

CI-GEF PROJECT AGENCY

GEF Project Document

Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste's biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area System and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridors ("TLSNAP")

Timor-Leste / Asia and the Pacific



December 05, 2017

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT TITLE:	Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste's biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area System and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridors		
PROJECT OBJECTIVE:	To establish Timor-Leste's National Protected Area System and improve the management of forest ecosystems in priority catchment corridors		
PROJECT OUTCOMES:	Outcome 1.1: National Protected Area system established and implementation initiated Outcome 2.1: Land degradation drivers halted and/or minimized in key catchment areas Outcome 2.2: Capacity for communities to manage their natural resources substantially increased Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved Outcome 3.2: Priority degraded areas reforested		
COUNTRY(IES):	Timor-Leste	GEF ID:	9434
GEF AGENCY(IES):	Conservation International	CI CONTRACT ID:	
OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS:	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Environment (MCIE) Conservation International Timor-Leste	DURATION IN MONTHS:	48
GEF FOCAL AREA(S):	Multi-focal Area	START DATE (mm/yyyy):	01/2018
INTEGRATED APPROACH PILOT:	N/A	END DATE (mm/yyyy):	12/2021
NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM:	N/A	PRODOC SUBMISSION DATE:	December 05, 2017
RE-SUBMISSION DATE(S):	N/A		

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CO-FINANCING 2: MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES	4,000,000
CO-FINANCING 3: MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT	4,000,000
CO-FINANCING 4: JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (JICA)	3,942,000
TOTAL CO-FINANCING:	12,292,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST:	15,732,367

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ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

ACIAR:	<i>Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research</i>
ADB:	<i>Asian Development Bank</i>
AFoCO:	<i>Asian Forest Cooperation Organization</i>
ASEAN:	<i>Association of Southeast Asian Nations</i>
ATSEA:	<i>Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action Programme</i>
BD:	<i>Biodiversity (GEF focal area)</i>
CBO:	<i>Community Based Organization</i>
CI:	<i>Conservation International</i>
CO₂eq:	<i>Carbon Dioxide Equivalent</i>
CRS	<i>Catholic Relief Services</i>
CTSP:	<i>Coral Triangle Support Partnership</i>
DPANP:	<i>Department of Protected Areas and National Parks (Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries)</i>
EU:	<i>European Union</i>
FALINTIL:	<i>Forças Armadas da Libertação Nacional de Timor-Leste</i>
FAO:	<i>Food and Agriculture Organization</i>
GDI:	<i>Gender Development Index</i>
GDP:	<i>Gross Domestic Product</i>
GEB:	<i>Global Environmental Benefit</i>
GEF:	<i>Global Environment Facility</i>
GEF SEC:	<i>GEF Secretariat</i>
GEF TF:	<i>GEF Trust Fund</i>
GIS:	<i>Geographic Information System</i>
GNI:	<i>Gross National Income</i>
HDI:	<i>Human Development Index</i>
IBA:	<i>Important Bird Area</i>
IPCC:	<i>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change</i>
IUCN:	<i>International Union for Conservation of Nature</i>
INDMO	<i>Instituto Nacional de Desenvolvimento de Mão de Obra (National Institute for the Development of Manpower)</i>
IPCC:	<i>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change</i>
IPDFPB:	<i>Institute of Research, Development, Formation and Promotion of Bamboo</i>
JICA:	<i>Japan International Cooperation Agency</i>
KBA:	<i>Key Biodiversity Area</i>
LD:	<i>Land Degradation (GEF focal area)</i>
LDC:	<i>Least Developed Country</i>
LMMA:	<i>Locally Managed Marine Area</i>

MAF:	<i>Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries</i>
MBZ:	<i>Mohamed bin Zayed (MBZ) Species Conservation Fund</i>
MCIE:	<i>Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Environment</i>
NDP:	<i>National Development Plan</i>
NEGA:	<i>National Ecological Gap Assessment (study completed in 2010)</i>
NGO:	<i>Nongovernmental Organization</i>
NRM:	<i>Natural Resource Management</i>
NTFP:	<i>Non-Timber Forest Product</i>
PA:	<i>Protected Area</i>
PM:	<i>Project Manager</i>
PMC:	<i>Project Management Costs</i>
PPG:	<i>Project Preparation Grant (GEF)</i>
PRA:	<i>Participatory Rural Appraisal</i>
RTO:	<i>Registered Training Organization</i>
SDG:	<i>Sustainable Development Goal</i>
SEPFPOE:	<i>Secretariat of State for Vocational Training Policy and Employment</i>
SIDS:	<i>Small Island Developing State</i>
SFM:	<i>Sustainable Forest Management</i>
SLM:	<i>Sustainable Land Management</i>
SNAP:	<i>Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas</i>
TL:	<i>Timor-Leste</i>
UNDP:	<i>United Nations Development Programme</i>
UNITAL:	<i>Universidade Oriental Timor Lorosa'e</i>
USAID:	<i>United States Agency for International Development</i>
USD:	<i>United States Dollar</i>
WB:	<i>World Bank</i>
WCPA:	<i>World Commission on Protected Areas</i>
WDPA:	<i>World Database on Protected Areas</i>
WFP	<i>World Food Programme</i>

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Suco:	The smallest administrative division in Timor-Leste is the <i>suco</i> (<i>group of villages</i>), which can comprise one or many <i>aldeias</i> (villages).
Catchment:	A catchment - or drainage basin - is a discrete area of land which has a common drainage system. A catchment includes both the water bodies that convey the water and the land surface from which water drains into these bodies (UNEP et al. 1997) ¹ .
Sub-catchment:	The term sub-catchment is used to describe a smaller area of land that drains to a smaller stream. There can be several sub-catchments within a catchment.
Afforestation:	<u>2000 FRA (FAO)</u> ² : Afforestation is the conversion from other land uses into forest, or the increase of the canopy cover to above the 10% threshold <u>2015 FRA (FAO)</u> : Afforestation : Establishment of forest through planting and/or deliberate seeding on land that, until then, was not classified as forest.
Deforestation:	<u>2000 FRA (FAO)</u> : Deforestation is the conversion of forest to another land use or the long-term reduction of tree canopy cover below the 10% threshold <u>2015 FRA (FAO)</u> : Deforestation : The conversion of forest to other land use or the permanent reduction of the tree canopy cover below the minimum 10 percent threshold
Forest degradation:	<u>2000 FRA (FAO)</u> : Forest degradation is a reduction of the canopy cover or stocking within a forest <u>2015 FRA (FAO)</u> : Forest degradation : The reduction of the capacity of a forest to provide goods and services
Forest improvement:	<u>2000 FRA (FAO)</u> : Forest improvement is the increase of the canopy cover or stocking within a forest
Forest rehabilitation:	<u>FAO SFM Toolbox</u> : The purpose of forest rehabilitation is to restore the capacity of degraded forest land to deliver forest products and services. Forest rehabilitation re-establishes the original productivity of the forest and some, but not necessarily all, of the plant and animal species thought to be originally present at a site
Forest restoration:	<u>FAO SFM Toolbox</u> : The purpose of forest restoration is to restore a degraded forest to its original state – that is, to re-establish the presumed structure, productivity and species diversity of the forest originally present at a site
Reforestation:	<u>2000 FRA (FAO)</u> : Reforestation is the re-establishment of forest formations after a temporary condition with less than 10% canopy cover due to human-induced or natural perturbations <u>2015 FRA (FAO)</u> : Reforestation : Re-establishment of forest through planting and/or deliberate seeding on land classified as forest.

¹ UNEP, Water Supply & Sanitation Collaborative Council, and World Health Organization, 1997. Water pollution control: a guide to the use of water quality management principles

² Global Forest Resources Assessment, 2000 and 2015, FAO

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PROJECT DOCUMENT

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

The project is designed to support the Government of Timor-Leste in establishing a functional protected area (PA) system. Situated within the Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot, Timor-Leste hosts a number of globally significant ecosystems and endemic species. As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) and having least developed country (LDC) status, with 70% of the population living in rural areas, local communities are heavily reliant on ecosystem goods and services. Land degradation and deforestation from overexploitation of natural resources have had detrimental ecological impacts and adverse socioeconomic consequences, including decreased productivity of agricultural systems. These impacts are intrinsically linked to poverty. Rural farmers cannot afford to increase the productivity of low fertility soils, and erosion on sloped areas exacerbates the problem and leads to adverse downstream impacts, including silting up of waterways and damage to the already weak road infrastructure. The resultant losses in crop and livestock production perpetuate reduced incomes and welfare of rural communities.

Decree-Law No. 5/2016 on the *National Protected Area System*, promulgated on 16 March 2016, provides a legal foundation for the protection of key biodiversity and valuable ecosystems in the country, including most of the remaining primary montane forests that host high species endemism. There are, however, substantive barriers hindering the realization of a functioning PA system and achieving sustainable natural resource management on a wider landscape scale, beyond the borders of protected areas. Relevant barriers include gaps in knowledge, weak institutional coordination, insufficient financing, legal gaps and weak enforcement, and capacity limitations. This project will support the Government of Timor-Leste in addressing these barriers.

At the site level, the project will facilitate participatory collaborative management arrangements with local communities, reduce threats to critical ecosystems and enhance sustainable livelihoods. Innovative management mechanisms will be developed and implemented, supporting rehabilitation of degraded forest and other land areas, securing ecosystem functions including water and soil protection, and protecting against habitat damage and fragmentation.

The two catchments selected for implementation of project activities are the Comoro River and Irabere River catchments. These two catchments are included among the 10 critical catchments in the country identified by the Government of Timor-Leste. Two protected areas were also selected for project implementation, one in each of the two catchments: **Mount Fatumasin** Protected Area (WDPA ID: 555547943; surface area: 40 km²), situated in the Liquiça *município*, within the upland region of the Comoro catchment; and **Mount Legumau** Protected Area (WDPA ID: 555547948; surface area: 360 km²), situated near the intersection of the Baucau, Lautem, and Viqueque *municípios*, within the upland portion of the Irabere catchment. The Mount Fatumasin PA and Mount Legumau PA overlap with 2 of the 30 key biodiversity areas (KBAs) delineated in Timor-Leste; KBA Site ID 16255 (Fatumasin) and Site ID 44998 (Legumau), respectively.

The 4-year duration project will be financed by a full size GEF grant of USD 3,340,367 with co-financing from the Government of Timor-Leste, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and Conservation International. The Implementing Agency (IA) for this project is the CI-GEF Project Agency, and the The Executing Partners for this project are the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), the Ministry of

Commerce, Industry and Environment (MCIE), and CI Timor-Leste (CI-TL). The MAF will be responsible for facilitating the requisite enabling conditions for implementation of the project, and the MAF will designate a senior official to act as National Project Director (NPD).

Upon review of social and environmental risks, safeguard compliance plans have been prepared for the following policies: process framework for restrictions to access to natural resources, stakeholder engagement, gender mainstreaming, and accountability and grievance mechanism.

The project objective, “to establish Timor-Leste’s National Protected Area System and improve the management of forest ecosystems in priority catchment corridors”, will be achieved through the following five outcomes distributed among three project components:

Component 1: Establishment of a National Protected Area System

Outcome 1.1: National PA system established and implementation initiated

Component 2: Improvement of community-based natural resource management systems in priority catchment corridors

Outcome 2.1: Land degradation drivers halted and/or minimized in key catchment areas

Outcome 2.2: Capacity for communities to manage their natural resources substantially increased

Component 3: Improvement of forest management and reforestation of degraded lands in priority catchment corridors

Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved

Outcome 3.2: Priority degraded areas reforested

Expected achievements include:

- An estimated 19,563 direct beneficiaries (cumulative population of the 10 *sucos*) benefitting from integrated approaches to natural resource management in two priority catchments;
- Establishment of a functioning national PA system, covering an estimated 480,341 ha;
- Development of a 5-year national PA system plan, supported by biophysical and legal gap analyses and a sustainable financing assessment;
- Demarcation of two priority PAs (Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau) covering a cumulative area of 39,976 ha;
- Management and business plans developed and implementation of selected components initiated for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs, increasing the management effectiveness of the PAs;
- Community level (*suco*) natural resource management plans developed and implementation initiated for 10 *sucos*, covering a cumulative area of approximately 31,949 ha: 4 *sucos* are situated within the Comoro and 6 within the Irabere catchments, respectively;
- 100 youth, including at least 30% females, trained in natural resource management;
- 10 community conservation groups, having at least 30% female members, capacitated to lead natural resource management interventions;
- 250 households, including at least 30% women, benefit from participation in sustainable use of forest resources – measured using the sustainable livelihoods framework;
- High conservation value forests classified within the two priority catchments covering a cumulative area of 58,900 ha (includes 24,800 ha in the Comoro catchment and 34,100 ha in the Irabere catchment);

- At least 500 ha of forests under community-driven sustainable management;
- At least 500 ha of degraded land rehabilitated and/or reforested by community conservation groups;
- Traditional ecological knowledge integrated into planning and management systems; and
- Increased public awareness on biodiversity conservation and participatory collaborative management.

SECTION 2: PROJECT CONTEXT

A. Geographic Scope

1. Timor-Leste (8°50 S and 125°55 E) formerly known as East Timor, is a maritime country in Southeast Asia, covering a total area of 14,918.7 km²⁽³⁾. The country is situated northwest of Australia in the Lesser Sunda Islands at the eastern end of the Indonesian archipelago (see **Figure 1**). It includes the eastern half of the island of Timor, the Oecussi (Ambeno) - a coastal enclave within the northwest part of the island of Timor in the Nusa Tenggara Timur province of Indonesia - and the islands of Atauro and Jaco.



Figure 1: Map of Timor-Leste

2. Having a cumulative coastline of 706 km, the topography of the country is characterized by a narrow plain around the coast and a central mountain range, where the highest peak, Foho Tatamailau reaches 2,986 m above sea level. The country has a monsoon climate typical in the Asian tropics, with northwest to southwest prevailing winds from December to March bringing the principal wet season. The southeast to northeast prevailing winds from May to October bring mostly dry conditions, except at some parts of the south coast where the wet season can persist until July. There are typically only minimal temperature variations, both diurnal and seasonal. There are substantive vertical temperature gradients, ranging from an average of 27°C at sea level to an average of 14°C at elevations of 2,000 m above sea level. Average rainfall varies from 565 mm at Manatuto along the north coast of the country to 2,837 mm at Lolotai in the central-western mountain region.⁴Timor-Leste has been divided into twelve “hydrologic units”, which are groupings of climatologically and physio-graphically similar and adjacent river basins. There are 29 main river systems in total, of which 12 are situated in the north and 17 in the south. Rivers are generally short and fast-flowing, and given the temporal variations in rainfall and the low capacity of upland areas to hold water, very few rivers flow all year round, most being ephemeral with significant under-bed flows in the lower reaches.

Selection of Priority Catchments

³ Ministry of Finance, 2015. Population and Housing Census 2015, Preliminary Results

⁴ FAO AQUASTAT Survey, 2011, Irrigation in Southern and Eastern Asia in figures.

- The two catchments selected for implementation of project activities are the Comoro River and Irabere River catchments, shown below in the map compiled in **Figure 2**.

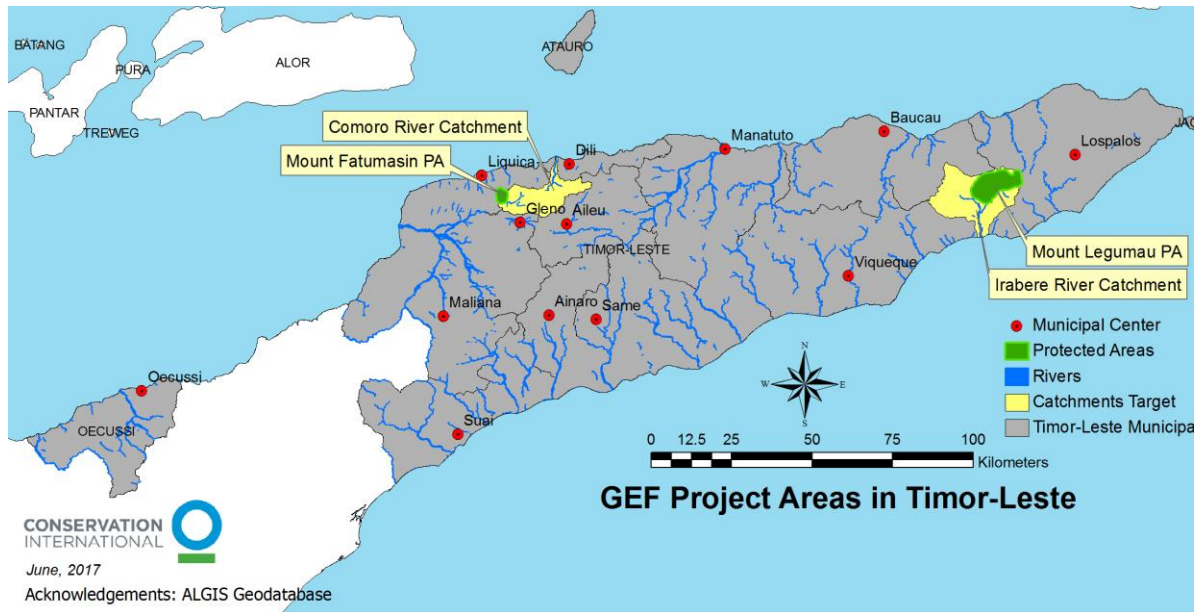


Figure 2 : Map showing locations of Comoro and Irabere catchments

- Situated in the Laclo hydrologic unit, the Comoro catchment covers a land area of 248 km² in the northwest part of the country, and the Irabere catchment is located in the hydrologic unit of the same name and occupies 341 km² in the southeast part of the country.⁵ One of the first criteria applied in the selection of the catchments was consistency with government priorities. The Comoro and Irabere catchments are included among the 10 critical catchments⁶ identified by the Timor-Leste government as in the most need of improvement and management to reverse the degradation they are experiencing.

⁵ Costin G. and Powell B., 2007. Situation Analysis Report (Water Sector): Timor-Leste. Australian Water Research Facility, International Water Centre, Brisbane.

⁶ Alongi D, Amaral A, de Carvalho N, McWilliam A, Rouwenhorst J, Tirendi F, Trott L, Wasson RJ. (2012). River Catchments and Marine Productivity in Timor Leste: Caraulun and Laclo Catchments; South and North Coasts – Final Report. Project 6 of the Timor Leste Coastal-Marine Habitat Mapping, Tourism and Fisheries Development Project. Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, Government of Timor Leste.

B. Environmental Context and Global Significance

6. Situated within the Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot, Timor-Leste hosts a number of globally significant ecosystems and endemic species. The Wallacea hotspot has been defined as the islands in the Indonesian archipelago and Timor-Leste between the Sunda and Sahul continental shelves. The land area is fragmented into thousands of islands covering an area of 33.8 million hectares and separated by deep oceanic trenches. Wallacea is comprised of three biogeographic sub-regions: Maluku, Sulawesi, and Lesser Sundas, of which Timor-Leste is a part. This biodiversity hotspot has a total 560 species classified as threatened with extinction by IUCN in the critically endangered, endangered, or vulnerable categories, and of these threatened species 308 are terrestrial or freshwater while the remaining 252 are marine⁷. As part of the Coral Triangle, the country harbors some of the richest marine biodiversity on earth. The Coral Triangle holds some 76% of the world's coral species, six of the world's seven marine turtle species, more than 3,000 species of reef fish and a wide diversity of marine mammals (including whales and 22 species of dolphin).
7. Positioned between the Eurasian and Australasian continental plates, animals and plants from both Asia and Australasia have colonized on the oceanic islands within the Wallacea biogeographic region, but through long isolation have developed very high levels of endemism.⁸ Timor-Leste contains part of one terrestrial corridor, the Timor-Wetar corridor, where there are five species that depend on landscape connectivity beyond key diversity areas for their conservation: the yellow-crested cockatoo (*Cacatua sulphurea*), the Timor imperial pigeon (*Ducula cineracea*), the Timor green pigeon (*Treron psittaceus*), the Timor deer (*Rusa timorensis*), and Temminck's flying-fox (*Pteropus temminckii*).⁹
8. As outlined below in **Table 1**, two of Timor-Leste's bird species have been identified as critically endangered: the Christmas Island frigate bird (*Fregata andresi*) and the Yellow-crested cockatoo (*Cacatua-sulphurea*); three species are identified as endangered: Timor green pigeon (*Treron psittacea*), Timor imperial pigeon (*Ducula cineracea*), and the Wetar ground dove (*Gallicolumba hoedtii*).

Table 1: List of five Globally Threatened bird species identified in Timor-Leste¹⁰

IUCN Red List Status	Common Name	Scientific Name	Endemic Bird Area (EBA)	Habitat
Critically Endangered	Christmas Island Frigate bird	<i>Fregata andrewsi</i>	N/A	Marine
Critically Endangered	Yellow-crested Cockatoo	<i>Cacatua sulphurea</i>	N/A	Tropical dry forest, woodland, plantations
Endangered	Wetar Ground Dove	<i>Gallicolumba hoedtii</i>	Restricted Range	Primary tropical dry forest
Endangered	Timor Green-pigeon	<i>Treron psittaceus</i>	Restricted Range	Tropical dry forest

⁷ CEPF, June 2014. Ecosystem Profile Summary, Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot. Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

⁸ Trainor, C. R., et al., 2008. Birds, birding and conservation in Timor-Leste. BirdingASIA 9 (2008): 16-45.

⁹ CEPF, June 2014. Ecosystem Profile Summary, Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot. Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

¹⁰ Source: The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) of Timor-Leste (2011-2020), Revised Edition 2015, Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.

