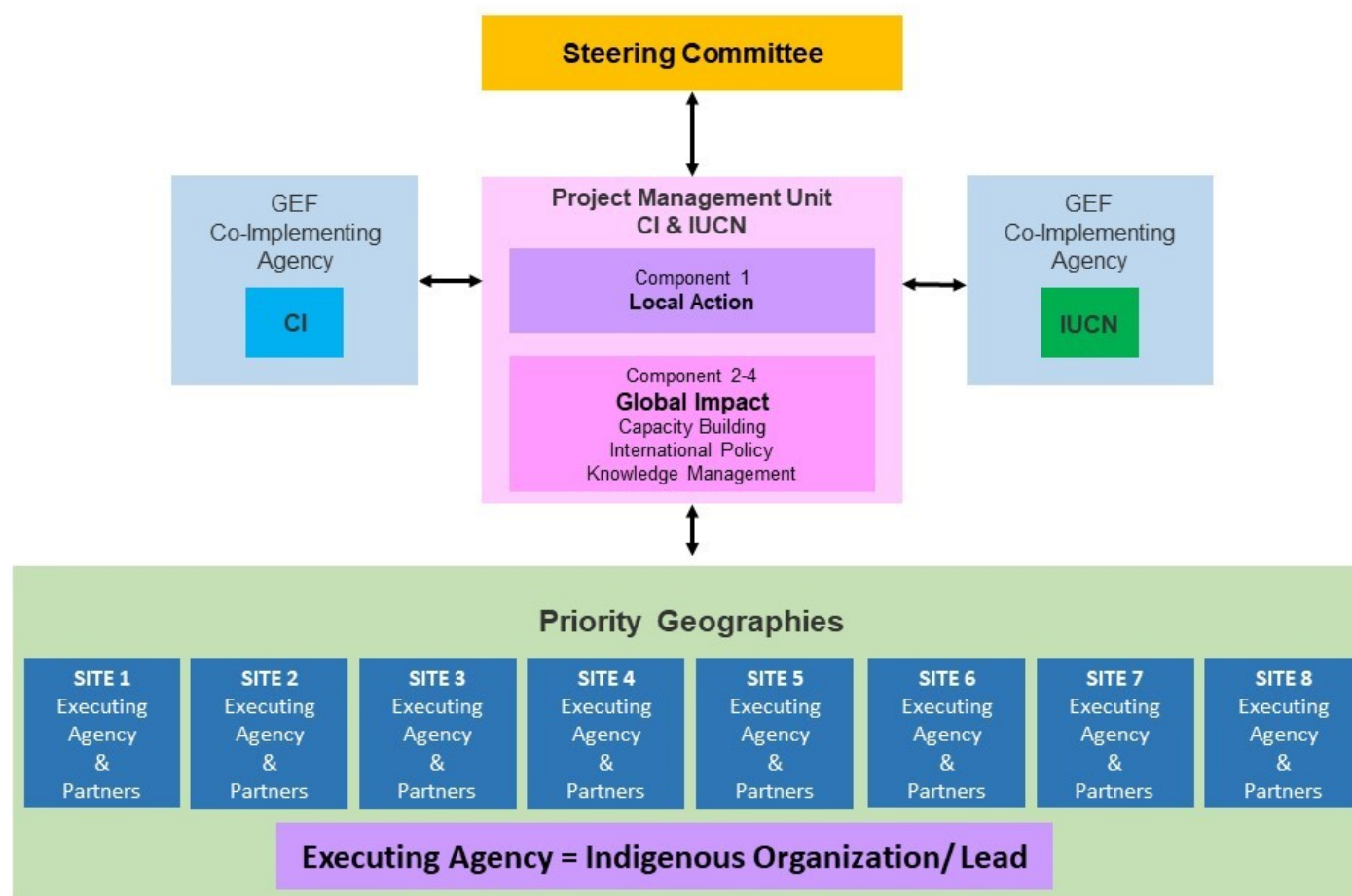
The Inclusive Conservation Initiative will be implemented and overseen through a set of institutional arrangements that maximize IPLC voices, authority and roles while also ensuring programmatic and financial management in accordance with GEF Implementing Agency requirements.

CI and IUCN will support IPLC organizations in building their execution capacity and will only take on limited roles in project execution, in consultation with the GEF Secretariat and the ISC, where IPLC limitations or EA minimum fiduciary standards and or efficiencies would necessitate such execution roles, while in tandem, capacities are further developed.

IPLC Executing Agencies will be identified as part of the project development process with primary responsibility for leading work in the ICPGs (see Criteria and Process). In a case where an otherwise qualified IPLC organization may not have the necessary financial systems in place to act as Lead Partner and manage the level of funding needed for project activities, another organization – agreed to by the IPLC Partner – may serve as Executing Agency (EA) to provide the required financial systems and support.

In all cases, IPLC organizations will strengthen their organizational capacity (e.g., in terms of financial management structures) to serve as an EA. Part of project implementation (under Outcome 1.2 and 2.1) will include measures to build that capacity. Execution of all project components will be done in collaboration with a range of local and global partners with specific areas of expertise needed for delivery of project outcomes. These institutional arrangements for the project are summarized in the diagram and further described in the text below:

Figure 1. ICI institutional arrangements



***NUMBER OF PRIORITY GEOGRAPHIES IS ILLUSTRATIVE**

Steering Committee: A Steering Committee (SC) will lead the governance of the ICI. The governing Steering Committee will be composed of senior IPLC representatives, along with at least one GEF staff member. Final membership and selection of the SC will be guided by an Interim Steering Committee (ISC) through the development of a terms of reference. Key roles and responsibilities of the SC will include providing strategic guidance on the Inclusive Conservation Initiative's approaches, partnerships and public profile; serving as "ambassadors" for the Initiative with key audiences and supporting global or cross-cutting capacity and policy engagement activities in accordance with their interests and areas of expertise. As part of its role, the SC will also engage in outreach and communication to leading global IPLC organizations, and other global institutions, think tanks, foundations and other funders to maintain an ongoing engagement and form future partnerships to support IPLC action in their lands and territories

The SC will assume authority at the inception of the project; therefore, an Interim Steering Committee (ISC) will be created during the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) period to inform and advise on the structure and membership of the SC and on full project development, including selection of priority geographies. It is anticipated that this ISC will include IPAG members and other IPLCs, supported by GEF and Implementing Agency staff. (See “The Role of the Interim Steering Committee (ISC)” for more information on the role of the ISC.)

Project Management Unit: The project will establish a Project Management Unit (PMU). This PMU will have day-to-day responsibility for the global management of the project, including oversight of sub-grants to the Executing Agencies and coordination of the global, cross-cutting project components. Coordination of the cross-cutting components will focus on creating and facilitating a platform for the IPLC Executing Agencies and other IPLC project partners to engage in global capacity-building, global policy processes, communities of practice and knowledge development and communications. Delivery of cross-cutting component activities will also be undertaken with a range of IPLC and technical partners who bring skills, experience and areas of expertise, such as expertise in policy negotiations, financing systems, research on IPLC-led conservation, capacity-building and communications.

Linking management of sub-grants and facilitation of cross-cutting activities through the PMU will maximize synergies and efficiency in project management and delivery of project outcomes. For example, direct contacts and engagement with the Executing Agencies and other IPLC partners in project geographies (landscapes or seascapes) will enable a consistent flow of information to shape cross-cutting capacity building activities under Component 2 and facilitate links to partners with relevant specialist expertise in those areas. Similarly, the work of the PMU to roll up results and evidence of global environmental benefits from activities in the project geographies will link directly to cross-cutting efforts to document models and build the case for IPLC-led conservation approaches under Component 4. This work of the PMU will build on the experience of both IUCN and CI in facilitating responsive platforms to advance the rights, agendas and roles of indigenous peoples and local communities in conservation.

Executing Agencies (EAs):

The activities and thematic grant portfolios articulated under ICI Component 1 will be led by a project Executing Agency, or Agencies, in each priority geography, determined during the PPG with guidance from the ISC. For the purposes of the ICI, an Executing Agency refers to an indigenous organization or lead partner. In light of the anticipated diversity of situations in priority geographies, there may be one or more EAs leading work within a geography in accordance with context-specific needs.

Draft criteria for the selection of Executing Agencies are:

- IPLC organization with leadership, presence, partnerships and track record of successful work in the identified priority geography or geographies.
- Capacity to take on the large-scale actions and GEB outcomes required by the ICI project.
- Direct and substantial involvement in the implementation of at least some aspects of the ICI project for that geography (not a pass-through).
- Capacity to manage funding levels associated with the priority geography project, or to develop this capacity over the project term (with support from the ICI).
- Potential to bring co-financing and build synergies with the work of related initiatives.