IUCN Red List Status	Common Name	Scientific Name	Endemic Bird Area (EBA)	Habitat
Endangered	Timor Imperial-pigeon	<i>Ducula cineracea</i>	Restricted Range	Tropical montane forest

9. The non-bird fauna of Timor-Leste and its associated islands is poorly known. New species of bats, frogs, geckos and skinks have been discovered, and there is available evidence indicating high levels of endemism in all faunal groups. Roughly half of the bird fauna originates from Asia and half from Australasia; whereas the mammal, amphibian and reptile faunas are dominated by Asian families and species¹¹.
10. The region is also recognized for high plant biodiversity. For example, 70% of the flora species in the Melanesian region, where Timor-Leste belongs, are endemic.¹²
11. Limestone and metamorphosed marine clay are the basis from which Timor-Leste's thin soils are derived which means that they tend to have low to medium fertility and are typically fragile and highly susceptible to erosion, especially with the heavy rainfalls experienced during the rainy season. Nearly half of the total land area of the country has a slope of 40% or more.¹³ The country's significant altitudinal range plays an important role in modifying soil formation through temperature and rainfall variation leaving four major soil units and creating five distinct forest areas:
 - a. The Eastern region contains the majority of primary forest within the Nino Konis Santana National Park.
 - b. The Northern area contains mainly drought-resistant tree species and is also where the widest stretches of mangrove are located.
 - c. The Central area is dominated by coffee plantations, sparse, dry forest and mosaic land-use (remaining mountain forests here are located in steep gullies or rocky locations).
 - d. The Western region contains smaller areas of primary forest.
 - e. The Southern area contains mostly coastal forest including swamp and mangrove.
12. Based upon an inventory made in 2012, the forest cover in Timor-Leste is approximately 869,000 ha or 58% of the total land area.¹⁴ The total area of dense forests, with crown cover of 60-70% is approximately 313,000 ha; however, there are few large tracts of dense forest. Roughly half of the land area in the country is categorized under the mosaic land use classification.
13. Two indigenous tree species produce valuable timber, suren (*Toona sureni*) and sandalwood (*Santalum album*). Extensive areas of Ai ru (*Eucalyptus urophylla*) occur in moderately dense forest, and Ai bubur (*E. alba*), is found in open forest and savannah woodlands. The tropical dry monsoon forests include a mixture of species, of which the most important is Ai na (*Pterocarpus indicus*). Teak (*Tectona grandis*) is also a significant timber tree, first established in Timor more than 100 years ago.

¹¹ Trainor, C.R., et al., 2007. Important Bird Areas in Timor-Leste: Key sites for conservation. Cambridge, U.K.: BirdLife International.

¹² Van Welzen, P.C., Slik, J.W.F, and Alahuhta, J.. 2005. Plant distribution patterns and plate tectonics in Malesia. *Biol. Skr.* 55: 199-217. ISSN 0366-3612. ISBN 87-7304-304-4.

¹³ Government of Timor-Leste, November 2008. National Action Programme to Combat Land Degradation, Revised Draft.

¹⁴ National Forest Conservation Plan (draft), March 2013, prepared for the National Directorate of Forestry (NDF), Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste. Prepared by Nippon Koei Co., Ltd. in association with Asia Air Survey Co., Ltd.

14. Timor-Leste has made advances in the past decade in developing legislative frameworks on natural resource management. For example, the passing of the Decree-Law No. 5/2016 is an important step towards achieving effective management of the PA system, but there are a number of knowledge and capacity shortfalls that need to be overcome. The vast majority of the 46 declared PAs have been delineated based on scarce scientific information and the boundaries are largely approximated.
15. The TLSNAP project will support development and management of two protected areas, one in each of the two priority catchments:
 - i. **Mount Fatumasin** Protected Area (WDPA ID: 555547943; surface area: 40 km²). This PA is situated in the Liquiça *município*, within the upland region of the Comoro catchment.
 - ii. **Mount Legumau** Protected Area (WDPA ID: 555547948; surface area: 360 km²).¹⁵ This PA is situated near the intersection of the Baucau, Lautem, and Viqueque *municípios*, within the upland portion of the Irabere catchment.
16. The Mount Fatumasin PA and Mount Legumau PA overlap with 2 of the 30 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) delineated in Timor-Leste; KBA Site ID 16255 (Fatumasin) and Site ID 44998 (Legumau), respectively.¹⁶
17. The two catchments provide a strong distinction with respect to threats from human activities. The **Comoro catchment** is in proximity to the capital city Dili (see **Figure 3**), which is the key economic and populous center for the country. The catchment also hosts the Comoro Power Plant which is situated within the core of the national electricity grid, it is close to the Presidente Nicolau Lobato international airport, and is in the vicinity of the Dili port, the main point at which all goods either enter or exit Timor-Leste.

¹⁵ **NOTE: The surface areas of the target protected areas were obtained from Annex 1 to Decree-Law 5/2016. It is widely recognized that there are inconsistencies in these figures, and it is highly likely that the actual surface areas will be different upon completion of the demarcation of the protected areas during implementation of the project.**

¹⁶ World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas™, Managed by BirdLife International on behalf of the KBA Partnership, www.keybiodiversityareas.org

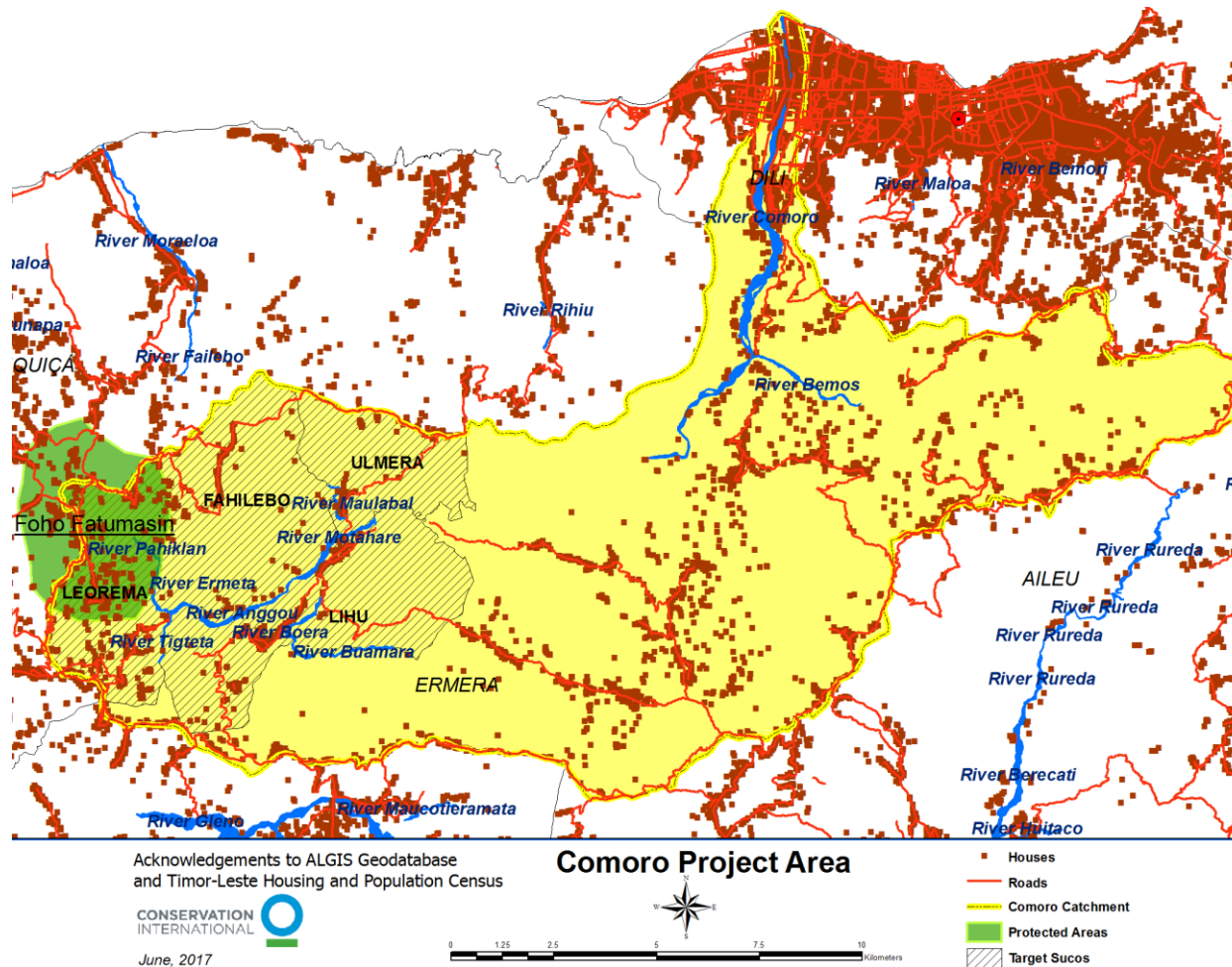


Figure 3 : Map of the project area in the Comoro catchment

18. The Comoro catchment is a main source of resources such as water, gravel, and firewood for the city of Dili and surrounding communities, and as such has been targeted by the government for rehabilitation¹⁷. The catchment lies between 8°43'12" and 8°33'40" to the north, and 125°19'24" and 125°40'48" to the east. The catchment is formed by two valleys surrounded by steep mountains at elevations ranging between 1,000 and 1,300 m above sea level. The upper Comoro catchment includes part of the Mount Fatumasin protected area within its boundary. The forests of Mount Fatumasin are on non-calcareous substratum and are considered more species-rich than most other forests in Timor-Leste.¹⁸ Fifteen restricted-range species have been recorded in this important bird area (IBA), including sightings of the critically endangered Yellow-crested cockatoo, reported through interviews with forestry workers in a 2000 survey.¹⁹ This area is highly populated and has had little survey work carried out for species or habitat assessment. There is enormous pressure on this catchment and its resources due to the prevalence of illegal cutting, firewood

¹⁷ Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030, version submitted to the National Parliament.; and McIntyre, M.A., 2011. Strategic Action Plan for the Programme of Works on Protected Areas.

¹⁸ FAO/UNDP (1982) *National Conservation Plan for Indonesia, 4: Nusa Tenggara*. Bogor: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Field Report 44).

¹⁹ Ora, A. B. (2000) *Laporan kegiatan observasi hutan dan keanekaragaman hayati di propinsi Timor Timur* [Observations of forest status and biodiversity in the province of Timor-Leste.]. Sub Seksi Konservasi Sumber Daya Alam, Timor Timur. Report to BirdLife International-Indonesia Programme, Bogor. (In Indonesian).

collection, and cattle grazing, as well as the constant migration of the younger population to Dili looking for work.

19. The **Irabere catchment** straddles the borders of the Baucau, Lautem, and Viqueque municipalities (*municípios*), extending to the Irabere River Estuary at the south coast of Timor-Leste, as shown below in the map in **Figure 4**.

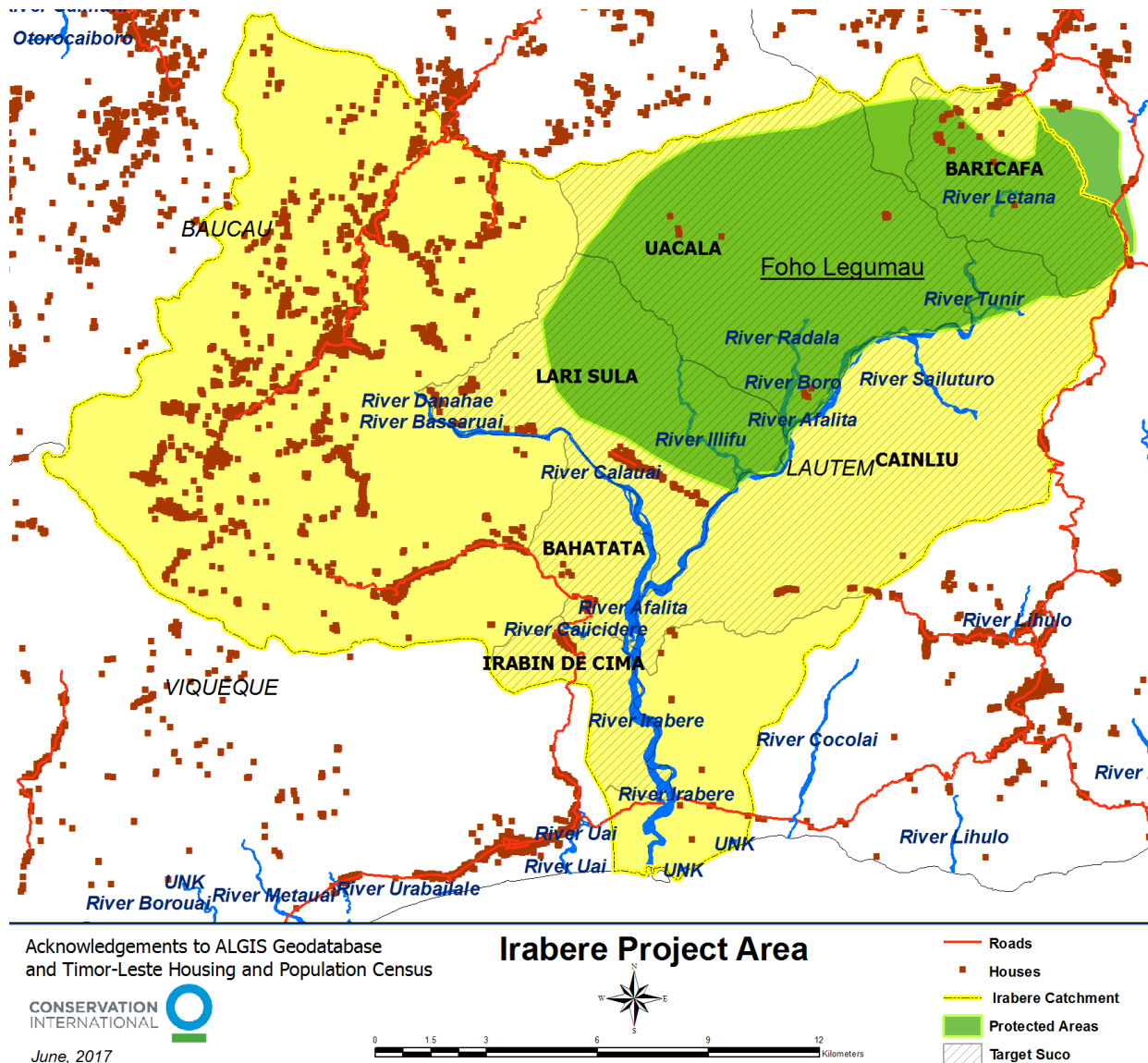


Figure 4 : Map of the project area in the Irabere catchment

20. Irabere estuary has been noted as an Important Bird Area (IBA), with eleven restricted-range species and the critically endangered Yellow-crested cockatoo recorded during surveys conducted in 2003 by BirdLife International and the Timor-Leste government²⁰. The area around the estuary is dominated by a mix of degraded semi-evergreen forests, agricultural land, and riparian

²⁰ Trainor, C.R., et al., 2007. Important Bird Areas in Timor-Leste: Key sites for conservation. Cambridge, U.K.: BirdLife International

Casuarina forest. Extensive stretches of tropical dry forest and moist deciduous forest extend inland; however, these areas have yet to be covered by biological assessments.

21. The Irabere catchment has within its boundary part of four declared protected areas: Mount Matebian, Mount Legumau (approx. 90% of this PA is within the catchment), Mount Burabo, and Mount Maure. No other catchment in Timor-Leste contains as many protected areas. This critical element along with fairly intact forest cover outside the protected areas, limited access to employment or income generating opportunities, and its relative closeness to Nino Konis Santana National Park which provides a critical opportunity to develop habitat corridors between these protected areas, made the selection committee recognize it as a prime project site.

C. Socio-Economic and Cultural Context

22. The total population of Timor-Leste, according to the 2015 population and housing census, is 1,183,643, including 601,112 male and 582,531 female, with 29.5% living in urban areas and 69.5% in rural areas. The most populous of the 13 municipalities (*municípios*) is Dili, which is also the location of the national capital of the same name, and has 277,279 inhabitants. Agriculture is the most important economic sector in Timor-Leste, with 79.6% of private households engaged in crop production (37.7% in urban areas and 94.8 in rural communities) and 87.2% of households engaged in livestock rearing (63.2% in urban areas and 95.9% in rural communities).²¹
23. The median age of the approximately 1.2 million population of Timor-Leste is 19.6 years²², making it one of the youngest countries in the world. Based upon recent poverty estimates, according to national poverty lines, approximately 42% of the Timorese people live under basic needs poverty, which is an improvement from the approximate 50% rate in 2007.²³ Applying the international USD 1.90 a day poverty line, poverty rates in Timor-Leste have reduced even more rapidly, from 47.2% in 2007 to 30.3% in 2014. Despite these reductions, poverty rates, as well as other socioeconomic indicators, including unemployment, remain high in Timor-Leste, compared to regional averages. Timor-Leste's human development index (HDI) value for 2015 was 0.605, which put the country in the medium human development category, ranking 133 out of 188 countries and territories, which is below the average of 0.720 for countries in East Asia and the Pacific.²⁴
24. In terms of gender inequality, the female HDI value for Timor-Leste for 2015 was 0.558 in contrast with 0.651 for males, resulting in a gender development index (GDI) value of 0.858, which is below the average East Asia and Pacific GDI value of 0.956.²⁵ Although some progress has been made in addressing inequalities through legislation, institutional arrangements, and increased public awareness, several challenges remain. Timor-Leste is a patriarchal society in which social norms and cultural values influence gender roles. Some of the pressing issues include high rates of domestic violence, continued high rates of maternal mortality, low participation in local governance, and gender gaps in the labor market.
25. Agriculture, fisheries, and forestry are primary sectors in Timor-Leste, providing subsistence and employment to nearly 80% of the population²⁶. The main agriculture crops are rice, maize and coffee, which is the most important export agricultural product. Most farmers practice subsistence farming, planting and harvesting what they need for a basic lifestyle, collecting wild foods and traditional medicines, and the animals are very much left free to grow and reproduce. There are almost no large-scale farms. There are some differences with respect the types of agricultural activities performed by men and women. Men are typically active in preparing land for agricultural activity, collecting seeds in the forest, and also collecting honey. Women are more active in post-harvest, including drying and storing agricultural products. Women are also active in collecting firewood.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ministry of Finance, 2015. Population and Housing Census 2015, Preliminary Results

²³ World Bank, April 2017. East Asia and Pacific Economic Outlook: Sustaining Resilience.

²⁴ UNDP, Human Development Report 2016 for Timor-Leste

²⁵ Ibid. Introduced in 2014, the GDI reflects gender inequalities in achievement in the same three dimensions of the HDI: health (measured by female and male life expectancy at birth), education (measured by female and male expected years of schooling for children and mean years for adults aged 25 years and older); and command over economic resources (measured by female and male estimated gross national income (GNI) per capita).

²⁶ Ministry of Economy and Development, February 2012. Sustainable Development in Timor-Leste. National Report to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) on the run up to Rio+20.

26. Principal staple crops include rice and maize under spatially variable cropping systems, depending on topography, elevation, and rainfall pattern. Land suitable for rice production is limited and maize is more widely grown in the uplands including hillsides. The most common commercial crops are Arabica coffee, *chimeri* (candlenut tree), vanilla and coconut.
27. The agricultural and rural sectors have undergone considerable hardship throughout the varying political systems, extending back to Portuguese times prior to 1975 and continuing during Indonesian rule afterwards, and then severely disrupted in the course of the civil unrest in 1999, when a great deal of damage was inflicted on people, infrastructure, and rural market systems. The Timor-Leste Government, with substantial support from the donor community, is implementing a food security program that aims to restore the agricultural sector, alleviate poverty, improve nutrition, and strengthen the resilience of the rural communities.
28. Revenues from the oil and gas sector have funded much of the country's reconstruction and natural resource management. Following recommendations of international financial institutions, the Timor-Leste Government established a Petroleum Fund in 2005 for prudently managing oil and gas resources. The balance of the Petroleum Fund at the end of 2016 stood at USD 15.84 billion, USD 1.29 billion lower than its peak value in May 2015. The independently estimated level of sustainable budget financing from the Petroleum Fund in 2016 was USD 545 million, whereas actual withdrawals amounted to more than double that level, at USD 1,245 million (see **Figure 5**). Higher withdrawals are expected in future years.

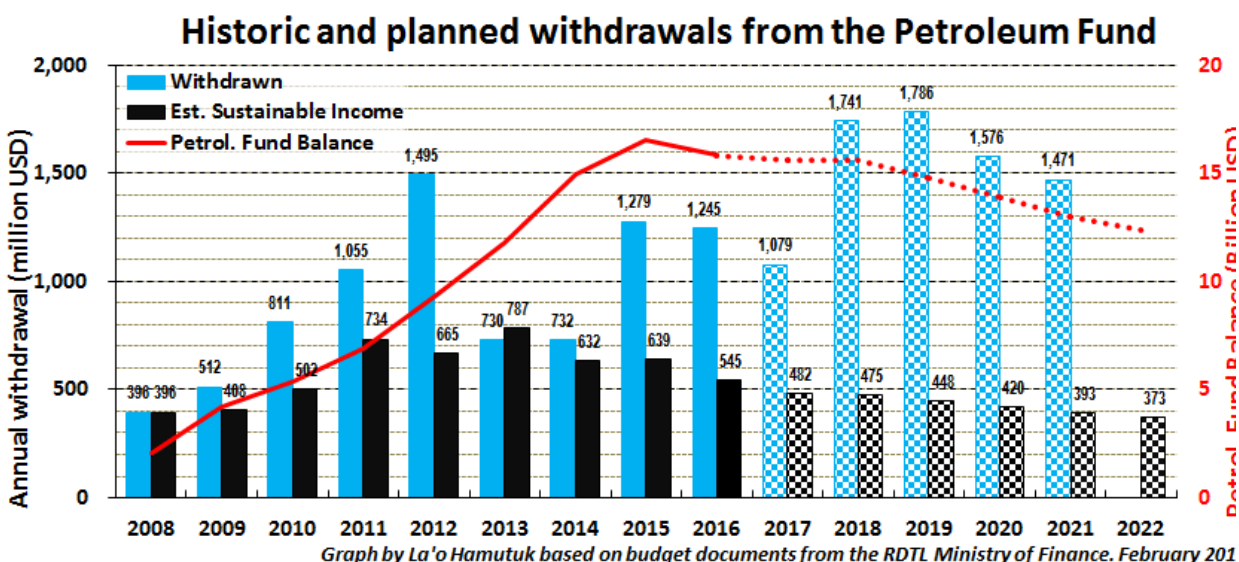


Figure 5: Historic and planned withdrawals from the Petroleum Fund²⁷

29. The non-oil and gas sector is underdeveloped and contributes little to the GDP. In rural areas forestry activities provide cash income. Community members are mostly engaged in firewood gathering, hunting, collection of palm wine, production of palm stem panel for house walling, collection of palm leaves for house roofing, harvesting of rattan, harvesting of bamboo, thinning, nursery, and gathering of honey.²⁸ In terms of gender distribution of work tasks, women are mostly active in post-harvest activities and maintenance, e.g., filling polybags and watering at plant nurseries.

²⁷ La'o Hamutuk, 9 May 2017, <https://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/PetFund/0SPFIndex.htm>

²⁸ FAO, 2014. Global Forest Resource Assessment 2015, Country Report: Timor-Leste. Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, Rome.

30. Access to infrastructure is highly fragmented across the country, with large gaps in between rural and urban areas. In a 2013 study by the Asian Development Bank, the average share of households with electricity in the 89 *sucos* with the lowest living standards was only 3%. This compares with an average share of 66% in the 89 *sucos* with the highest living standards.²⁹
31. Deforestation and land degradation are intrinsically linked with poverty. Rural farmers cannot afford to increase the productivity of low fertility soils, and erosion on sloped areas exacerbates the problem and leads to adverse downstream impacts, including silting up of waterways and damage to the already weak road infrastructure. The resultant losses in crop and livestock production perpetuate reduced incomes and welfare of rural communities.
32. Access to land and land tenure arrangements are important considerations across Timor-Leste. Land allocation is traditionally based on ancestral clan settlements and marriage relations, and rights to land, water, forests, and other resources are largely based on local customary institutions. Traditional land systems and customs are important aspects with respect to natural resource management in Timor-Leste, but certain land tenure practices, including establishing homesteads inside protected areas, render implementation of landscape based approaches a challenge in some cases. There are two main traditions with respect to land tenure in Timor-Leste: patriarchal and matriarchal. For those villages that have adopted the patriarchal or matriarchal traditions, land tenure is held by men or women, respectively. For the project target villages, the patriarchal tradition is prevalent; however, women are able to inherit land as a part of married couple.

Socioeconomic Considerations for Project Communities

33. For development and implementation of community driven natural resource management (NRM) plans, one sub-catchment in each of the two main catchments were selected: the Moto Hare sub-catchment in the Comoro catchment, and the Afalita sub-catchment in the Irabere catchment. Focusing project resources at the sub-catchment level allows a more concerted effort towards reducing the root causes of damage to forest areas in the upper reaches of the catchments, within and in the vicinity of the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs. There is a cumulative total of 10 *sucos* in the two priority catchments: 4 in the Moto Hare sub-catchment and 6 in the Afalita sub-catchment. Project field interventions will be implemented in these 10 *sucos*.
34. There are clear differences between the four *sucos* selected in the Comoro catchment that are closer to Dili and has reasonably developed services, compared to the six remote *sucos* in the Irabere catchment that are further from the district capital and have considerably lower levels of services (see **Table 2**).

Table 2: Socioeconomic information of the 10 project *sucos*

Suco	Land Area (ha)	Population			Living Standard Rank*	Households with			Adult literacy	Kilometers to district capital
		Total	Female	Male		Electricity	Improved water	Improved sanitation		
Source:	[1]	[2]			[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]
Moto Hare sub-catchment (Comoro catchment):										
Leorema	2,235	6,493	3,158	3,335	281	1%	36%	9%	54%	25
Fahilebo	2,417	1,423	677	746	252	5%	46%	58%	42%	17

²⁹ ADB, 2013. Least developed *sucos*: Timor-Leste. Asian Development Bank, Philippines.

Suco	Land Area (ha)	Population			Living Standard Rank*	Households with			Adult literacy	Kilometers to district capital
		Total	Female	Male		Electricity	Improved water	Improved sanitation		
Lihu	1,848	1,187	560	627	400	59%	89%	71%	81%	10
Ulmera	3,890	3,527	1,729	1,798	382	54%	68%	37%	62%	14
Afalita sub-catchment (Irabere catchment):										
Uacala	6,009	755	414	341	7	1%	15%	2%	46%	49
Baricafa	2,317	1,552	763	789	21	1%	76%	2%	29%	64
Lari Sula	3,635	821	415	406	13	0%	2%	0%	47%	71
Bahatata	1,136	804	396	408	9	0%	23%	0%	39%	86
Irabin de Cima	1,317	1,108	567	541	63	2%	1%	5%	46%	78
Cainliu	7,146	1,893	925	968	18	2%	78%	65%	49%	44
Total:	31,949	19,563	9,604	9,959						

[1]: Source: ALGIS (suco maps)

[2]: Source: Community consultations during PPG phase (2017)

[3]: Source: ADB estimates based on the 2010 Timor-Leste population and housing census (National Statistics Directorate 2011) and the 2001 Suco Survey (East Timor Transitional Administration, ADB, World Bank, and United Nations Development Programme, 2001).

*The rank ranges from 1 to 442, where 1 is the suco with the lowest standard of living based on the asset index and 442 is the suco with the highest standard of living.

D. Global Environmental Problems and Root Causes

36. Decree-Law No. 5/2016 on the *National Protected Area System*, promulgated on 16 March 2016, provides a legal foundation for the protection of key biodiversity areas and valuable ecosystems in the country, including most of the remaining primary montane forests that host high species endemism. However, the protected areas listed in the decree-law are at this point only parks on paper as there are no management plans in place and no legal monitoring or enforcement to ensure these areas are adequately protected. The Nino Konis Santana National Park, the country's only national park, which encompasses three protected areas, namely, Jaco Island Marine Protected Area, Lake Iralalaru Protected Area, and the vicinity of Com, are the only legally reinforced protected areas³⁰. The Government officially inaugurated the Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão National Park in October 2015; however, this site is protected mainly for its cultural heritage features.

Environmental problems and root causes

Land Degradation and Deforestation from Overexploitation of Natural Resources

37. Forest exploitation and unsustainable land management practices have altered large expanses of Timor-Leste's natural terrestrial ecosystems into rural landscapes of low productivity and degraded rangelands. Over-exploitation and unsustainable use of the forests were key drivers to the deforestation that took place in Timor-Leste during the era of Indonesian government rule. Large areas of forest were destroyed through unsustainable harvesting of forest resources, as well as an intentional forest clearing regime in the fight against FELANTIL, the Timorese resistance. Up to one third of the forests were cleared which caused an increase in grass and shrub-lands of more than 200,000 hectares.
38. As shown below in **Figure 6**, forest area has decreased from 966,000 ha in 1990, to 854,000 ha in 2000, to 697,200 ha in 2014, which is a cumulative 27.8% reduction over 25 years, or an annualized average loss of approximately 1.1%. Over this same time period, agricultural land has increased from 318,000 ha in 1990 to 380,000 ha in 2014, and other land, mainly degraded unproductive land, has more than doubled, with 409,800 ha in 2014 compared to 203,000 ha in 1990. The annualized average 1.1% of forest loss is a particularly high rate, considering that globally the net annual rate of forest loss has slowed from 0.18 percent in the early 1990s to 0.08 percent during the period 2010-2015.³¹ The calculated loss of dense forest areas, defined as having crown cover of 60-70%, in Timor-Leste is even more alarming, at a rate of 3.92% per year over the period of 2003 to 2012.³²

³⁰ The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of Timor-Leste (2011-2020), The Government of Timor-Leste, revised in 2015.

³¹ FAO, 2015. The Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015.

³² National Forest Conservation Plan (draft), March 2013, prepared for the National Directorate of Forestry (NDF), Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste. Prepared by Nippon Koei Co., Ltd. in association with Asia Air Survey Co., Ltd.

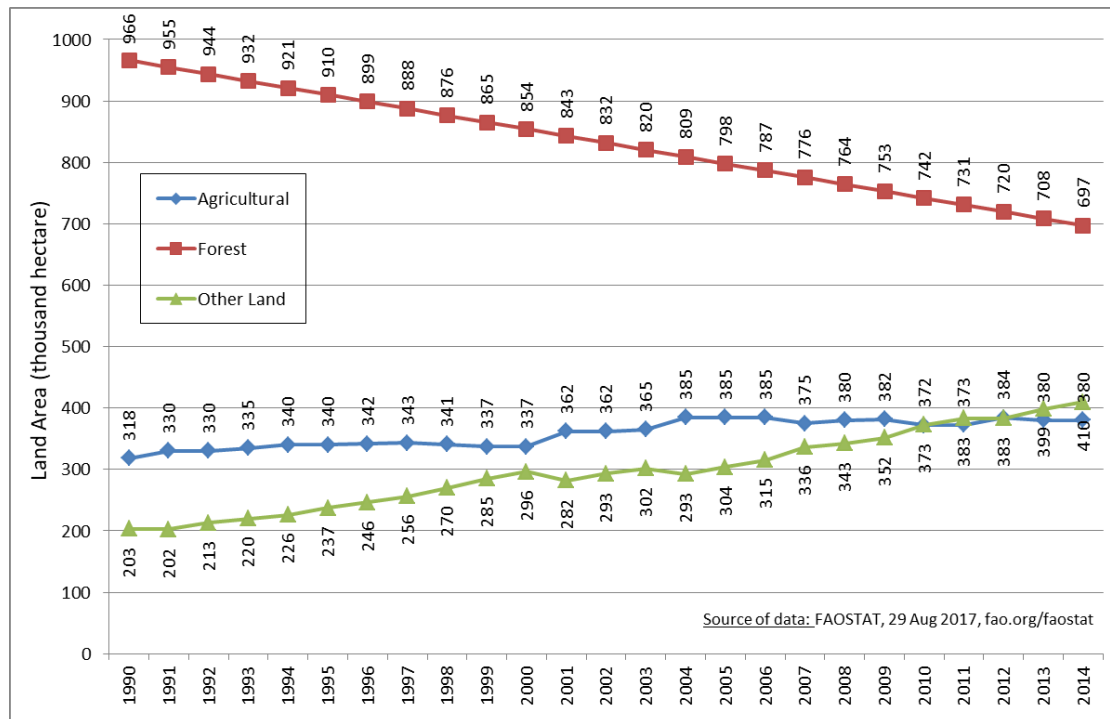


Figure 6: Land use trends in Timor-Leste 1990-2014

39. One of the major drivers has been the need for firewood for an ever-growing population. 81.3% of households use firewood as their primary source of cooking fuel; 52.7% of urban and 91.6% of rural households³³. The rate of firewood consumption has been estimated to be roughly 600,000 tons per year³⁴, which is contributing to the annual 1.1% deforestation rate. The preferred firewood species are Ironwood (*Casuarina equisetifolia*, *Casuarina junghuhniana*), Kou (*Cordia subcordata*), Hawaiian giant (*Leucaena leucocephala*), Mesquite (*Prosopis pallida*), Mangrove (*Rhizophora*, *Sonneratia alba*) and Ai-nitas (*Sterculia foetida*), although all species are at risk. Firewood collection and sales are a key income generating activity for families and in some instances, it is the only source of income.

Land Degradation due to Deterioration of Agricultural Productivity

40. Timor-Leste's rural terrain and surfaces are prone to flooding, soil erosion, and drought. Agricultural productivity is low because of insufficient diversification, among other reasons. Upland agricultural challenges include 'slash-and-burn' methods and loss of soil due to heavy rains. Other contributors to low agricultural productivity and high rural poverty are underdeveloped rural infrastructure, lack of good crop varieties, and recurrent natural disasters, as well as technological constraints, including water shortages, high weed populations, low soil fertility, and inadequate seed and grain storage. Low productivity is putting pressure on forests as people cut down trees, clearing land to meet their need for arable land and firewood.
41. Other main issues include invasive alien species, post-harvest rot/decay, and the threat of extinction of local rice varieties. Non-farm rural employment opportunities are practically non-

³³ Ministry of Finance, 2015. Population and Housing Census 2015, Preliminary Results

³⁴ World Bank, 2007. Timor-Leste, Issues and Options in the Household Energy Sector: A Scoping Study.

existent, resulting in high underemployment in rural areas and low incomes, forcing people to migrate to cities.

Lack of Protection of Important Conservation Areas: Habitat Degradation

42. Studies show that in 1972 approximately 25% of the land area was covered in primary forest, and a further 26% was secondary. During almost 30 years of Indonesian occupation, much of the country's most valuable timbers such as sandalwood, mahogany, ebony, and redwood were cut and exported. The indiscriminate clearing regimes saw a loss of up to one third of the forests, which caused an increase in unproductive land, consisting of grass and shrub-lands, of more than 200,000 hectares. The fragmentation of the forests, caused not only isolation of species and loss of biodiversity, but also a reduction in the forest ecosystems ability to maintain self-regulation, and therefore there has been an increase in landslides, soil erosion, and sedimentation of the waterways.

Increased levels of Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollution due to Land Degradation and Deforestation

43. The topography of Timor-Leste makes the country particularly vulnerable to erosion as deforestation and slash and burn activities are leaving the soil exposed and prone to erosion during heavy rains. In addition, the soils have low fertility, so agricultural productivity remains very low which in turn increases the need for more land in order to meet the demands of a growing population. Forests around highly populated areas such as Dili, Baccau, and Ermera are particularly targeted for exploitation and, therefore, are diminishing at a higher rate than that seen in other parts of the country. The remaining forests are subjected to frequent burning as the herdsmen are looking to increase grass cover for the free ranging stock. Unfortunately the fires soon spread and race up the steep slopes into the remaining forest cover on the exposed areas. Soils on these steep slopes are left exposed to the elements and become vulnerable to landslides and erosion, especially during the rainy season. Runoff pollutes the fishing grounds and reefs of the marine areas up and down the coastline. During the dry season, the land is left exposed to the high temperatures, and wind, destroying its structure and leaving it with little ability to absorb water. This damage to the soil is most obvious in the deep gullies and along the waterways such as rivers and streams where the scars from landslides and erosion can be clearly seen.
44. The upland erosion reduces the ability of the catchments to recharge, and contributes significantly to sedimentation downstream, affecting the ground water aquifers, river systems and the coastal areas. Sedimentation of the rivers and streams has an adverse effect on water quantity, as well as water quality, which in turn has a negative effect on aquatic life in the rivers and coastal areas. This then has a direct impact on the food security for people in Timor-Leste. The General Directorate of Forestry, Coffee, and Industrial Crops recognizes this negative impact and has formed a "Watershed Management Group" with donors and partners whose work is planned by catchment rather than Municipality. CI is a strong contributor to this group as is GIZ, World Bank, EU, UNDP, and ADB. Other factors affecting rivers are the discharge of sewage and disposal of solid wastes into waterways, and non-sustainable fishing methods.

Climate Change

45. Timor-Leste is vulnerable to the expected negative impacts of climate change. IPCC global models indicate that in Southeast Asia extreme weather events associated with El Niño events have been increasing in frequency and intensity.³⁵ Climate projections for the Wallacea biodiversity hotspot

³⁵ IPCC, 2007. 'Climate change 2007: the physical science basis.' Contribution of Working Group 1 to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

signify that the Lesser Sundas will experience increased temperatures and decreased rainfall, which would mean that evapotranspiration rates would increase, leading to less available water for plant growth.³⁶ This would pose additional pressure onto the food security concerns among rural communities, which are heavily reliant on natural resources and (semi-)subsistence agriculture. Although the country has made strides in strengthening food security in the country, an estimated 50.2% of children between 6 and 59 months suffer from chronic malnutrition³⁷. Long periods of drought seriously impacts access to fresh water and during the dry months when waters becomes scarce the water shortage has severe implications also for irrigation and hence the agricultural output. The combination of environmental circumstances and limited economic resources, in addition to increasing pressure on available natural resources, will continue to increase Timor-Leste's vulnerability to climate change and natural disasters.

³⁶ CEPF, June 2014. Ecosystem Profile Summary, Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot. Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

³⁷ World Food Programme (WFP), Timor-Leste Country Brief, March 2017

E. Barriers to Addressing the Environmental Problems and Root Causes

Barrier 1: Knowledge gaps

46. A major barrier that this project will support in addressing is the limited data available on ecosystems in the country, such as forest cover, biodiversity, hydrology, and wetland areas. This hinders well-informed decision making and hampers management and conservation activities. For example, one of the priorities highlighted in the National Ecological Gap Assessment (NEGA, 2010) report was the importance of connectivity between the protected areas, but there are significant knowledge gaps. These priority sites mapped in the NEGA contain high value conservation areas and valuable ecosystem functions, including soil and water protection, that are critical for downstream communities.

Barrier 2: Weak Institutional Coordination

47. Coordination between the ministries, as well as among departments, is improving but each ministry still tends to focus on its own work and not identify the linkages across the departments or mandates. Unclear and overlapping mandates and responsibilities spread across ministries is one source of the problem. In some instances the legislation is at odds and it is difficult to identify which ministry or department is responsible for which action. Currently, management of terrestrial PAs is under the Directorate of Forestry at MAF, marine PAs are under the Directorate of Fisheries at MAF, and biodiversity conservation falls under MCIE. In a PA such as Nino Konis Santana National Park which has both terrestrial and marine protected areas, each directorate within MAF operates independently for their areas and not in cooperation. This becomes confusing for the communities and stakeholders, and reduces the ability of the park to function properly. Currently there is no formal or informal coordination across these sectors to manage the PA which has left the country with a list of paper parks and no formal PA system.
48. The decentralization policies being developed and implemented as part of the Programme of the Sixth Constitutional Government, 2015-2017, are aimed at extending more responsibility and authority to subnational governmental stakeholders, but change will take time, considering the years of a highly centralized system that perpetuated the capacity gap between national and subnational stakeholders. Local government units, including at the *município* and *suco* levels, are tasked with more responsibilities regarding natural resource management, but after years of centralized management, the requisite institutional coordination structures and capacities are not yet in place to fulfill the envisaged decentralized arrangements. Moreover, shifting to a decentralized system regarding natural resource management requires local level NRM plans that reflect the issues and capacities of the particular communities in these areas.

Barrier 3: Insufficient Financing

49. A limiting factor in developing a PA system and natural resource management in general, has been the limited flow of funding from the Timor-Leste government. Over the period of 2010-2016, approximately USD 121,000 per year has been allocated for protected area management; including approximately USD 37,000 per year for salaries of departmental and field staff, USD 3,000 per year for maintenance, and USD 81,000 per year for various goods and services. Government funding for the environmental sector in general has been considerably lower than other sectors, as illustrated below in **Figure 7** over the period of 2012-2015.

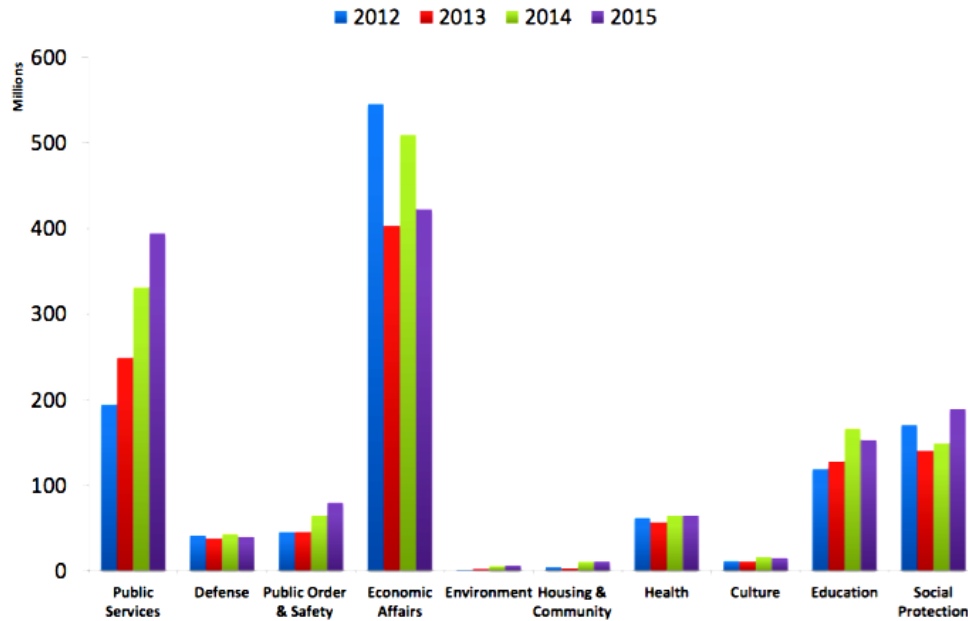


Figure 7: Government expenditures by sectors 2012-2015³⁸

50. Overall, insufficient resources are being allocated for management of the 46 declared protected areas. For example, only one manager and seven community forest guards manage the country's largest protected area, Nino Konis Santana National Park, which covers a total area of 123,600 hectares of terrestrial and marine areas. The Nino Konis Santana National Park is also the only PA that has been physically demarcated. And, due to the lack of staff, enforcement of natural resource exploitation continues with little control.

Barrier 4: Legal gaps and weak enforcement

51. Weak institutional arrangements are intrinsically associated with legal gaps and weak enforcement. National legislation to protect and safeguard natural resources are covered by laws and regulations, Decree-Law No. 5/2016 on the *National Protected Area System*, but much of the requisite legislative framework is in draft form, including the Biodiversity Decree Law.
52. There is also a language barrier. Timor-Leste still works under a Portuguese Legal Framework which includes that all the legislation is designed and written in Portuguese. The majority of the Timorese population does not speak or read Portuguese – including government staff – so implementing the existing legislation is difficult due to the administrative language barrier. In addition, there are a number of legislative documents that are still in draft form and therefore not enforceable.