IPLC organizations leading work in each priority geography will develop a full range of partnerships needed for delivery of project activities in those areas. In cases where the selected lead IPLC organization does not yet have financial mechanisms sufficient for the management of GEF funds, a fiduciary organization agreed by the IPLC lead may serve that role as part of the partnership group for that geography.

While the primary role of these IPLC Executing or lead organizations will be to manage and deliver Component 1 activities in the priority geographies, they will also play key roles in Components 2-4. For example, these leading organizations will play a central role in the design and implementation of cross-cutting activities, such as on capacity-building, financial mechanisms, global policy engagement, IPLC communities of practice and communications. They will also act as key intermediaries between local IPLC organizations and wider regional and global networks in order to promote broader engagement and dissemination of results. The project will ensure that Executing Agencies meet the GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standard requirements as approved by the GEF Council prior to disbursement of funds.

7. Consistency with National Priorities

Is the Project consistent with the National Strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions

Yes

If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc

The importance of community-based management of lands and resources has been recognized in relevant international conventions that provide the framework for the GEF's work, with the emergence of new approaches and tools^[ixviii]. The ICI will help build a vertical connection between international environmental policy and evidence of IPLC-led conservation.

In general, the ICI project will analyze and engage in national level priorities, fostering relationships with national governments related to strategies and programs under relevant conventions, promote IPLC participation in planning and development, and provide the evidence-base for IPLC contribution to national level biodiversity benefits as well as GEBS. Given that final site selection will take place for the GEF ICI Project during the PPG phase, we have provided indicative information for the alignment with national level priorities.

Table 6. Consistency with national priorities

National Priority	Project Consistency
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	<p>The CBD has long recognized the contribution of the sustainable use of biodiversity to conservation and it has agreed on a Plan of Action to recognize and support customary sustainable use of biodiversity. For example, Aichi Target 18 of the CBD and the CBD's recent recognition of the importance of "other effective area-based measures" alongside traditional state-run Protected Areas as a key means to conserve biodiversity. This opens the door to the recognition of areas conserved by IPLCs as a key approach for biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>The future of biodiversity and the future of IPLCs are inextricably linked. Recognition of these linkages (between cultural diversity and biological diversity) has grown in recent years and is embodied in the CBD's Strategic Plan. Target 18 is of central importance in this regard, focusing specifically on traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use. It is the main target related to the implementation of two of the most relevant articles of the CBD for IPLCs – Article 8(j) and Article 10(c) – and represents a cross-cutting theme for the entire Strategic Plan as well as being important to national level commitments and implementation.</p>
CBD Post 2020 Framework	The CBD COP15 in 2020 is expected to update the Convention's strategi

	<p>c plan and adopt a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, as a follow-up for the next decade. This will be a critical momentum to inform with evidence how knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) are an essential consideration for the structure of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework.</p> <p>The GEF ICI project will support efforts to ensure representative decision-making and including content in the framework that advocates for wider application of traditional knowledge in conservation, with consent from, involvement of and equitable benefit sharing for knowledge holders.</p>
National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)	<p>Signatory countries are responsible for the development of national strategies, plans or programs or NBSAPs for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or adapt for this purpose existing strategies, plans or programs which reflect the measures set out in CBD. NBSAPs are in various stages of implementation and compliance at the national level.</p> <p>The GEF ICI will provide the evidence base demonstrating IPLCs contribution to the protection of biodiversity within NBSAPs in support of country level commitments.</p>
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	<p>The climate change negotiations related to the Paris Agreement have recognized the need “to strengthen knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of local communities and indigenous peoples related to addressing and responding to climate change.”</p>
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)	<p>When the Paris Agreement was adopted in 2015, only 21 NDCs included clear commitments to implement community-based land tenure or natural resource management strategies as part of their climate change mitigation plans.^[ix] Reviewing natural climate solutions in current NDCs provides governments with the opportunity to address the transparency and complexity of current land rights processes. Appropriately engaging indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in this revision process will also provide an opportunity to strengthen their potential contribution to climate goals and access to climate finance.</p> <p>The GEF ICI Project will open opportunities to engage with governments in reviewing NDCs and also articulate the importance of IPLC’s contribution to natural climate solutions.</p>
UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform	<p>In accordance with the Paris Agreement and Decision 1/CP.21, climate change is a common concern of humankind. When taking action to address</p>