Barrier 5: Capacity Limitations

53. The PA management approach promoted by the government and integrated into this project is focused on empowering local communities, through collaborative management arrangements. Capacities of local communities, however, are low, and this is a major barrier with respect to realizing community driven natural resource management. Implementing training and education

³⁸ Ministry of Finance, 2016. The Petroleum Fund of Timor-Leste, Session VI: Mobilizing revenues to support sustainable development (II), at the Regional Workshop on Green Fiscal Policy Network in collaboration with UNDP-UNEP Poverty Initiative Asia-Pacific, 8 Dec 2016, F. Niery Bernardo, Ministry of Finance

programs in rural areas are often constrained by the lack of trainers who are professional proficient in local languages; there are several local languages among the 13 municipalities (*municipios*) in the country.

F. Current Baseline (Business-as-Usual Scenario) / Future Scenarios without the Project

Baseline scenario:

54. Under the business as usual scenario, advances made to the legislative and management frameworks regarding the PA system are based on insufficient resources allocated by the government and disconnected support by various donors, often applying approaches that are part of a regional program and not necessarily tailored to the circumstances in Timor-Leste. In other words, there is a lack of strategic direction.
55. Without the implementation of this project it is likely that the establishment of a functioning PA system will be delayed and this will have serious environmental and socioeconomic consequences. Economic pressures and population growth are likely to continue fueling deforestation and degradation, and the demand for agricultural land is likely to increase as the population grows. Unsustainable agricultural practices in vulnerable areas will continue the ongoing deforestation in an effort to open new farm land and also allow for uncontrolled grazing. These slash and burn practices, along with free stock grazing, will remain the main farming methods. This has so far left more than half the island without natural vegetative cover, as the newly opened areas soon suffer from over grazing, and provide a perfect base for floristic invasive species such as Siam Weed (*Chromolaena odorata*).
56. Predictions of forest loss made as part of the development of the national forest conservation plan in 2013, suggest that dense forest areas would decrease from approximately 313,000 ha nationwide in 2012 to 183,651 ha in 2023 (see **Figure 8**), if conservation recommendations are not implemented.

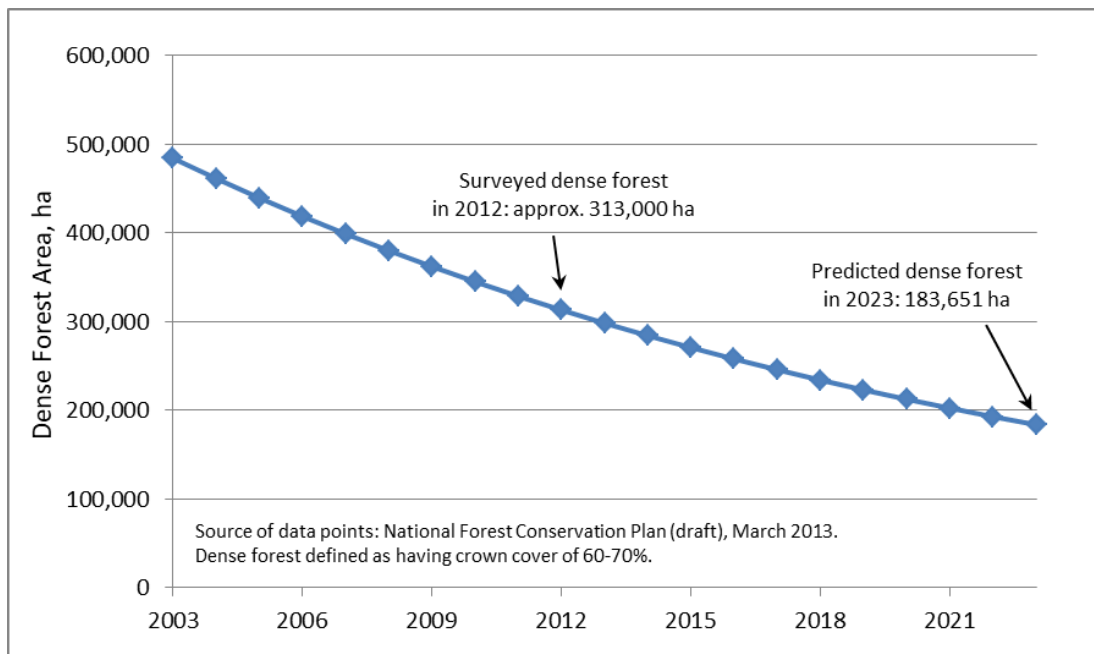


Figure 8: Predicted loss of dense forest area under business as usual scenario

57. Based upon available global forest change data, deforestation rates recorded for the Comoro and Irabere catchments, the two priority catchments focused on in the TLSNAP project, are summarized below in **Table 3**:

Table 3: Forest cover and deforestation statistics since from 2000 to 2014

Landscape	Total Land	Forest with > 30% tree cover (ha)			Deforestation
Location	Area (ha)	In 2000	In 2005	In 2015	Annual
Comoro Catchment	21,200	13,677.17	13,605.63	13,311.16	0.022
Irabere Catchment	37,480	22,178.95	22,127.82	21,731.54	0.018

Source: Forest cover and deforestation derived from Hansen (2015)³⁹

58. Under the business as usual (BAU) scenario, applying the national average annual deforestation rate of 1.1%, the continued forest loss in these two priority catchments would represent an estimated 286,395 tons of CO₂ emissions over the 4-year lifespan of the project (see **Table 4**).

Table 4: Estimated business as usual scenario CO₂ emissions

Landscape	Area (ha)	Existing Forest 2016 (ha)	Annual Deforestation Rate	Forest loss BAU (ha)*	Baseline/BAU Emissions CO ₂ tons**
Comoro Catchment	21,200	13282.35	0.011	584	248,216
Irabere Catchment	37,480	21692.62	0.011	954	38,179
				Total:	286,395

*Annual deforestation rate of 1.1% over 4 years.

**Emission factor of 424.72 MgCO₂/ha

59. The broad development goal of the country with regard to land resources is to arrest and contain the spread of land degradation, and to rehabilitate and reclaim the degraded areas through the most cost-effective means available. However, there continues to be unsustainable use of natural resources within many of the delineated PAs, both by residents of communities living inside the PAs and by people accessing PAs from settlements situated outside the boundaries. This is due to the generally low level of awareness among the rural communities, the lack of management plans and structures in place, and weak and under-capacitated enforcement. Without a functioning PA system in place these practices are likely to continue, further exposing the land to erosion and sedimentation leading to further habitat loss, particularly devastating for endemic and threatened terrestrial and marine species.
60. The loss of vegetation and soil will lead to further degradation of the catchments, including a decrease in water quality and quantity in the lower reaches. This decline has a flow on effect for the agriculture sector as it reduces the land available for food production and thereby endangers overall food security in the country. Additionally, the loss of biodiversity, changes in micro climates, and damage to marine habitats through this degradation also has major implications on the country's ability to feed itself into the future. The economic consequences due to a comprehensive lack of its natural resources for Timor-Leste will be long-term and it is the country's extremely poor who will face the brunt of this burden.
61. Rather than addressing the root causes of forest and land degradation, scarce public funds will continue to be expended on financing the adverse consequences of poor natural resource management, e.g., investing in capital intensive storm water management infrastructure.

³⁹ http://earthenginepartners.appspot.com/science-2013-global-forest/download_v1.2.html

G. Alternatives to the Business-as-Usual Scenario

Option 1: Establishing PAs under the strictest management regimes

62. Under this option, the project would support establishment of PAs under the strictest management regimes, e.g., under IUCN category Ia (strict nature reserve) or Ib (wilderness area). The boundaries of the PAs listed in Decree-Law 5/2016 are only approximated, and in many cases there are settlements situated within or close to the delineated areas. These settlements predate the declaration of the PAs, and many residents are highly reliant upon the ecosystem goods and services within these areas.

Option 2: Focus only on non-protected areas (biodiversity mainstreaming)

63. Under this option, enabling conditions would be strengthened to promote biodiversity conservation within relevant production sectors on areas situated outside of protected areas. Promoting conservation on non-protected areas in these cases would be made, for example, to enhance ecological connectivity across lands that would not easily be converted to protected areas. Considering the circumstances in Timor-Leste, this option was rejected for several reasons. Firstly, production sectors such as forestry and agriculture are disorganized and small in scale. Creating viable incentive mechanisms under these conditions would be difficult. Weak institutional enforcement capacities further compound the challenges with respect to biodiversity mainstreaming. Moreover, the protected area system in the country is in the very early phases of development. Biodiversity mainstreaming is more appropriate for situations where *in situ* conservation systems are in place and well managed.

Option 3: Promote protected area management through private concessionaries

64. Engaging the private sector, e.g., through concessionary agreements, has been used in certain parts of the world to provide alternative financing for protected area management. These arrangements can also generate benefits by introducing state-of-the-art management approaches that many governmental organizations are under-resourced or lack capacity to implement. For Timor-Leste, however, this option was rejected for this project. The limited tourism demand over the short to medium term reduces the viability of private concessionaries.

Proposed Alternative: Strengthen natural resource management through participatory community collaborative management arrangements

65. This project aims to formally establish the Timor-Leste PA system and strengthen the management of two key catchment areas as pilot sites to demonstrate how to manage protected areas and corridors outside PAs, through increasing understanding and strengthening the capacities of local communities to manage their own resources under mutually beneficial collaborative management arrangements. Based upon the current socioeconomic circumstances in Timor-Leste, establishing sustainable use PAs is a more viable alternative than closing off areas under strict management regimes. Demonstrating good practice for establishing and management a sustainable use PA would provide the Timor-Leste government and non-governmental stakeholders with a replicable model for scaling up elsewhere in the country, further reducing the unsustainable pressure on forest and other land resources. Moreover, tasking local communities in natural resource management arrangements is more feasible in Timor-Leste than increasing central level government arrangements, due to the limited financial resources available to the national government.

H. Cost Effectiveness Analysis of Chosen Alternative

66. Strengthening community based management capacities is considered a long-term cost-effective approach. Considering the geographic remoteness and limitations with respect to logistical arrangements of many of the rural project communities, particularly in the uplands of the Irabere catchment, community management of natural resources is essentially the only viable option. The costs for Option 1 described above, involving establishment of protected areas under the strictest of management regimes, would be higher. Sustainable use of ecosystem goods and services would not be allowed under that alternative, and this would likely require considerably more resources building up enforcement capacities. Conflicts with communities regarding access restrictions would also likely be more prevalent, requiring higher costs for possibly resettling and compensating households that are situated within the protected areas.
67. Option 2, which involves biodiversity mainstreaming, i.e., focusing on production sectors that are active on lands outside of protected areas, was rejected because relevant sectors in Timor-Leste, including agriculture, forestry, and tourism, are small in scale and, hence, there are limitations with respect to creating incentive mechanisms for promoting biodiversity conservation. Agricultural production in Timor-Leste is similar as circumstances in other small island developing states (SIDS), with smallholder farmers predominantly active in working small plots of land having intermingled crops and trees, including both native and introduced species. The planned rehabilitation and reforestation activities will be largely implemented by smallholder farmers, and will include a combination of interventions, both on lands held by them and also on community lands. The interconnection between smallholder farming and wider landscapes is an essential element for achieving effective and sustainable ecosystem health and integrity. Once the protected area system is functional and local communities are capacitated to support natural resource management, it would be advisable to engage relevant production sectors, as demand for forest resources and agricultural land and eco-tourism will likely increase in the future.
68. With respect to cost effectiveness, a substantive proportion of the GEF funds are allocated for capacity building activities, aimed at strengthening the enabling conditions of the institutional, community, and individual stakeholders tasked with long term management and conservation of the protected area system in Timor-Leste. This investment is seen as a cost-effective approach at mainstreaming priority actions into national development programming and budgetary frameworks.
69. Co-financing contributions are pledged from four separate partners, signifying the high level of cross-sectoral importance of this project among governmental, non-governmental, and multilateral partners. Implementation of community driven integrated NRM plans has a strong replication potential, i.e., scaling up similar approaches for other *sucos*.
70. Efficiency gains are integrated into the project through synergies with ongoing initiatives, such as the catchment management program run by JICA, collaborating on logistical arrangements, whenever possible, etc. Furthermore, local materials and labor will be utilized as much as practicable.
71. A number of cost-effective considerations were also incorporated into the design of the project implementation arrangements and activities. For example, several of the designed project activities are envisaged to be implemented by qualified local service providers, NGOs, research institutions, and/or local consultants. Also, the project management team will be hosted in office space provided by the Government of Timor-Leste, and local governments have indicated that

catchment coordinators would be offered with in-kind logistical assistance, to the degree practicable.

SECTION 3: PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Objective, Components, Expected Outcomes, Targets, and Outputs

72. The **objective** of the project is to establish Timor-Leste's national protected area system and improve the management of forest ecosystems in priority catchment corridors. This will be achieved through five outcomes distributed among the three project components below:

COMPONENT 1: ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL PROTECTED AREA SYSTEM

73. The majority of protected areas in Timor-Leste exist on paper only and, thus, they have little influence in safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystem services. Component 1 focuses on assisting government partners in formulating a national PA system plan, assessing financing needs and sustainable financing opportunities, developing management and business plans for two protected areas located within the selected Irabere and Comoro catchments, and initiating the implementation of these plans through collaborative management arrangements between government and local communities.
74. The list of declared PAs annexed to Decree-Law No. 5/2016 on the *National Protected Area System* is based on a number of sources, including "Protected Wild Areas" proclaimed under the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) before the country was handed over to the new independent government. Very few of the listed PAs are supported by biophysical field surveys, and the information available has not been systematically consolidated. The activities under Component 1 will include biophysical and legislative gap analyses, which will support the development of the national PA system plan.

Outcome 1.1: National PA system established and implementation initiated

75. The combined outputs under Outcome 1.1 will provide the necessary basis upon which the protected area system can be established.
76. The national PA system plan (*plano nacional*) will provide a strategic framework for the development and effective management of the PA system, including recommendations for an enabling legislative framework and a set of criteria for nominating PAs, e.g., based on the IUCN global standard on identification of key biodiversity areas⁴⁰. The plan will also provide the foundation for development of individual PA management plans, including the two that will be supported by the project. The two protected areas selected for the development management plans are Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs, situated within the Comoro River catchment and the Irabere River catchment, respectively.

Targets for Outcome 1.1:

- a. A comprehensive national PA system plan (*plano nacional*) developed and approved by government (covering 480,341 ha)⁴¹.
- b. Management and business plans developed and implementation of selected components initiated for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs

⁴⁰ IUCN (2016) *A Global Standard for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas, Version 1.0. First edition*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN

⁴¹ This is the tally of protected areas listed in Annex I of Decree-Law No. 5/2016 on the *National Protected Area System*.

- c. Demarcation completed for two priority PAs (Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau), covering a cumulative area of 39,976 ha.

Output 1.1.1: National PA system plan, supported by results of gap analyses, formulated and approved by the government

- 77. Before the national PA system plan can be developed, additional information will be gathered in terms of biophysical conditions and the requisite legislative framework.
- 78. One of the activities under Output 1.1.1 will be a biophysical gap analysis, building upon the results of the NEGA completed in 2010. It is important to the longevity and coherence of the PA system, that those areas critical to the protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services are verified and categorized according to importance. Objective 5 under Goal 1 of Timor Leste’s Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) identifies three clear targets that will be the guiding principles behind this output. That is to ensure that protected areas are as large as they can possibly be; ensure that protected areas connect protected areas, especially along elevation gradients for terrestrial protected areas; and where there are areas that represent major geological features in the protected area system, to ensure climate refugia are protected. To support this, in some areas on-ground surveys such as the Rapid Assessment Program (RAP) will be undertaken, while for other areas desk top studies and collation of existing data will support these decisions.
- 79. There is a need to have a sound legislative framework in place, to guide effective management and facilitate cross-sectoral coordination. In 2008 the first national park for Timor-Leste was created and as a result legislation and policy specific to protected areas was nominated to be developed. A number of those policies and laws exist today only in draft form and have not yet been implemented. To date no coordinated attempt has been made to review the current policy and legislation for protected areas and identify the gaps. It is the intention of this project to undertake a full gap analysis of the current legislation related to PAs and provide recommendation based on priorities to meet international best practice as well address local needs such as collaborative management. The legislative gap analysis will be supported by a legislation expert, working in conjunction with project management staff and in coordination with relevant government agency officials.
- 80. One of the key activities in developing the national PA system plan will be developing guidelines and a set of criteria for supporting classification of nominated and future protected areas. Decree-Law No. 5/2016 on the *National Protected Area System* provides a framework for classifying PAs; the project will provide prescriptive, criteria-based guidelines that will assist government partners and conservation practitioners,
- 81. The deliverables generated under this output will be consolidated into a 5-year national PA system plan. The project will help facilitate and advocate for adoption of the plan through ministerial diploma (*diplom ministerial*).

Indicative Activities under Output 1.1.1:

- i. Carry out a biophysical gap analysis.
- ii. Carry out a legislative gap analysis.
- iii. Develop a set of science-based criteria for supporting classification of nominated and future protected areas.

- iv. Prepare a draft national PA system plan (*plano nacional*).
- v. Socialize the draft national PA system plan (including organizing a national stakeholder workshop).
- vi. Finalize the national PA system plan and advocate for the adoption of the plan through ministerial diploma (*diplom ministerial*).

Output 1.1.2: National PA system sustainable financing assessment completed

- 82. Long-term Goal No. 5 of the PoWPA identifies the need for the protected area system to be financially sustainable. With diminishing revenues flowing into the Petroleum Fund due to recent downward trends with respect to global oil prices, government funding for environmental issues, including protected area management, will likely continue to be limited over the short to medium time horizon, in favor of more pressing social development such as health care and education. Effective management of the PA system will likely only be achieved through a combination of government funding and alternative financing mechanisms.
- 83. Decree-Law No. 5/2016 on the *National Protected Area System*, promulgated in March 2016, provides a framework for financing the management of the PA system, with provisions for funding from the State budget, grants from development partners, collection of taxes, and payments for ecosystem services. Under Output 1.1.2, the project will contribute towards reaching the goal of achieving sustainable financing by first making a system-wide analysis of PA financing needs, based upon the strategic direction formulated as part of the national PA system plan completed in Output 1.1.1.
- 84. The current level of government funding is widely reported to fall significantly short of even basic management requirements; however, the amount of funding required is largely unknown. An annual sum of USD 500,000 is presented in the 2010 National Ecological Gap Assessment (NEGA) report as the amount of financing to meet basic management needs. This figure has been referenced in subsequent publications, but there is no detailed estimation or calculation to back it up. Moreover, the USD 500,000 figure was based on a broad estimate made by the Department of Protected Areas and National Parks (DPANP) in 2010. Seven years have passed since that time and the current PA system is considerably larger, with 46 individual PAs listed in Decree-Law No. 5/2016.
- 85. The financing needs analysis will be made in close collaboration with DPANP staff and other cross-sectoral stakeholders, NGOs, and donors. The analysis will present a breakdown of the basic and optimal financing needs in terms of recurrent general administration, operation, monitoring, as well as infrastructure needs. A few different implementation scenarios will also be assessed, e.g., focusing in the short-term on the most strategically important PAs and adding new ones subsequently as financing streams become more attainable.
- 86. The next step under this output will be to carry out a sustainable financing assessment for the national PA system. There are a number of examples of sustainable financing for protected areas, including some examples from the Coral Triangle region. One in particular for which the government of Timor-Leste has shown some interest is the Raja Ampat⁴² model from Indonesia, where an environmental fund that manages collected revenue is shared between the communities and government to provide long term security to the protected areas. Current legislation in Timor-Leste allows for the development of such an environment fund. Alternative

⁴² Raja Ampat is an archipelago comprising over 1,500 small islands, located in the northwest part of West Papua province in Indonesia.

examples include conservation agreements being implemented by Conservation International in several countries. Communities reap the benefits of conserving the biodiversity and its habitat through a shared payment system. The sustainable financing assessment will also take into account the socioeconomic circumstances in Timor-Leste, including low tourism demand, poor infrastructure, limited services, and lack of professional capacity.

87. Under this output the project will also organize a regional PA sustainable financing workshop, sharing best practice, and possibly identifying entry points for collaborative arrangements.

Indicative Activities under Output 1.1.2:

- i. Prepare a system-wide analysis of basic and optimal PA financing needs, on the basis of the national PA system plan developed under Output 1.1.1.
- ii. Prepare a PA system-wide sustainable financing assessment, including recommendations over the next 5 years under implementation of the national PA system plan.
- iii. Organize a regional PA sustainable financing workshop.

Output 1.1.3: Management and business plans developed in a participatory manner for Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau protected areas

88. The declared PAs listed in Decree-Law No. 5/2016 are without management plans or strategies. They exist only on paper and are without any formal legislative support to ensure their management aligns with international best practice, collaborative management being practiced in Timor-Leste, or the needs of the country. Under this output, the project will support development of management and business plans for the Mount Fatumasin PA and the Mount Legumau PA. The project will also facilitate establishment of enabling structures, required for the subsequent implementation of the plans. One of these structures is the PA management committee (*comité de gestão*). Consistent with Articles 37 and 38 of Decree-law No. 5/2016, management committees will be established for the two PAs, and consist of a broad spectrum of stakeholders, including national and subnational government representatives, traditional leaders, NGOs, community based organizations, etc. The structure and lessons learned of the existing management committee for the Nino Konis Santana National Park will be used to guide the establishment of the committees for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs. Terms of reference will be developed that outline the duties of the committee over the course of the project and after GEF funding ceases, creating a long-term oversight structure.
89. PA managers for the two PAs will also be appointed by the DPANP, to support development and implementation of the PA management and business plans. As outlined in Article 39 of Decree-law No. 5/2016, a PA manager (*chefe da área protegida*) shall be nominated for each PA. The project will assist the DPANP in preparing terms of reference for the PA managers. The DPANP could assign a senior forest guard from the administrative posts (*postos administrativos*) as interim PA managers for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs.
90. Activities under this output will also include surveying the boundaries of the two PAs, carrying out gender sensitive socioeconomic surveys, and performing rapid biophysical assessments. The results of these surveys and assessments will form the basis of the zoning plans, which will then be negotiated with the communities living within and near the PAs. The zoning plans will be submitted to the Council of Ministers for approval. Once this process is complete, work on the management plans will begin. The management plans will be finalized after socialization through regular communication with the PA management committees and gender sensitive community

consultations. PA management plans are typically living documents, which means that adjustments are regularly made and new information added, according to monitoring and evaluation findings and lessons learned.

91. With the information from the PA system-wide sustainable financing assessment completed under Output 1.1.2, business plans will also be completed for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs. The plans will include financing options that are relevant and appropriate for these two sites. For example, Mount Legumau is situated in a remote region of the country with poor road access. Mount Fatumasin is more accessible to visitors, being located in the Comoro catchment, in close proximity to Dili.

Indicative Activities under Output 1.1.3:

- i. Assist the DPANP in establishing PA management committees and appointing PA managers for the Mount Fatumasin PA and Mount Legumau PA; including preparation of terms of reference for the management committees and PA managers.
- ii. Verify the boundaries of the two PAs by negotiation with communities, geodetic field surveying and analysis of available aerial photographs, remote sensing, and other information.
- iii. Using gender sensitive participatory rural appraisal techniques identify the key socioeconomic issues in the target sucos within and near the PAs and develop frameworks for community conservation arrangements.
- iv. Carry out rapid biophysical assessments of the two PAs.
- v. Through participation with local communities and authorities, prepare zoning plans for the Mount Fatumasin PA and the Mount Legumau PA.
- vi. Through a participatory planning process and upon approval of the zoning plans, develop management plans for the Mount Fatumasin PA and the Mount Legumau PA.
- vii. Following socialization of the management plans for the two PAs, including organizing public hearings, advocate for ministerial approval.
- viii. Carry out sustainable financing feasibility studies for the two PAs.
- ix. Based upon the results of the feasibility studies and consultations with beneficiaries and enabling stakeholders, develop 5-year business plans for the two PAs.

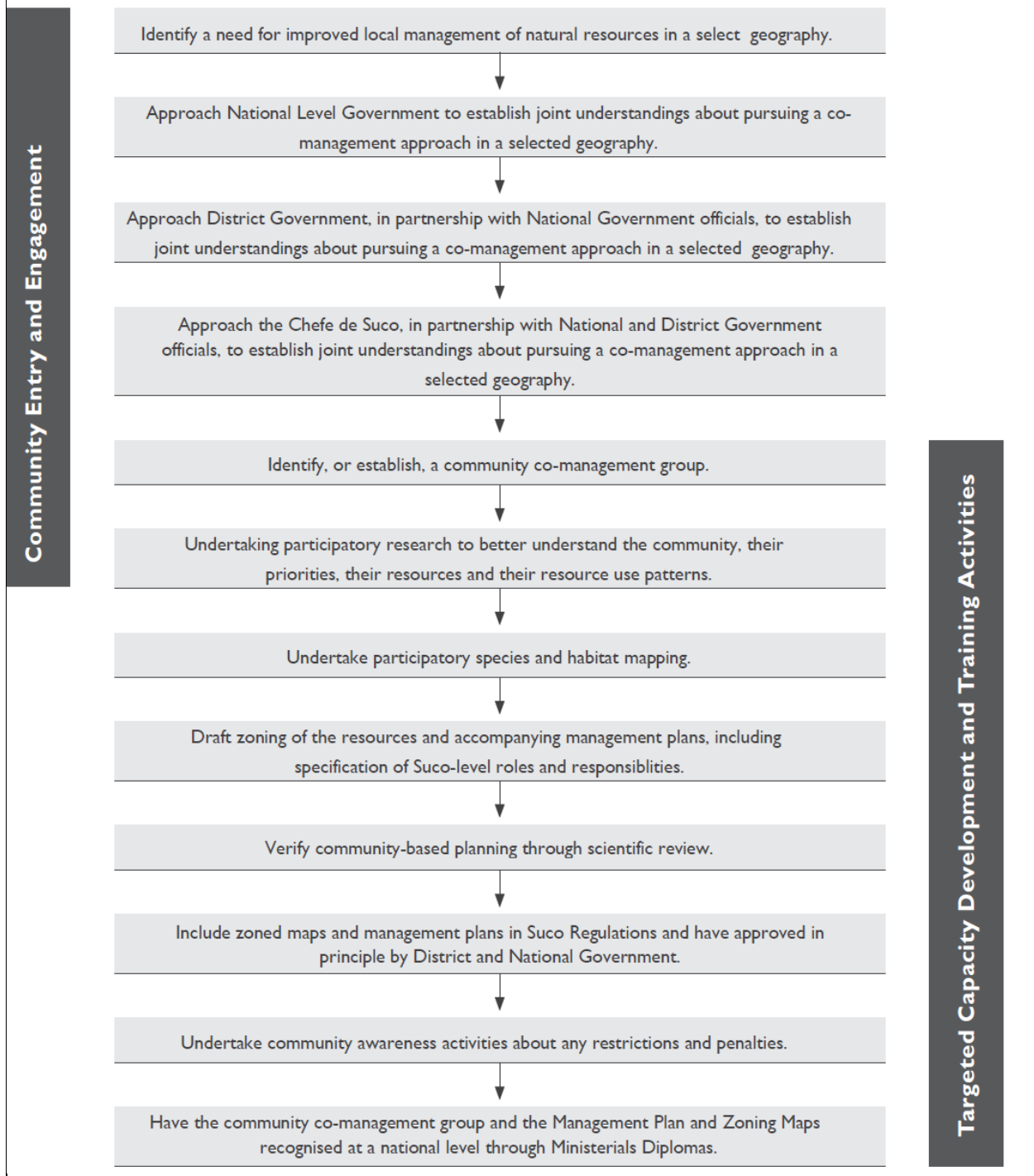
Output 1.1.4: Implementation of selected components of the approved management and business plans for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs initiated

92. The project will support implementation of selected components of the management and business plans developed under Output 1.1.3. Selection of the components to implement will be made on the basis of prioritization analyses carried out as part of the planning processes and also taking into consideration project budget and time constraints, and cofinancing contributions from project partners. The results of the prioritization analyses will be documented in a 5-year work plan that will guide implementing partners moving forward, after GEF funding ceases.
93. As part of the implementation of the management plans, the boundaries of the two PAs will be physically demarcated, in a manner that respects the dynamic ecological processes, e.g., wildlife migration, and also access arrangements. The design of the physical demarcations will be made in consultation with the DPANP, local authorities, and communities in and/or near the PAs.

According to Timor-Leste regulations, demarcation will be made by installing permanent markers, in coordination with the Ministry of Justice, Directorate of Land and Lease, and each marker to have a GPS point collected. Each marker needs to be seen by the next marker to ensure a clear recognition of the boundary.

94. A key recommendation in the NEGA report is to clearly identify the boundaries of the declared protected areas, as this is still not accurate. It also suggests the use of the Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) collaborative management model for marine conservation, as described below in **Box 1**. Under USAID's Coral Triangle Support Partnership, Conservation International developed this model for Nino Konis Santana National Park, as a management tool in 2009 with great success. This community-based approach could be just as successful in a terrestrial setting, as it complements the protected area system, particularly where there is overlay on community and private land. Through these participatory community engagement processes, the boundaries of the two PAs will also be finalized. The size of the PAs indicated in Annex I of the Decree-Law 5/2016 are rough approximations; the actual spatial extent will be based on analysis of biophysical attributes and negotiations with communities reliant upon local ecosystem goods and services.

Box 1: Description collaborative management process⁴³



95. The time and budget constraints of the project preclude full implementation of the PA management and business plans. Within the allocated resources under this output, the PA management committees will agree upon which priority actions in the management plans to focus

⁴³ Source: CTSP, June 2013. Guidelines for Establishing Co-Management of Natural Resources in Timor-Leste. Prepared by Conservation International under the USAID’s Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP).

on. Similarly, the project will support initiating the implementation of at least one of the recommended activities in the PA business plans.

96. Resources are also allocated for preparing knowledge products, documenting the results and lessons learned through the implementation of the PA management and business plans, which will support scaling up at these two PAs and replication at other PAs in the system. The knowledge products could include case study reports, short video documentaries, etc., depending upon the particular activities implemented.

Indicative Activities under Output 1.1.4:

- i. Demarcate the boundaries of the two PAs.
- ii. Develop an implementation plan for each of the two PAs based upon the priority actions outlined in the PA management plans and consultation with local stakeholders.
- iii. Initiate the implementation of the selected components of the management plans.
- iv. Initiate the implementation of one activity in each of the two PA business plans.
- v. Consolidate the results and lessons learned from implementation of the management plans and business plans into informative knowledge products, including case study reports, short video documentaries, etc.

COMPONENT 2: IMPROVEMENT OF COMMUNITY-BASED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS IN PRIORITY CATCHMENTS CORRIDORS

97. Component 2 of the TLSNAP broadens the community based natural resource management arrangements developed under Component 1 for inside PAs, by extending the outreach to ecosystems situated beyond the boundaries of the PAs. Following a catchment management approach, which is consistent with current national level policies, two sub-catchments of the Comoro and Irabere catchments have been selected: the Moto Hare sub-catchment in the Comoro catchment, and the Afalita sub-catchment for the Irabere catchment.
98. The project will expand upon the community based catchment management approach that was established as part of a JICA project in the Comoro catchment⁴⁴, while continuing to follow the co-management model. The co-management model, which was developed in Timor-Leste by communities, government agencies, and Conservation International, has been adopted as a Ministerial Diploma to guide all work with communities on their natural resources in Timor-Leste. The model incorporates three levels of law: traditional law (*tara bandu*), local governance law (*suco* regulations), and national law (Ministerial Diploma). The communities may decide to opt for only one level of law. This will still provide protection for the area, but may not attract the full respect of all the community, and thereby not provide the level of protection that the co-management model can offer. The communities decide on the rules and regulations for their areas, and submit them to the *suco* council for review and adoption into the *suco* regulations. *Suco* regulations are recognized at national level as a *suco* is the smallest political boundary in Timor-Leste. Once the *suco* regulations have been adopted the community may choose to carry out a traditional ceremony of *tara bandu*, which is to place a marker to show the area is prohibited. The final legal step in the model is to submit to the relevant minister a request for approval of a Ministerial Diploma which assigns the communities protected area to the Decree Law for Protected Areas. The Timor-Leste legal system is based on the Portuguese system. As the majority of the country does not speak Portuguese, the legal advisors are contracted international staff. Their expertise is based on understanding and clarifying the legal system for the Ministers from a commercial perspective for contracting purposes. There are no legal advisors with an environment background, so there is constant delay in finalizing the Ministerial Diplomas as the legal advisors seek clarification from Conservation International about the environmental terms being used in the Ministerial Diplomas. Once the Diploma is approved, it allows for the communities nominated areas for protection, to be recognized on three levels ensuring longevity. Community based NRM capacities will be developed in ten *sucos*, including four in the Moto Hare sub-catchment (Comoro catchment) and six in the Afalita sub-catchment (Irabere catchment). Through participatory processes, the project will work with the local communities in developing *suco* NRM plans, which will be integrated into *suco* regulatory frameworks and also reflect traditional ecological knowledge of men and women and conflict prevention systems. Substantive resources are allocated under this component for developing and delivering a nationally accredited certification program for training male and female youth in NRM techniques, thus enhancing the likelihood that motivated change agents will guide the community based NRM after the GEF funding ceases. The long-term success of the community driven approach advocated on the project will depend upon achieving behavioral change with respect to unsustainable exploitation of forest resources. This will not be realized only through increasing awareness; households need to have livelihood alternatives. Under this component, the project will be

⁴⁴ JICA: Toward Sustainable Watershed Management; the first phase was implemented from 2007-2010 and currently is in the second phase

delivering training and supporting implementation of selected options for men and women for sustainably utilizing the local forest resources. The focus will be placed on those communities that are situated in or near particularly critical ecosystems and for households that are socioeconomically vulnerable.

Outcome 2.1: Land degradation drivers halted and/or minimized in key catchment areas

99. Through the development of the *suco* NRM plans, local men and women will have a firsthand role in identifying threats and drivers of the current land degradation processes. It is through understanding of these issues that the communities will be able to then develop strategies to halt the deforestation and other land degradation drivers. The plans will be underpinned by available knowledge of the local ecosystems and also reflect traditional knowledge and practices of men and women, including *tara bandu*.
100. *Tara bandu* is a traditional law in which the community requests the *chefe du suco* and *chefe aldeia* (village chief) to perform a ceremony to “close out” or restrict activities in a certain area for a nominated period of time. This traditional law system allows communities to manage their resources over time ensuring their availability for future generations. During the conflict in Timor-Leste, the practice of *tara bandu* declined, as the Timorese did not have control over their own resources. The government of Timor-Leste is supportive of this traditional system being used again as it sees it as a vital step in the collaborative management process. There have been several successful cases of applying *tara bandu* in the context of environmental management, both for marine and terrestrial ecosystems. For example, a recent example is that in Daudere Suku (Lautem, Lautem) where International NGO Hivos and Seeds of Life (SoL), a program within the Timor-Leste Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), supported both upstream and downstream communities to implement a *tara bandu* in July 2012. This agreement restricts cutting of trees including bamboo within 25 meters of a local sub-catchment, in order to enable reforestation/ rehabilitation.⁴⁵ The benefits of these restrictions on cutting bamboo have extended to both upstream and downstream communities, through negative consequences of increased erosion, sedimentation, and pollution of the local watersheds. Another example is the conservation group in Com, Lautem District, established by Conservation International under the Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP). They have been instrumental in developing the co-management model for Timor-Leste, and have established and maintained a marine no-take zone for the Com community. The success in the no-take zone – protected under *tara bandu* – can be seen in the increased fish production in the fishing grounds outside of the zone. The group was established 5 years ago and is very active in sharing knowledge about their function, the types of programs they carry out, the benefits of co-management, and general community environmental education.

Targets for Outcome 2.1:

- a. 10 *suco* NRM plans, covering a cumulative land area of approximately 31,949 ha, developed in a participatory and socially inclusive manner and adopted into *suco* regulations and recognized under traditional law.
- b. Implementation of the 10 *suco* NRM plans initiated by established and/or strengthened community based conservation groups.

⁴⁵ *Tara Bandu: Its Role and Use in Community Conflict Prevention in Timor-Leste*. Belun, The Asia Foundation, June 2013.

Output 2.1.1: Sucos design and adopt NRM plans into both traditional and government regulations

101. Each of the 10 *sucos* will be guided to develop their own gender-sensitive NRM plans using a collaborative management model, to address the current degradation of forests and other lands. These plans will form the basis of a long term roadmap upon which the communities can direct their activities. The collaborative management model outlines a participatory planning process that ultimately reaches incorporation into *suco* regulations and *tara bandu* systems.

Indicative Activities under Output 2.1.1:

- i. Through a participatory, gender-sensitive process and the sustainable livelihoods framework, map out key natural resource features, socioeconomic conditions, and traditional systems in place for the 10 project *sucos*.
- ii. Develop gender-sensitive draft NRM plans for each of the 10 project *sucos*.
- iii. Socialize the draft NRM plans through community consultations and awareness campaigns, ensuring that both men and women can access the information.
- iv. Produce supportive knowledge products to facilitate the socialization process; these can include posters, short informative videos, etc.
- v. Facilitate adoption of the NRM plans by the *suco* authorities and traditional leaders.

Output 2.1.2: Suco regulations to improve natural resource management approved and implementation initiated

102. Once the NRM plans have been designed and approved by the communities, the next step is for them to be incorporated into the *suco* regulations, which also provides direct recognition at the national level. Without this level of recognition with the national government, the communities would continue to struggle with ministry planning activities that do not take into account local level planning. In order for the community-based plans to be owned by everyone, consensus is important. Using the approved and adopted collaborative management model as described in Output 2.1.1, consensus will be assured because the entire community has been engaged in the planning process and subsequent approval of the plans. In order for the plans to be adopted into the *suco* regulations, it needs to be shown that the community owns and approves the plans.

103. In each of the 10 project *sucos*, the project will support implementation of at least one of the priority actions in the NRM plans, guided by community level conservation groups established or strengthened under Outcome 2.2.

104. Resources are also allocated under this output for preparation of knowledge products, to support scaling up and replication, through documenting successful implementation of *suco* NRM plans, sharing lessons learned, and spotlighting traditional conflict prevention mechanisms in the form of *tara bandu*.

Indicative Activities under Output 2.1.2:

- i. Assist the ten *sucos* in integrating the NRM plans into the *suco* regulations.
- ii. Facilitate approval of the *suco* regulations by national level stakeholders.
- iii. Support implementation of priority actions included in the *suco* NRM plans.
- iv. Prepare relevant knowledge products, including but not limited to case study reports, video documentation, spotlight on traditional knowledge, etc.

Outcome 2.2: Capacity of communities to manage their natural resources substantially increased

105. Under Outcome 2.2, capacities of local communities will be strengthened, through developing and delivering a youth training program, establishing community based conservation groups, and providing skills based capacity building for sustainable use of forest resources.
106. Timor-Leste has virtually no formal and very little informal training or education related to the environmental management. Many senior level officials have received tertiary education and training outside of Timor-Leste, but most residents in rural areas do not have such opportunities. It is imperative that more training programs and trainer capacities are developed in country. Under this project, Conservation International would become the first registered training organization (RTO) to design and implement national accredited certificate training to address this issue.
107. Men in women in households will benefit through skills based training on sustainable use of forest resource. The project will also support certain households and/or community based groups in initiating sustainable use activities, under the auspices of the *suco* NRM plans.

Targets for Outcome 2.2:

- a. 100 youth, including at least 30% females, trained in NRM management.
- b. 10 community conservation groups, having at least 30% female members, capacitated to lead natural resource management programs.
- c. 250 households, including at least 30% women, benefit from participation in sustainable use of forest resources; measured using the sustainable livelihoods framework.

Output 2.2.1: Youth training program for environmental management designed and implemented

108. Only one education center in Timor-Leste, the *Universidade Oriental Timor Lorosa'e* (UNITAL) is offering any level of conservation or environment training. The primary and secondary level education institutions do not include environmental studies in their curriculum unless it relates to agriculture. Under this output, the project will support the design and delivery of an appropriate training program to address this knowledge gap at pre-university level to provide alternative opportunities for youth in the 10 project *sucos* in the Comoro and Irabere catchments. The training program will be based on international good practice, including the successful Working on Country program⁴⁶ in Australia where the protection and conservation of the environment is a shared responsibility between government and the people. The Working on Country program builds on local and traditional knowledge that eventually sees the participants qualify as community rangers. Timor-Leste already has a collaborative management model in place, and a guardianship model whereby forest and coastal guards are employed through government programs. Community ranger positions would fit into this model and thereby provide employment opportunities within the communities. Relevant international best practice regarding competences for protected area practitioners that are appropriate for the circumstances in Timor-Leste will also be consulted in developing the training program; for example, the IUCN WCPA's Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines⁴⁷; the Competence Standards for Protected Area

⁴⁶ The Indigenous Rangers - Working on Country programme creates meaningful employment, training and career pathways for Indigenous people in land and sea management. The ranger programme, which began in 2007, supports Indigenous people to combine traditional knowledge with conservation training to protect and manage their land, sea and culture. <http://www.dpmc.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/environment/indigenous-rangers-working-country>

⁴⁷ IUCN WCPA Best Practice Guidelines available on IUCN's website: www.iucn.org. Also refer to: Appleton, M.R. (2016). *A Global Register of Competences for Protected Area Practitioners*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN.

Jobs in South East Asia⁴⁸. The project team will work closely with the National Institute for the Development of Manpower (*Instituto Nacional de Desenvolvimento de Mão de Obra – INDMO*), as this organization is the training module accreditation unit for Timor-Leste. The training modules will be developed in collaboration with governmental and expert partners. In addition to biodiversity/ecological themes, the modules will also integrate socioeconomic aspects, such as the sustainable livelihoods framework approach that will be implemented under Outcome 2.2.

109. According to the National Youth Policy of Timor-Leste⁴⁹, the term youth is defined as those aged from 16 to 30 years. The youth training program will stress a learning-by-doing approach, e.g., engaging the trainees in the implementation of priority actions of the *suco* NRM plans and the PA management plans. These could lead to opportunities for possible employment as protected area staff, e.g., under collaborative management arrangements or supporting community level conservation groups in implementing priority actions in the *suco* NRM plans. The capacitated youth would also be poised to assist in initiatives associated with sustainable use of forest resources.
110. Training is envisaged to be delivered in batches, with sessions planned in the 10 project *sucos* in the Comoro and Irabere catchments. The project will work closely with national partners, Secretariat of State for Vocational Training Policy and Employment (SEPFPOPE), in certifying the youth training program. The project will also organize a national workshop on youth training, with the aim of introducing the developed training program and facilitating entry points for collaboration with interested stakeholder groups.
111. Conservation International has agreed with SEPFPOPE to be the RTO for the youth training program for the required minimum 3-year period. Over the course of the project, a series of trainings of trainers will be arranged, to build up the skills of at least one NGO or small business to take over the RTO role after the project closes, charging a fee for subsequent trainings to ensure the financial sustainability of the program.

Indicative Activities under Output 2.2.1:

- i. Develop a youth training program, in collaboration with enabling stakeholders.
- ii. Facilitate accreditation of the youth training modules.
- iii. Design and deliver a training of trainers program for at least one NGO or small business, with inclusion of women among the trainers.
- iv. Through open announcement and targeted recruitment, enlist trainees for the youth training program.
- v. Deliver the youth training programs, incorporating learning-by-doing, integrated with the field work carried out on the project.
- vi. Organize a national workshop on youth NRM training.

Output 2.2.2: Community level conservation groups are established (or strengthened) and capacitated through training, exchange visits, and learning-by-doing field activities

⁴⁸ Appleton, M. R., Texon, G.I. & Uriarte, M.T. (2003) Competence Standards for Protected Area Jobs in South East Asia. ASEAN Regional Centre for Biodiversity Conservation, Los Baños, Philippines. 104pp.

⁴⁹ National Youth Policy of Timor-Leste, Secretary of State for Youth and Sport, November 14, 2007.