m (LCIPP or LCIP Platform)	<p>ss climate change, the respective obligations on, <i>inter alia</i>, the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities should be respected, promoted and considered.</p> <p>The COP has recognized the need to strengthen knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of local communities and indigenous peoples related to addressing and responding to climate change. In this context, the LCIPP was established, for the exchange of experiences and sharing of best practices on mitigation and adaptation in a holistic and integrated manner.</p> <p>The GEF ICI Project will contribute case studies and evidence based on traditional knowledge and practices in support of national level commitments to the Paris Agreement as well as contributing directly to the LCIPP.</p>
National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)	The GEF ICI project will contribute to enhancing NAPs by providing vital data and information related to traditional knowledge systems and roles of IPLC in NAPs aimed at assisting the country to make decisions and monitor implementation of the NAP.
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	The UNCCD recognizes the critical role of land tenure and rights for improved land management.
Bonn Challenge	The project also responds to international and national commitments for implementation of forest restoration initiatives under the Bonn Challenge, in light of evidence showing the importance of IPLC-led initiatives grounded in secure tenure for forest restoration outcomes.
Minamata Convention: Assessments, Action Plans Implementation	<p>The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury. This impact of mercury extends to IPLCs and adversely affect the lands, territories and the health of these communities.</p> <p>The GEF ICI project will support the engagement of IPLCs at the national level to engage with governments on assessments, action plans and implementation to ensure that their communities and territories can be a greater part of the solution.</p> <p>ICI will also support thematic studies of the impact of mercury on participant communities. For example, the biomagnification of mercury and contamination of traditional foods, and the concerns held by indigenous communities with respect to the effects of mercury.</p>

	mmunities with respect to the effects of mercury.
--	---

[lxviii] Child, B., Cooney, R. (2019). Local Commons for Global Benefits: Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel to the Global Environmental Facility. GEF/STAP/C.56/inf.05 Washington, DC.

[lix] White, A., Schmidt, R., Coyle, I., Colley, J. D., & Bigda, L. Indigenous Peoples and Local Community Tenure in the INDCs.

8. Knowledge Management

Outline the Knowledge management approach for the Project, including, if any, plans for the Project to learn from other relevant Projects and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly form, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.

ICI Component 4 focuses on “*Knowledge to Action*” and transforming Inclusive Conservation and lessons learned into demonstration models that expand support and advance the field of IPLC-led conservation. ICI leaders will generate, distil and disseminate results from the Initiative that show the impacts of their work, the application of traditional knowledge, lessons learned, and potential for replication and amplification of Inclusive Conservation models. Sharing of results and analysis will aim to shift the paradigm of conservation towards IPLC-led conservation by contributing evidence of the large-scale effectiveness of IPLC stewardship in achieving biodiversity and sustainable development goals. Throughout the project, participants will use the ICI experiential learning approach in all capacity building throughout the ICI project. IPLC organizations will combine structured learning on topics related to their capacity building needs with hands-on experience in running their organizations or designing and managing projects. This approach will allow us to learn across projects and IPLC organizations and the results will be fed into the ICI Knowledge Management Platform.

The ICI Knowledge Management Platform will increase the evidence base for large-scale impacts from IPLCs roles as stewards of the global environment, distill and disseminate Inclusive Conservation results to local and global audiences in culturally appropriate and inclusive formats and languages, host an ICI Community of Practice, and develop and manage communication channels to reach and inform key audiences. At project mid-term, ICI will capture results to review the impact of the ICI strategy and document the learning progress of the project.

The Knowledge Management Platform will also link to other important knowledge products and hubs such as the [ICCA Registry](#)^[ix], [NASA's Earth Observations for Indigenous-led management](#)^[ixi], the [DGM Global Network](#)^[ixii], [IUCN Panorama](#)^[ixiii], among others, where we can showcase impact as well as share lessons learned from the ICI.

^[ix] ICCA Registry (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

^[ixi] NASA EO4IM (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

^[ixii] DGM Global (2019) Retrieved from: [link](#)

^[ixiii] IUCN Panorama (2019) Retrievel from: [link](#)

Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And Gef Agency(ies)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter with this template).

Name**Position****Ministry****Date**

ANNEX A: Project Map and Geographic Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention takes place