112. In order to enhance the likelihood of sustaining the implementation of the *suco* NRM plans and collaborative management of local protected areas and sub-catchments, the project will work towards establishing or strengthening community conservation groups in each of the ten project *sucos*. Depending upon the level of interest, the circumstances in the particular communities, etc., the conservation groups will either be thematic based or more general, enabling them to manage different types of activities.
113. Peer learning, mentoring, and practical training has been identified by the government as the key ways for Timorese to develop their capacity, as a large proportion of the population have not attended formal education or share a common traditional language. The project will establish or strengthen ten conservation groups at the *suco* level; i.e., one group in each of the *sucos* where the project will develop and implement *suco* NRM plans.
114. These conservation groups, made up of members from the local communities, will engage in cross visits to other communities with conservation groups and environmental activities. The exchange visits planned under this output will take advantage of these experienced groups and are designed for communities to teach and learn from each other about how they manage their natural resources, and to develop a network across communities for ongoing support. The cross visits will be designed based on the needs of the groups and the circumstances at the time of implementation. Separating men and women will be considered, as a way to encourage more active participation by women. Also, visits between catchments and also possibly to other catchments will be contemplated.
115. The project will promote a learning-by-doing approach, taking advantage of the expertise among the implementation team. The conservation groups will be mentored in the field, sharing knowledge and experiences, and participating in monitoring and evaluating activities. The mentoring will be carried out by CI field staff, government staff, and/or local NGOs or community based organizations (CBOs), depending upon what mentoring actions are required. Mobilization of female mentors will be emphasized, as practicable. The project will also facilitate linkages with enabling partners, including NGOs, providing the conservation groups with longer term support partnership opportunities. One of the ways in which the project will facilitate these partnership linkages will be through organizing a national workshop.
116. In addition to capacity building on biodiversity conservation and NRM, other enabling skills, such as proposal writing training, could also be delivered to the conservation groups to strengthen their capacities to function as community based organizations, enabling them to access available funds from the government and the donor community.

Indicative Activities under Output 2.2.2:

- i. Establish (or strengthen) conservation groups in each of the ten project *sucos*.
- ii. Organize exchange visits, including to the conservation groups in Nino Konis Santana National Park who are overseeing the locally managed marine area's (LMMA).
- iii. Provide field oversight to the conservation groups in implementing the priority actions in the *suco* NRM plans.
- iv. Organize a national stakeholder workshop, for facilitating linkages with enabling partners, and also providing training on proposal writing and state-of-the art techniques in community based biodiversity conservation and natural resource management.

Output 2.2.3: Sustainable use of forest resources training delivered and implementation initiated

117. In order to affect behavioral change with respect to discontinuing illegal and unsustainable natural resource exploitation, awareness needs to be increased but also livelihood opportunities that involve sustainable use of forest resources need to be introduced or strengthened.
118. One example involves developing firewood plantations, rather than allowing ongoing indiscrete forest harvesting which occurs now. Based upon the results of the 2015 Timor-Leste population and housing census, wood is the primary source of energy for cooking for 91.6% of rural households and 52.7% of urban households.⁵⁰ The project will build upon international good practice and initiatives that have been implemented in Timor-Leste, e.g., the EU-funded Energy for All Programme (E4A) implemented by Mercy Corps. Under the E4A programme, firewood consumption among the targeted communities was assessed to be 9.3 kg per day on average, totaling 3.4 tons per year per household.⁵¹
119. There could also be additional agroforestry opportunities, e.g., involving bamboo. The Timor-Leste government is promoting the development of a sustainable bamboo industry in the country, through establishment of the Institute of Research, Development, Formation and Promotion of Bamboo (IPDFPB).⁵² Another example is the development of ecotourism related products and services such as home stays, community rangers that can undertake local guiding activities, or the production and sale of local handicrafts. Selection of the forest resources or activities will depend upon the results of feasibility studies and value chain analyses carried out for groups that stress interest. The project will facilitate the implementation of sustainable use activities under the participatory, gender-sensitive sustainable livelihoods framework that emphasizes the cross-cutting and long-term benefits, compared to short-term gain realized from carrying out unsustainable exploitation of limited forest resources.
120. Several stakeholder groups, including government partners, NGOs, and the donor community, have stressed keen interest in the results of the sustainable use of forest resource activities. The project will support preparation of knowledge products, including information briefs, case study reports, short video documentaries, etc. Moreover, a national workshop will be organized, to provide an opportunity to share experiences and to foster collaborative partnerships.

Indicative Activities under Output 2.2.3:

- i. Carry out gender-inclusive feasibility assessments, supported by value chain analyses for sustainable use options.
- ii. Deliver training on sustainable use of forest resources.
- iii. Assist in facilitating relevant permits and licenses for sustainable use of forest resources
- iv. Support implementation of sustainable use of forest resources based on *suco* regulations and national policy.
- v. Organize a national workshop on sustainable use of forest resources.
- vi. Develop knowledge products of the results and lesson learned.

⁵⁰ Ministry of Finance, 2015. Population and Housing Census 2015, Preliminary Results

⁵¹ Mercy Corps E4A Baseline Survey Report, September 2011.

⁵² <http://www.bambooinstitutetimorleste.com/>

COMPONENT 3: IMPROVEMENT OF FOREST MANAGEMENT AND REFORESTATION OF DEGRADED LANDS IN PRIORITY CATCHMENT CORRIDORS

121. The Timor-Leste National Action Programme to Combat Land Degradation (NAPCLD)⁵³ identifies key needs and activities to guide sustainable land management, including: rehabilitation of degraded forests; soil conservation and degraded land rehabilitation to mitigate erosion; promotion of reforestation and agro-forestry on degraded forest land; and development of the capacity of local communities for reforestation and land rehabilitation initiatives.
122. Component 3 is designed to address the ongoing deforestation and degradation threats in the Comoro and Irabere catchments by building local capacity in planning and supporting local communities in initiating the implementation of those plans. Degradation of forests and loss of biodiversity through unsustainable forest management urgently needs addressing.
123. Although there is an existing draft community forestry policy, under development since 2007 with support from FAO, there has been limited socialization of the draft policy, and hence, little has been done to develop community based management planning and implementation capacities. The JICA project Toward Sustainable Watershed Management in the Comoro catchment built a solid foundation for community NRM plans, but this has only been implemented in three communities. In order to improve forest management and reduce ongoing land degradation, it is vital that the communities are engaged and own the process.
124. With support from the Government of Japan, a national forest conservation plan⁵⁴ was prepared in 2013 based upon the findings of forest inventory surveys carried out from September 2012 to March 2013. Categorizing forests according to their conservation value will greatly increase the government's ability to effectively manage these areas. Knowing which forests are priority areas for protection due to genetic, cultural, and biodiversity values will provide objective based support to stakeholders for sorting out shared resource management arrangements, e.g., between communities and the central government. Of particular note are the important conservation forests that fall outside the protected areas and are therefore at risk. In 2010, as part of the NEGA, it was identified that only around 10% of Timor's forest cover was included within protected areas⁵⁵, so there is a large amount of forest – albeit fragmented – that falls outside of any protective mechanism.
125. Under Component 3, the project will support classification of the forests within the Comoro and Irabere catchments in terms of their conservation values. Based upon these results, critical degraded areas will be validated and rehabilitation plans developed. Through collaborative community based mechanisms, utilizing the capacitated conservation groups and youth trained under Component 2, implementation of the rehabilitation plans will be implemented. These activities will provide on-the-ground case studies and lessons learned for the national partners in further developing the community forestry policy, which envisages devolving authority for forest management from central to local levels, enhancing the likelihood for delivering long-term economic benefits and safeguarding of ecosystem goods and services.


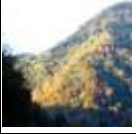

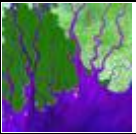


⁵³ Timor-Leste National Action Programme to Combat Land Degradation, Draft, Dili, February 2009.

⁵⁴ National Forest Conservation Plan (draft), March 2013, prepared for the National Directorate of Forestry (NDF), Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste. Prepared by Nippon Koei Co., Ltd. in association with Asia Air Survey Co., Ltd.

⁵⁵ Grantham, H.S., Watson, J.E.M., Mendes, M., Santana, F., Fernandez, G., Pinto, P., Riveiro, L., and C. Barreto, 2011. National Ecological Gap Assessment for Timor-Leste 2010. Prepared on behalf of the United Nations.

126. The concept of high conservation value (HCV) was developed by the Forest Stewardship Council with six criteria that indicate forests with significant biological, environment and social values⁵⁶, summarized below in **Box 2**. The project will apply the HCV system in classifying the forests within the Comoro and Irabere catchments.

Box 2: Definitions of the six High Conservation Values (HCVs)⁵⁷

	HCV 1: Concentrations of biological diversity including endemic species, and rare, threatened or endangered species, that are significant at global, regional or national levels.
	HCV 2: Landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics. Intact forest landscapes and large landscape-level ecosystems and ecosystem mosaics that are significant at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.
	HCV 3: Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats or refugia.
	HCV 4: Basic ecosystem services in critical situations, including protection of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.
	HCV 5: Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or indigenous peoples (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc...), identified through engagement with these communities or indigenous peoples.
	HCV 6: Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of critical cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of local communities or indigenous peoples, identified through engagement with these local communities or indigenous peoples.

Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved

127. Increasing the community’s knowledge of the deforestation and reforestation processes and consequences is a crucial step in halting the drivers of forest loss. The project will use existing tools that provide a flexible and affordable approach to rapidly identify and analyze forest landscape rehabilitation potential and identify areas of opportunity.
128. Under Outcome 3.1, forests within the Comoro and Irabere catchments will be classified according to their conservation value. This information will be used to support development of sustainable forest management plans, which will be integrated into the *suco* NRM plans and implemented by the local communities. Using high conservation value (HCV) criteria to classify the two catchments will add value to the forest zoning maps that were produced as part of the national forest conservation program; the zoning maps for the Comoro and Irabere catchments are presented below in **Figure 9** and **Figure 10**, respectively.

⁵⁶ Jennings, S., et al. 2004. The High Conservation Value Forest Toolkit. Edition 1, 2003. Proforest. Available at: www.fscoax.org/principal.htm (April 2004).

⁵⁷ HCV Resource Network, <https://www.hcvnetwork.org/about-hcvf/the-six-high-conservation-values>

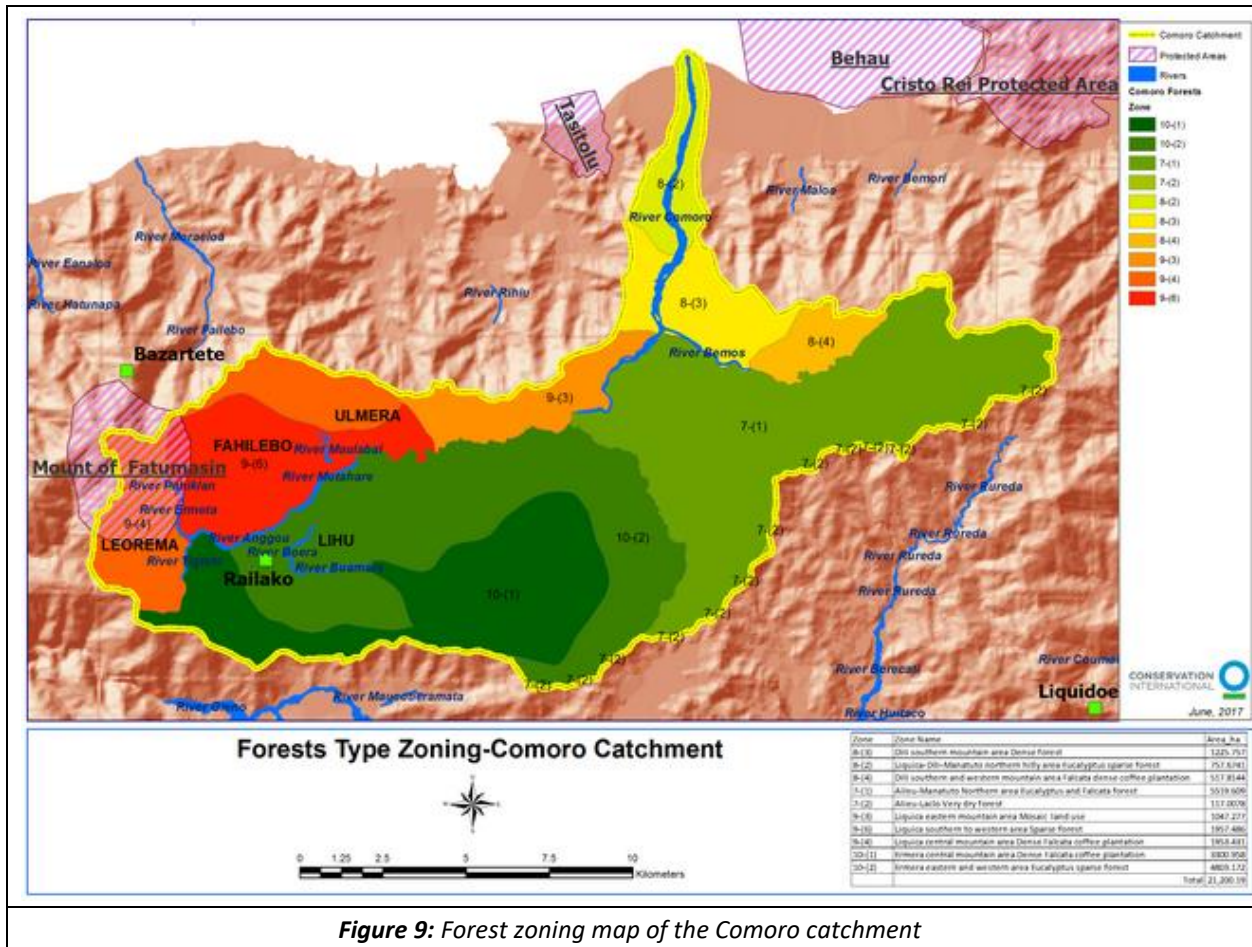


Figure 9: Forest zoning map of the Comoro catchment

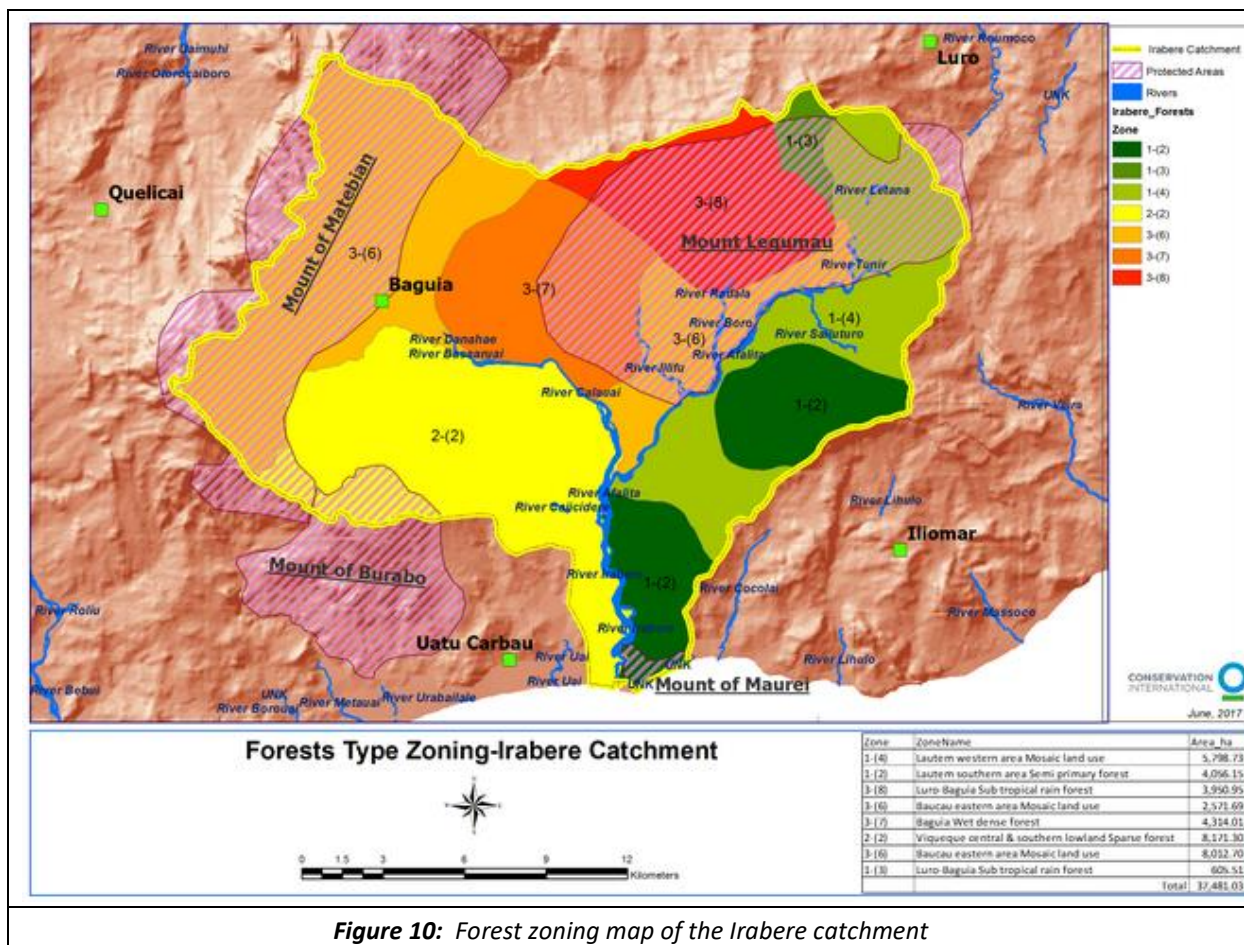


Figure 10: Forest zoning map of the Irabere catchment

129. Priority rehabilitation interventions will be widely discussed with key stakeholders to ensure alignment with the *suco* NRM plans at all levels of governance. Spatial analysis will identify priority areas for rehabilitation potential and the communities whose involvement is crucial to ensure sustainable forest land restoration in priority catchments. In addition, the spatial plans will categorize opportunity areas that will support establishment of the protected area system, as well as indicating and prioritizing interventions such as agroforestry on steep slopes, natural regeneration on forest land, or replanting on degraded landscapes. These indicators will inform *suco* NRM plans, allowing clear definitions of expectations and commitment for co-management framework.

Targets for Outcome 3.1:

- High conservation value forests classified within the two priority catchments covering a cumulative area of 58,900 ha (includes 24,800 ha in the Comoro catchment and 34,100 ha in the Irabere catchment).
- At least 500 hectares of forests under community-driven sustainable management.

Output 3.1.1: Forests in the two priority catchments are mapped and identified according to their conservation value

130. Under this output, high conservation values of the Comoro and Irabere catchments will be identified. The project will use data layers of forest and habitat type available within the MAF records (e.g., the Timor-Leste National Forest Inventory) and overlay these with localized maps of known key biodiversity habitats that will be gathered via scientific papers, research documents and community reports that identify locations of globally threatened or endemic species. Resource based institutions in Timor-Leste will be invited to contribute and share data layers that will further inform and map forest areas outside of the system of protected areas. Spatial identification of forest high conservation values will provide impetus for collaborative management of forest resources.
131. In addition to secondary data collection, field surveys will be undertaken according to Conservation International's Rapid Biodiversity Assessment Program (RAP), including: (1) collecting biodiversity data of flora and fauna where there are geographic or taxonomic gaps, and (2) carrying out reconnaissance and ground-truthing of priority areas that are identified outside of the system of protected area in the preliminary maps. The RAP assessments will be undertaken by field specialists who are able to identify plants, reptiles, amphibians, insects, freshwater vertebrates and invertebrates, mammals and birds. Representatives of the local conservation groups, NGOs, and subnational government offices will also be invited to participate in the surveys, according to the learning-by-doing capacity building objective of the project. For some of the RAP assessments, archeological or other type of cultural survey might also be made to inform heritage and traditional values of forest areas. Results of the RAP assessments will be overlaid with existing GIS imagery to improve information on the conservation status of the forests of Timor-Leste.

Indicative Activities under Output 3.1.1:

- i. Compile available secondary data required for classifying the high conservation values of the forests within the Comoro and Irabere catchments.
- ii. Carry out field surveys in the Comoro and Irabere catchments, applying the procedures outlined in Conservation International's Rapid Assessment Program (RAP).
- iii. Develop spatial maps of high conservation values for the Comoro and Irabere catchments.
- iv. Organize a national stakeholder workshop to present and discuss draft HCV assessment results.
- v. Working with MAF officials, update the national GIS forest maps with the information collected on the RAP assessments.

Output 3.1.2: Community-based sustainable forest management integrated into suco NRM plans and implementation initiated

132. Using the HCV survey results in Output 3.1.1 as a foundation, the project will work with local communities in developing sustainable forest management plans, building on the *suco* NRM planning process.
133. The project will apply the collaborative management model for natural resources in Timor-Leste⁵⁸ and adapt it to suit forest resources, recognizing the dynamics in national and local governance

⁵⁸ Pereira C. C.; Pinto. R. Mohan C.; Atkinson S. 2013. Guidelines for Establishing Co-Management of Natural Resources in Timor Leste. USAID Project Number: GCP LWA Award # LAG-A-00-99-00048-00. Conservation International for the Timor-Leste National Coordinating Committee Printed in: Jakarta, Indonesia 2013. <http://www.ctknetwork.org/wp-content/documents/pdf/Guidelines-for-Establishing-Co-Management-of-Natural-Resources-in-Timor-Leste.pdf>

systems when establishing collaborative management arrangements. This output will feed into the community-based NRM plan integrating forest management regimes for community owned or managed forests. The inclusion of this section is vital as it provides recognition of local forest management that will be considered for national level land use planning, as well as fulfilling the overall goal and objectives of the draft community forestry policy⁵⁹.

134. The project will work with men and women in communities to identify the threats to their forests and assist them to design management techniques to address the current poor practices, and ensure longevity of the forests for future use. Led by an expert in sustainable forest management, the project will support the government and communities to clarify the actions and activities that will need to be developed to address these threats. The project will also draw from lessons learned in similar projects in Timor-Leste and around the world, and adapt the tools and methodologies for Timor-Leste. Sustainable forest management will be linked with local farming and livestock rearing practices. For example, fodder banks would be established as:
- a. Contour hedgerows across slopes;
 - b. Boundary trees;
 - c. Living fence posts;
 - d. Windbreaks;
 - e. Along roads;
 - f. Separate wood lots;
 - g. Scattered trees on crop lands;
 - h. Shade trees with plantation crops like coffee;
 - i. Scattered trees on range lands;
 - j. *Tithonia* is good on wastelands; Napier grass (*Pennisetum purpureum*) will also be considered.
135. Community based forest management regimes may also entail specific actions such as the designation of a community water-catchment area; identification of degraded areas that need to be restored; identification of sustainable seedling sources; construction of community tree nurseries at *suco* or *aldeia* level.

Indicative Activities under Output 3.1.2:

- i. Integrate community based sustainable forest management priorities into the suco NRM plans.
- ii. Design and deliver awareness campaigns.
- iii. Deliver capacity building programs in sustainable forest management.
- iv. Support implementation of community based sustainable forest management.

Outcome 3.2: Priority degraded areas rehabilitated and/or reforested

136. Agricultural production in Timor-Leste is similar as circumstances in other small island developing states (SIDS), with smallholder farmers predominantly active in working small plots of land having intermingled crops and trees, including both native and introduced species. The planned rehabilitation and reforestation activities will be largely implemented by smallholder farmers, and

⁵⁹ Community Forestry Policy for Timor-Leste, draft 4-12-2007

will include a combination of interventions, both on lands held by them and also on community lands. The interconnection between smallholder farming and wider landscapes is an essential element for achieving effective and sustainable ecosystem health and integrity.

137. Rehabilitation and reforestation of deforested forest areas and degraded land is a strategic, high priority element to the long term protection and sustainable management Timor-Leste ecosystems, and has been identified in several government strategic plans, including the NBSAP, NAPCLD, PoWPA, and the NEGA. For instance, Timor-Leste is the custodian of a unique forest resource, by virtue of its status as the largest provenance source of germ plasm of the fast growing *Eucalyptus urophylla*, locally known as Timor White Gum, which is commonly used in reforestation programs. At the commercial scale, the wood is primarily used for pulp, firewood or charcoal. Firewood is a commodity pursued by local communities, but typically not of these species. Local native species such as *Santalum album*, *Eucalyptus alba*, *E. urophylla*, *Paraserianthes falcataria* and others will also be used in the rehabilitation efforts.
138. Prior to initiating the planned rehabilitation and reforestation activities, priorities will be validated as part of the *suco* NRM planning processes, and through community consultations and in collaboration with the respective PA management committees. The most critical local degraded areas will be agreed upon with communities for rehabilitation activities. Project experts, in collaboration with national partners, will provide guidance regarding species, spacing, seed collection, etc.
139. Through the training programs under Outcome 2.2, communities will learn how to carry out sustainable seed collection, germination, and seedling advancement through the development of local community nurseries. Skills training on tree identification and nursery management are important to ensure that communities collect good quality local seeds for germination of healthy tree seedlings. The project will also support design and construction of community nurseries, which use locally-sourced material as much as possible. Techniques of soil bed preparation and nursery maintenance will be demonstrated on site at participating communities. These trainings will be jointly implemented with government, to ensure that capacity is being built across the Timor-Leste communities and allow future uptake beyond this project.
140. Monitoring of the rehabilitation and reforestation sites will commence from the initial baseline that will be undertaken prior to planting, as proving the success of rehabilitation will be vital for the long term engagement of the people. This outcome will have direct positive impacts on increasing the biomass of the catchments which, in turn, will lead to improved soil and water protection.

Targets for Outcome 3.2:

- a. At least 500 hectares of degraded land rehabilitated and/or reforested
- b. 25 plant nurseries strengthened and/or established
- c. 10 community-based conservation groups participate in nursery operation and forest rehabilitation

Output 3.2.1: Priority forest rehabilitation and reforestation plans developed, validated, and approved by communities and government

141. The activities under this output will build upon the increased knowledge base and strengthened capacities realized as part of Outcome 3.1 as well as in other components of the project. Priority rehabilitation areas will be decided upon through community consultation, based upon the HCV

surveys and sustainable forest management plans prepared as part of the *suco* NRM planning process. The conceptual rehabilitation plan that was formulated during the project preparation phase will be validated, and rehabilitation plans developed for each of the 10 *sucos*. The project will also facilitate approval of the rehabilitation plans by relevant national and subnational authorities, as well as traditional leaders in the communities.

142. Following the relevant guidelines of the FAO Sustainable Forest Management Toolbox⁶⁰, the forest rehabilitation plans will be developed in a manner to ensure successful, ecologically sound, socially acceptable, and economically viable rehabilitation. The rehabilitation and reforestation plans will include the following aspects:
 - a. Agreed rehabilitation and reforestation objectives;
 - b. Selected rehabilitation techniques;
 - c. Assessment of capacity needs and plans for necessary training;
 - d. Establishment of a realistic time schedule and plans for financing support;
 - e. Selected species to be used and establishment of nurseries;
 - f. Assessment of the possible positive and negative social and environmental impacts;
 - g. Collection of seeds, production of seedlings in nurseries;
 - h. Planting of trees;
 - i. Design of a monitoring and evaluation plan;
 - j. Design of a maintenance schedule and routine; and
 - k. Considerations of possible climate change impacts.
143. During community consultations carried out during the project preparation phase, potential rehabilitation activities were identified in the ten project *sucos*. Rehabilitation and reforestation will be carried out using a number of techniques, chosen as locally relevant to the subject communities and also appropriate for the overall ecosystem. The main rehabilitation techniques fall into the following categories:
 - a. Agroforestry
 - b. Fodder banks
 - c. Riparian treatment
 - d. Other soil conservation (e.g., contour planting, etc.)
144. The approximate breakdown of the planned rehabilitation and reforestation among the 10 *sucos* is presented below in **Table 5**. These figures will be validated during the implementation phase of the project, linked to the *suco* NRM planning process.

⁶⁰ FAO Sustainable Forest Management Toolbox: <http://www.fao.org/sustainable-forest-management/toolbox/sfm-home/en/>

Table 5: Forest and land rehabilitation and reforestation summary

Suco	Estimated surface area of forest and land rehabilitation and reforestation (hectares, ha)				
	Agroforestry	Fodder Banks	Riparian Treatment	Other Soil Conservation	Total
Moto Hare sub-catchment (Comoro catchment)					
Leorema	100	10	45	60	215
Fahilebo	30	10	20	30	90
Lihu	20	10	20	20	70
Ulmera	10	10	30	30	80
Moto Hare sub-catchment (Comoro catchment): TOTAL					
Total	160	40	115	140	455
Afalita sub-catchment (Irabere catchment):					
Uacala	5	5	10	10	30
Baricafa	10	10	30	30	80
Lari Sula	20	10	50	50	130
Bahatata	10	10	40	40	100
Irabin de Cima	10	10	45	40	105
Caenliu	10	10	40	40	100
Afalita sub-catchment (Irabere catchment):					
Total	65	55	215	210	545
GRAND TOTAL: Moto Hare (Comoro) and Afalita (Irabere) catchments					
Grand Total	225	95	330	350	1,000

Note: Estimations based upon consultations made during PPG phase; will need to be validated during project inception.

Indicative Activities under Output 3.2.1:

- i. Validate degraded areas for rehabilitation and reforestation in the Comoro and Irabere catchments through community consultations and ground-truthing.
- ii. Develop rehabilitation and reforestation plans.
- iii. Facilitate approval of the rehabilitation and reforestation plans by central government and *suco* authorities.

Output 3.2.2: Plant nurseries established and/or strengthened, and communities trained on revegetation techniques

145. Under this output, plant nurseries will be established or strengthened, and communities trained on revegetation techniques. The nurseries will act as “farmers’ schools” where interested community members can attend training, share seeds, techniques and best practices of nursery establishment and management. The nurseries are envisaged to be operated and maintained by the community conservation groups capacitated under Outcome 2. By establishing the nurseries in communities with the highest engagement in rehabilitation activities, the project will provide solid opportunities for training and hands-on experience for community volunteers who wish to establish their own community nurseries. The program will act along a satellite system, where the

nurseries form a network providing support to each other. Those communities living within the most degraded areas will be encouraged to establish their nurseries first, with the view of becoming local trainers to other communities that will be involved in the project at later stages.

146. Based upon consultations during the project preparation phase, budget has been allocated for establishing 10 nurseries at *suco* level and supporting an additional 15 community nurseries already established by local NGOs. This number will be validated during the project implementation phase, after rehabilitation plans and needs are confirmed.
- 147.
148. Water supply is a critical component of the design of the nurseries; rainwater harvesting systems are envisaged, using relevant criteria, e.g., 10-20 liters per square meter of growing area.⁶¹
149. The project will work with the local communities in agreeing upon available land to establish the nurseries, and support community conservation groups in obtaining the required permits and/or licenses required for construction and operation.

Indicative Activities under Output 3.2.2:

- i. Validate the budget estimations for the community nurseries, including planned locations, water supply options, capacity-building needs, and infrastructure.
- ii. Design, procure, and construct the community nurseries.
- iii. Deliver training to communities, e.g., conservation groups, on the operation of the nurseries.

Output 3.2.3: Implementation of rehabilitation and/or reforestation plans initiated

150. The rehabilitation and reforestation plans developed under Output 3.2.1 will be implemented by the capacitated community conservation groups, with technical oversight by project staff and partners, and sourcing seedlings and other inputs, such as fertilizers and compost, from the established nurseries. Baseline information will be assessed at each of the earmarked rehabilitation and reforestation areas, and written and photographic documentation recorded in the project monitoring and evaluation system. The timing of the rehabilitation work will depend upon the type of activity, availability of inputs, and capacity of local implementation groups. For example, planting is often done early in the rainy season, or at least before the end of rainy season. It is important for seedlings to have sufficient time to acclimate in the field and create good woody stems before the beginning of the dry season. Generally, spacing procedure for planting tropical species is to space according to crown size at maturity. Each species fills physical space over time at a particular growth rate, which varies between species. Species can be grouped according to growth rate, size, maturity and habitat.
151. Once plants are established, survival assessment of tree seedlings will be undertaken after three months from the date of planting to gauge species hardiness in the field and, if desired by the community, a technical assessment may be carried out after nine months after planting. The initial assessment at three months is a quick check to ensure that all planted species are coping with the shock of transplant out into the wild. It will also inform nursery management techniques and provide lessons learned to improve nursery management.

⁶¹ Longman, K.A., 1998. Growing Good Tropical Trees for Planting. Commonwealth Science Council

152. After nine months of establishing rehabilitation and reforestation sites, and annually thereafter, technical survival assessments will be carried out at an 8-10% sampling intensity to assess species suitability, as well as to provide lessons learned on planting time, spacing adopted, and other forest silvicultural aspects. MAF officials will assist the project in all technical aspects to ensure the long-term success of the rehabilitation work. Resources are also allocated under this output for preparing knowledge products, documenting results achieved and lessons learned, and also for organizing a national stakeholder workshop, to share experiences from this project as well as others in this field, to enhance the likelihood that the results will be sustained in the future through fostering collaborative partnership arrangements.

Indicative Activities under Output 3.2.3:

- i. Carry out baseline assessments at the areas earmarked for rehabilitation and reforestation.
- ii. Implement the planned forest and land rehabilitation and reforestation activities.
- iii. Monitor and evaluate the rehabilitation and/or reforestation activities.
- iv. Maintain the rehabilitated areas according to results of the monitoring and evaluation findings.
- v. Prepare knowledge products, documenting results and lessons learned.
- vi. Organize a national stakeholder workshop, sharing experiences in reforestation and rehabilitation.

SUMMARY OF ENABLING APPROVALS REQUIRED, WORKSHOPS PLANNED, AND GROUPS ESTABLISHED

153. A preliminary list of enabling approvals required over the course of the project is presented below in **Table 6**.

Table 6: *Enabling approvals required over the course of project implementation*

No.	Approval Required	Level	Type	Output	Est. Date
1	National PA system plan	National	Ministerial Diploma	1.1.1	Y3
2	Mount Fatumasin PA zoning plan	National	Ministerial Diploma	1.1.3	Y2
3	Mount Legumau PA zoning plan	National	Ministerial Diploma	1.1.3	Y2
4	Mount Fatumasin PA management plan	National	Ministerial Diploma	1.1.3	Y3
5	Mount Legumau PA management plan	National	Ministerial Diploma	1.1.3	Y3
6	Mount Fatumasin PA business plan (part of management plan)	National	Ministerial Diploma	1.1.3	Y3
7	Mount Legumau PA business plan (part of management plan)	National	Ministerial Diploma	1.1.3	Y3
8	Leorema suco NRM plan	<i>suco</i>	<i>suco regulation</i>	2.1.1	Y2
9	Fahilebo suco NRM plan	<i>suco</i>	<i>suco regulation</i>	2.1.1	Y2
10	Lihu suco NRM plan	<i>suco</i>	<i>suco regulation</i>	2.1.1	Y2
11	Ulmera suco NRM plan	<i>suco</i>	<i>suco regulation</i>	2.1.1	Y2
12	Uacala suco NRM plan	<i>suco</i>	<i>suco regulation</i>	2.1.1	Y2
13	Baricafa suco NRM plan	<i>suco</i>	<i>suco regulation</i>	2.1.1	Y2
14	Lari Sula suco NRM plan	<i>suco</i>	<i>suco regulation</i>	2.1.1	Y2
15	Bahatata suco NRM plan	<i>suco</i>	<i>suco regulation</i>	2.1.1	Y2
16	Irabin de Cima suco NRM plan	<i>suco</i>	<i>suco regulation</i>	2.1.1	Y2
17	Caenliu suco NRM plan	<i>suco</i>	<i>suco regulation</i>	2.1.1	Y2
18	Conservation International registration as a RTO	National	INDMO decision	2.2.1	Y1
19	Accreditation of youth training modules	National	INDMO certification	2.2.1	Y2
20	Youth training program	National	SEPFOPE decision	2.2.1	Y2
21	Permits or licenses for sustainable use of forest resources	Municipality	municipal decision	2.2.3	Y3
22	Comoro catchment rehabilitation plan	National	Ministerial Diploma	3.2.1	Y3
23	Irabere catchment rehabilitation plan	National	Ministerial Diploma	3.2.1	Y3
24	Construction of nurseries (each location?)	<i>suco</i>	<i>suco decision</i>	3.2.2	Y2
25					

B. Associated Baseline Projects

154. Baseline projects are supported by the Timor-Leste Government and the donor community. As part of the current programme of the Sixth Constitutional Government, 2015-2017, the Government stresses commitment to promote reforestation and sustainable land management practices in Timor-Leste. The Government will also continue conservation efforts, particularly in the following areas: Tilomar, Ramelau, **Fatumasin**, Ataúro Island – Manucoco, Matebian, Kablake, Builo, Clere River, Lore, Paitchao Mountain and Iralalero Lake, Jaco Island, Diatuto Mountain, Be Male – Atabae, Maubara, MakFahik and Sarim Mountain, Tasitolu, Areia Branca Coast, Curi Mountain and the **Irabere and Iliomar Estuaries**.
155. The government programme also states that resources are allocated for developing the policy for managing watershed areas and coastal zones, which will include strategies for rehabilitating and protecting mangroves in coastal areas, regulating sand exploitation in various rivers, especially the Comoro River, and for creating buffer zones on river banks and around dams, lakes and coastlines to aid water resource conservation and floodplain control. The Government also aims to improve sustainable land management, maintain and rehabilitate forests, and develop sustainable forestry practices by way of means such as:
- a. Special forestry legislation backed by improved land tenure arrangements;
 - b. Reforestation in all degraded areas, especially in sloping areas surrounding Dili;
 - c. Introducing programmes to reduce forest or grass burning practices during the dry season;
 - d. Replacing firewood use with other energy sources (“fugaun rai-mean” project); and
 - e. Environmental and forestry laws to control activities that cause forest degradation.
156. In 2015 the Government approved the revised version of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2011-2020 (NBSAP), seeking to address the threats to Timor-Leste’s biodiversity. The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Environment (MCIE) is spearheading a number of baseline projects and programs aimed at preventing biodiversity loss and ensuring that Timor-Leste’s biological resources are sustainably managed. This Government also plans to introduce a National Biodiversity Act to regulate the implementation of the action plan.
157. One of the expected co-benefits of the continued expansion of the national electricity grid is a reduction in the demand for firewood for cooking fuel, thus decreasing the rate of deforestation. Providing electricity throughout the entire country is one of the cornerstones of the government’s economic development program. The approved electricity infrastructure budget for the year 2017 is USD 13.4 million, and projections for years 2018 through 2021 are USD 101.6 million, USD 48.8 million, USD 21.5 million, and USD 5.8 million, respectively.⁶² The government is also supporting afforestation investments, primarily involving sandalwood, mahogany, and teak species.
158. There are a number of donor financed initiatives that are also contributing to the baseline, as tabulated below in **Table 7**.

Table 7: Associated baseline projects

⁶² Source: Ministry of Finance, State Budget 2017 (approved), Book 1: Budget Overview.

Project Name	Years (Start-End)	Budget	Donor(s)	Objectives/Brief description of how it is linked to this GEF project
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF)	2016-2021	USD 500,000	Government of Timor-Leste	Conservation programs, including planning and management of the PA system, collaborative management of protected areas, demarcation of forests and protected areas, etc.
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF)	2016-2021	USD 350,000	Government of Timor-Leste	Institutional development programs, including policy and legislative development, capacity development, organizational development, etc.
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF)	2016-2021	USD 500,000	Government of Timor-Leste	Forest management planning programs, including municipal forest management planning, national forest management planning, watershed management planning, etc.
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF)	2016-2021	USD 500,000	Government of Timor-Leste	Reforestation initiatives and programs, including seedling production, community based reforestation, contractual reforestation, expansion of fruit and industrial tree plantations, etc.
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF)	2016-2021	USD 1,000,000	Government of Timor-Leste	Supporting agricultural and livelihood development extension programs, including sloping agriculture techniques, rehabilitation of aged coffee plantations, livestock management, livelihood development, introduction of alternative rural energy, etc.
Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Environment (MCIE)	2016-2021	USD 350,000	Government of Timor-Leste	Programmes and initiatives on biodiversity conservation, etc.
Ministry of Public Works	2016-2021	USD 400,000	Government of Timor-Leste	Programmes and initiatives on soil and water protection, erosion control, etc.
Strengthening National Forest Policy (TCP/TIM/3601)	Apr 2016 – Mar 2018	USD 295,000	FAO	Through this project the FAO is continuing their long-standing support in Timor-Leste. The main outcome of this particular project is a strengthened national forestry policy that promotes the implementation of community forestry. An enabling policy framework for community forestry would help facilitate the activities planned under the TLSNAP project, through ensuring that forest resources are sustainably managed while supporting the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities.

Project Name	Years (Start-End)	Budget	Donor(s)	Objectives/Brief description of how it is linked to this GEF project
Community-based Sustainable Natural Resource Management, Phase 2	Aug 2016 – Jul 2020	JPY 440 million (USD 3,942,000, 20 Jun 2017)	JICA	This JICA financed project is a follow-up phase of a successful community watershed management initiative. The TLSNAP project can build upon the collaborative management arrangements developed over the past several years. Moreover, the JICA project is working in one of the same catchments as TLSNAP, the Comoro, in a different sub-catchment.
Partnership for Sustainable Agro-Forestry (PSAF) between Timor-Leste, The EU & Germany, FED/2016/38767	Sep 2017– Dec 2021	EUR 30.7 million	European Union and the Government of Germany	The PSAF program aims to develop a sustainable market oriented, competitive, climate resilient and prosperous agroforestry system in order to increase employment and income in rural areas. There are synergies with TLSNAP with respect to agroforestry as a sustainable livelihood alternative for rural communities. There could be synergies in terms of trainings and other capacity building activities, and regarding development of partnerships for marketing agroforestry products.
AVANKSA AGRIKULTURA Project	Apr 2015 – Mar 2020	USD 19.2 million	Government of USA (implemented by USAID)	The purpose of this project is to accelerate inclusive and sustainable economic growth through increased productivity and profitability of the horticulture value chain and to promote nutrition and climate-smart agriculture activities that support increased food production, agricultural income, and women's empowerment. Potential synergies with the TLSNAP project include capacity building, gender mainstreaming, and partnerships with the private sector and civil society.
Sustainable Agriculture Productivity Improvement Project (SAPIP)	Dec 2016 – Aug 2022	USD 21 million	World Bank	Financed through the Global Agricultural and Food Security Program (GAFSP), this project aims to increase the productivity and marketed production of smallholder agriculture in Beluli, Loes, Raumoco, and Tono catchments. Consistent with the TLSNAP project, this project will be applying integrated watershed approaches. There could be synergies in terms of capacity building, aligning management planning activities, and linkages with civil society and private sector stakeholders.
TOMAK (To'os ba Moris Diak) – Farming for Prosperity	2016 - 2021	Up to AUD 25 million	Government of Australia	Building upon the success of the Seeds of Life Program (2001-2016), TOMAK aims

Project Name	Years (Start-End)	Budget	Donor(s)	Objectives/Brief description of how it is linked to this GEF project
			(the program is implemented by Adam Smith International together with Mercy Corps)	to strengthen the capacity of targeted rural households to engage in profitable agricultural markets and establish a foundation of food security and good nutrition. There are thematic synergies with the TLSNAP project, and the two projects could support each other in developing innovative partnerships with government, private sector, and civil society, and also with respect to promoting women's economic empowerment in agriculture.
Global Climate Change Alliance Programme (GCCA-TL)	Dec 2013 – Dec 2018	USD 4 million	European Union	The GCCA-TL programme is being implemented by CAMOES in the Loes catchment and GIZ in the Seixal catchment. The objective of the programme is to capacitate communities living in sub-districts vulnerable to climate change to cope with climate change effects through sustainable management of their natural resources. A catchment management policy will be developed and implemented in the selected target areas. There are potential synergies in terms of developing and implementing community driven natural resource management.
Agricultural innovations for communities for intensified and sustainable farming systems in Timor-Leste (AI-Com), Project ID: CIM/2014/082	Oct 2016 – Sep 2021	AUD 4,191,137	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)	There could be synergies between the AI-Com project and TLSNAP in terms of training and with respect to development of partnerships among the private sector and civil society.

C. Incremental Cost Reasoning

a) Incremental/additional cost:

159. Under the baseline, business as usual scenario, short-term economic returns are often a higher priority for local communities than biodiversity conservation and protection of ecosystem services. Governmental agencies lack the resources and capacity to effectively manage the PA system, and poor communities do not have the means to implement conservation while at the same time sustaining their own livelihoods. The incremental cost reasoning of the GEF funding focuses on strengthening collaborative management arrangements between the government and local communities for effective biodiversity conservation, generating global and domestic environmental benefits and bolstering the resilience and well-being of communities reliant upon the ecosystem goods and services within and near the protected areas.
160. The project is based upon the assumption that long-term goals for natural resource management can best be achieved through community based actions. Land degradation, including deforestation, is intrinsically linked to poverty and food security. The alternative proposed with the GEF support will increase the social capital within the targeted communities, encouraging people to commit to communal management of their natural resources, thus reducing day-to-day uncertainty for individual households and demonstrating the joint benefits of implementing sustainable natural resource management.
161. The GEF resources will provide incremental support for removing the barriers that are currently hindering the establishment of a functioning national PA system; including, gaps in knowledge, weak institutional coordination, insufficient funding, legal gaps and weak enforcement, and capacity limitations. There is a certain level of uncertainty regarding whether the Government of Timor-Leste can bear the costs of the requisite baseline, or leverage financing, moving forward. One of the key elements of the incremental GEF support is the 5-year national PA system plan. This plan will provide a framework for prioritizing conservation efforts over a progressive time period, focusing on high priority areas first and sequentially expanding the efforts as government resources become more secure and fund-raising capabilities increase accordingly.
162. GEF resources are also expected to leverage additional resources, including the following: (i) further strengthening of the national protected area system, e.g., replicating the approach promoted by the TLSNAP project at other PAs; and (2) additional investment in community based NRM, as a result of capacitated local conservation groups and increased interest among the government and private sector.

b) Co-financing:

163. The Government of Timor-Leste has confirmed USD 8 million in in-kind parallel co-financing, including USD 4 million from MAF, specifically from the Directorate of Forestry, Coffee, and Industrial Plantation, and USD 4 million from MCIE. An additional JBY 440 million (approx. USD 3.94 million) in parallel co-financing has been committed by JICA, associated with the second phase of the Community-Based Sustainable Resource Management (CBNRM) project running from August 2016 to July 2020. Conservation International will contribute in-kind co-financing totaling USD 0.4 million in activities supporting natural resource management and protected areas management, both terrestrial and marine.

D. Global Environmental Benefits

164. This multi-focal area project, combining biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, and land degradation, will generate multiple environmental and development benefits. Working closely with governmental and non-governmental partners, the project will support establishment of a functioning national PA system covering approximately 480,341 ha.
165. Environmental benefits will further be generated through demarcating an estimated 39,976 ha of protected areas, including the 4,000 ha Mount Fatumasin PA and the 35,976 ha Mount Legumau PA, and developing and initiating the implementation of management and business plans for these two PAs, through collaborative arrangements with local communities. The Mount Fatumasin PA and Mount Legumau PA overlap with 2 of the 30 key biodiversity areas (KBAs) delineated in Timor-Leste; KBA Site ID 16255 (Fatumasin) and Site ID 44998 (Legumau), respectively. Special attention will be placed at eliminating threats, such as unsustainable firewood extraction, rehabilitating degraded areas to protect soil and water retention ecosystem functions, conserving and reducing fragmentation of habitats.
166. The project strategy supports actions and innovations that integrate biodiversity conservation with sustainable forest management and land degradation, generating human livelihood and global environmental benefits. Substantive contributions to the national knowledge base will be achieved through mapping the high conservation value of a cumulative total of 58,900 ha of forest area within two of the ten critical catchments: Comoro and Irabere. Following a landscape approach, community driven natural resource management will be implemented over 31,949 ha (10,390 ha in the Moto Hare sub-catchment of the Comoro catchment, and 21,559 ha in the Afalita sub-catchment of the Irabere catchment) covering 10 rural *sucos* having a combined population of 19,563. The improved sub-catchment management results aim to halt or significantly reduce the drivers of land degradation that are depleting key ecosystem services upon which people and nature depend.
167. The project will contribute to the improved management of at least 500 hectares of forests which falls both inside and outside of the protected areas system by building the capacity of the local people in sustainable forest management practices. Moreover, reforestation and/or rehabilitation of at least 500 hectares of degraded areas will strengthen ecosystem resilience, by reducing the risk of erosion, increasing the permeability of the soil for water absorption, increasing vegetative cover which will provide shelter to critical species as well as people, and improve food security. The flow on benefit of enhancing sustainable livelihood opportunities for communities based on the protection and enhancement of the forests increases the value of the forests and thereby their protection.







Contributions towards achievement of the Aichi targets:

168. The project will also support Timor-Leste towards fulfillment of the Aichi biodiversity targets⁶³, in particular targets 1, 5, 7, 11, 14, 15, and 18, as summarized below in **Table 8**.

Table 8: Contributions towards achieving the Aichi targets in Timor-Leste

Relevant Aichi Target	Project Contribution
<i>Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society</i>	

⁶³ In decision X/2, the tenth meeting of the CBD Conference of the Parties, held from 18 to 29 October 2010, in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, adopted a revised and updated Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, for the 2011-2020 period.

	<p>Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.</p>	<p>Substantive resources allocated for strengthening institutional and individual capacities and increasing awareness with respect to participatory community driven conservation and sustainable natural resource management.</p>
<p>Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use</p>		
	<p>Target 5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.</p>	<p>58,900 ha of forests mapped for high conservation values, and national PA system strengthened to improve representativeness and to reduce habitat fragmentation.</p>
	<p>Target 7: By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.</p>	<p>500 ha under community driven sustainable forest management.</p>
<p>Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity</p>		
	<p>Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.</p>	<p>The project supports establishment of a functioning national PA system, and will develop and implement management plans for two terrestrial PAs having a cumulative area of approximately 40,000 ha.</p>
<p>Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services</p>		
	<p>Target 14: By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.</p>	<p>Sustainable livelihoods enhanced within 10 communities (<i>sucos</i>).</p>
	<p>Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.</p>	<p>500 ha of degraded forest and other land rehabilitated.</p>
<p>Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building</p>		
	<p>Target 18: By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.</p>	<p>Traditional knowledge integrated into community driven natural resource plans developed and implemented in 10 <i>sucos</i>.</p>

E. Socio-Economic Benefits

169. Declaring areas for enhanced environmental management to protect against threats from human activities will inherently affect the well-being of people living in or near the PAs, and may affect men and women differently. The project strategy is built around the principle of promoting mutually beneficial arrangements with local communities, i.e., safeguarding valuable ecosystem services through collaborative management and sustainable use arrangements. Establishing and strengthening collaborative relationships between local communities and governmental agencies will increase the likelihood that individual PAs and the PA system as a whole will be managed effectively to deliver both environmental and socioeconomic benefits.
170. Generation of global environmental benefits is closely linked to the well-being of the men and women in local communities that rely upon the ecosystem goods and services within the target areas. The number of direct beneficiaries is estimated to be the approximate cumulative total of 250 households situated within the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau protected areas. The estimated number of indirect beneficiaries is 19,563, the cumulative population of the 10 *sucos* within the Comoro and Irabere catchments where community driven NRM will be implemented. The integrated approach to NRM promoted within these communities will deliver a number of co-benefits. For instance, promoting agroforestry for sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity conservation also delivers improved soil conservation and ecosystem based adaption benefits, e.g., by reducing the rate of erosion.
171. Estimating the social impacts associated with the improved environmental management regimes promoted under the project will be made using the sustainable livelihoods framework approach, which is graphically illustrated below in **Figure 11**.

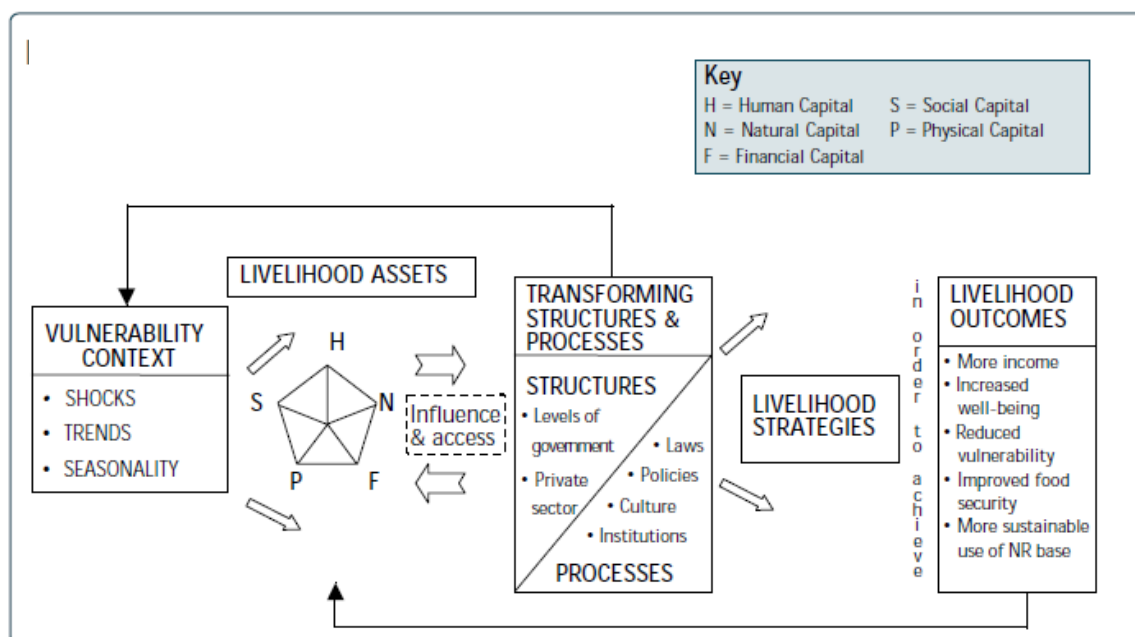


Figure 11: Sustainable livelihoods framework⁶⁴

172. In most cases, conservation costs are incurred in terms of access to natural capital, and benefits to communities are frequently described in terms of financial and physical capital terms. The social

⁶⁴ Source: DFID, April 1999. Sustainable Livelihoods Guidance Sheets, Department for International Development.

impacts can, however, be realized across broader dimensions. Sustainable use of ecosystem goods and services will lead to reduction in pressures on natural resources and also contribute to community development priorities in the medium and long-term. The socioeconomic benefits of the project are broadly distributed. **Human capital** will be enhanced through training and awareness-raising activities which will better enable community stakeholders to manage available natural resources. **Natural capital** will be increased through implementation of management measures such as sustainable agro-forestry, which will reduce rates of erosion, thus conserving soil quality, and bolstering soil and water protection. These improvements to terrestrial ecosystem conditions will lead to increased productivity, boosting food security capacities. **Financial capital** is also slated to increase, e.g., introduced alternative livelihoods could result in reduced fluctuations in household income flows, enabling communities - particularly youth, women, and the elderly - to better cope with socioeconomic challenges facing the rural areas. The project will also help enhance **physical capital**, through modest capital inputs, such as environmental monitoring devices and physical assets for the alternative livelihood pilots, nurseries, etc. Finally, there will be substantive contributions to **social capital** of the communities. Implementation of community driven management will strengthen local self-governance capacities, value traditional ecological knowledge, seeking mutually beneficial arrangements with ecosystem users and landowners, and encourage more equitable access to ecosystem goods and services for women.

173. Due to the sequencing of benefits delivered, it is imperative that sufficient capacity is built locally and the enabling environment is strengthened to support the community driven NRM approaches after GEF funding ceases. Introducing restrictions with respect to access to certain ecosystem goods and services can be imposed over much shorter timeframes than the time typically required for benefits from alternative livelihood based activities to be realized. The sustainable livelihoods framework does not only focus on economic costs, but rather also takes into account aspects such as community cultural ties, governance systems, and other social values linked to lands and other natural resources.

Contributions towards achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

174. The project will also support the Timor-Leste government towards achievement of the sustainable development goals (SDGs), specifically with respect to SDG 15: “*Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss*”; as summarized below in **Table 9**.

Table 9: Contributions towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal No. 15 in Timor-Leste

SDG Indicator, Target	Project Consistency
15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements. 15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area. 15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type.	The project will support the establishment of a functioning national PA system, which is estimated to cover approximately 480,000 ha.
15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally. 15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management.	Sustainable natural resource management promoted in 10 rural <i>sucos</i> , covering a combined land area of 31,949 ha. Community driven sustainable forest management promoted across 500 ha

SDG Indicator, Target	Project Consistency
<p>15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world</p> <p>15.3.1 Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area.</p>	<p>And, 500 ha of degraded forest and other land areas rehabilitated.</p>

F. Risk Assessment and Mitigation

Table 10: Risk Assessment and Mitigation Planning

Project Outcome	Risks	Rating ⁶⁵	Risk Mitigation Measures
Outcome 1.1: National PA system established and implementation initiated	Uncertainty due to government shifts in priorities and policy changes.	Medium	Approval of the project document will signify government commitment, which will extend to possible new political leaders over the course of the project lifespan. Government stakeholders will have an active role in project implementation, and the regular cross-sectoral communication, e.g., during project steering committee meetings, workshops, trainings, site visits, etc.
Outcome 1.1: National PA system established and implementation initiated Outcome 2.1: Land degradation drivers halted and/or minimized in key catchment areas	Limited coordination and communication between sectoral agencies and/or ministries	Moderate	The two key ministries responsible for environmental matters (MAF & MCIE) worked in close coordination on the design of the project, and the implementation arrangements of the project promote collaboration during the implementation phase. One of the main roles of the project manager will be to ensure there is sufficient coordination and communication between these ministries and with other government agencies and also non-governmental partners. In addition to the annual project steering committee meetings, there will be frequent stakeholder meetings over the course of the implementation phase. The project will also recruit catchment coordinators, who will be an important link between national and subnational level stakeholders, thus mitigating the risk of limited coordination in this regard.
Outcome 2.1: Land degradation drivers halted and/or minimized in key catchment areas Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved	Continued threats to protected areas and terrestrial ecosystems through uncontrolled exploitation	Substantial	Substantive project resources are allocated for capacity building, skills training, and awareness campaigns. Empowering local communities with increased knowledge and authority in managing their local natural resources will diminish the risks of continued threats to protected areas and other key conservation areas.
Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in	Lack of institutional and individual capacities to implement policies and	Substantial	The project strategy is innovative in that it includes a bespoke capacity building approach to address the specific capacity building needs

⁶⁵Risk ratings: **High Risk (H)**: There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks; **Substantial Risk (S)**: There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks; **Modest Risk (M)**: There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks; **Low Risk (L)**: There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks. Source: GEF/C.52/Inf.06, April 2017, Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy.

Project Outcome	Risks	Rating ⁶⁵	Risk Mitigation Measures
<p>priority catchment corridors substantially improved</p> <p>Outcome 2.2.: Capacity for communities to manage their natural resources substantially increased</p>	<p>provisions of livelihoods to protection of ecosystems and PAs.</p>		<p>and circumstances of the relevant stakeholder groups. Previous programs and projects focused on one group only and/or provided training with limited opportunities subsequently. For example, the youth training will emphasize learning by doing, with hands-on field work in the target communities, as well as theoretical instruction. Skills training in alternative livelihood opportunities will be tailored to the relevant options and interests in the local communities.</p> <p>At the government level, CI will take on a mentoring role to ensure that capacity gaps are addressed appropriately. In addition, to ensure and strengthen further linkages to the communities and the different sectors of society, CI will link up with the local tertiary academic institutions, e.g., by taking on student interns to support the implementation of the project and also to explore opportunities to include program work as part of their course of study.</p>
<p>Outcome 2.1: Land degradation drivers halted and/or minimized in key catchment areas</p> <p>Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved</p>	<p>Lack of enforcement of current and new laws and regulations related to natural resource management and protected areas</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>The project is aiming to mitigate this risk by ensuring that relevant existing and new laws are socialized at community level. Currently communities are often unaware of the legislation in place and hence unaware that certain actions they take are actually breaking the law. In addition, most legislation in available only in Portuguese, a challenge also highlighted by government officials, particularly at subnational levels, are unable to access and understand the laws due to language barriers. The project will ensure that relevant laws are translated from Portuguese to Tetun and shared with the communities and local officials.</p> <p>The community involvement is very important in some cases their buy-in, through the development of their own NRM plans and their uptake into the Sucos will further strengthen the implementation and enforcement of existing laws and regulations.</p> <p>In addition, the mapping of the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs will highlight specific areas most vulnerable to forest fires or other environmental threats and this will allow for targeted efforts as needed.</p>
<p>Outcome 1.1: National PA system established and implementation initiated</p>	<p>Financial sustainability of the efforts taken in the project limits the longevity of the project's impacts</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>The government has noted in its latest strategic development plan that natural resource management will need to explore sustainable funding avenues. This project will assess sustainable financing options for the</p>

Project Outcome	Risks	Rating ⁶⁵	Risk Mitigation Measures
<p>Outcome 3.2: Priority degraded areas rehabilitated and/or reforested</p>			<p>national PA system, and develop and support the implementation of business plans for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs. The expected results will provide a framework and replicable models for scaling up across the PA system.</p> <p>In addition, supporting the sustainability of the project efforts is the fact that the project is supporting not only one particular group but cuts across different parts and layers of Timorese society. The project itself is not providing direct funds to any entity but is used to demonstrate actions that the communities and others will directly benefit from. Hence, there is no such component as “work-for-cash” etc. that generates immediate cash payments to the communities that are difficult to maintain once the project comes to an end. In addition, supporting sustainability is the capacity building component cutting across and including all stakeholders, which will in some cases lead to certification, which in turn supports young people’s ability to find alternative livelihoods.</p>
<p>Outcome 3.2: Priority degraded areas rehabilitated and/or reforested</p>	<p>Effects of climate change might have negative impacts on the outcome of project activities, e.g., possibly reducing the survival rates of the revegetation and rehabilitation work due to prolonged period of drought and/or increased intensity of storms. Such effects of climate change could also adversely impact the viability of implementing alternative non-timber forest product based alternative livelihood programs.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Mitigation of risks associated with the possible impacts of climate change will be integrated throughout the project. Awareness of local communities will be increased through training and targeted campaigns. Climate change aspects will be incorporated into the suco NRM plans, and conservation agricultural and agroforestry practices will be promoted that improve soil and water retention. One of the criteria used for selection of species for rehabilitation activities will be based on climate resilience.</p>

G. Sustainability

175. GEF funding is catalytic, providing guidance on applying international best practice to achieve conservation and socioeconomic development objectives locally while delivering global environmental benefits. Ensuring that project level results are sustained after GEF funding ceases depends largely on the institutional and individual capacities of the beneficiary country. In Timor-Leste, local communities are critical partners in the implementation of the national PA system. With many of the PAs located in remote regions of the country, limited government financing available, and generally low tourism demand, community based collaborative management arrangements are essentially the only viable option available. For implementation of the management and business plans developed under Component 1, the project will facilitate collaborate management arrangements in the two areas, in concert with the PA management committees and under the general supervision of the PA managers. Additional community level capacity building is incorporated into Components 2 and 3, with the development and implementation of *suco* NRM plans and forest rehabilitation plans. The support provided by the project during implementation will strengthen the capacities of the community-based management structures, enhancing the likelihood that the benefits realized will continue to be delivered after GEF funding ceases.
176. Investing in training local communities in natural resource management helps to increase ecosystem stewardship, which is in line with the government's policy of decentralization. Empowering the local communities in alternative livelihoods from sustainable use of forest resources will also enhance the likelihood that the results achieved will be sustained. Moreover, these strengthened capacities and increased awareness will bolster the current weak enforcement capabilities, thus further increasing the likelihood of sustainability. Offering capacity building opportunities for the youth also increases the prospects that project results will be sustained, and implementing learning-by-doing approaches further enhance the likelihood that capacities developed will be sustained.
177. The 5-year national PA system plan, coupled with the sustainable financing assessment recommendations, will provide the government with a roadmap for garnering cross-sectoral support and involvement by NGOs and the private sector in establishing a functioning and representative PA system. Leveraging international and regional best practices and lessons learned with respect to sustainable PA system financing, the project will also provide the government with viable options for expanding and diversifying funding for more effective PA management. Experiences gained during the initiation of the management and business plans for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs will provide hands-on experience for enabling stakeholders and local beneficiaries.
178. Mapping of high conservation value forests within the Comoro and Irabere catchments will also provide a replicable model for other critical catchments in the country. Strengthened capacities of government partners in the process will bolster the enabling environment for guiding assessments in other catchments. It is expected that the findings will generate sufficient excitement around new species identification and a better understanding of the value of the available natural resources, to support further investigation of Timor-Leste's natural resources.
179. The cross-sectoral project implementation arrangements, with active participation by MAF, MCIE, CI, and local NGOs and academic sector partners, will also contribute towards fostering a more inclusive and coordinated approach, which further enhances the likelihood that results will be sustained after GEF funding ceases.

180. With respect to environmental risk dimensions, strategic rehabilitation of degraded forests and other land areas and reducing unsustainable exploitation of forest resources, e.g., fire wood extraction, will increase soil and water retention, which will not only improve soil productivity but also reduce sedimentation of water courses, thus increasing resilience of these ecosystems to the projected impacts of climate change. Diverse income generating possibilities for rural people also increases the resilience at the household and community level.

H. Innovativeness

181. Innovation is addressed in both the design and the delivery of outputs and outcomes. With respect to project design, the multi-focal area approach, increasingly advocated by GEF, fosters integrated interventions that incorporate socioeconomic considerations such as food and water security and livelihoods with safeguarding ecosystem goods and services, resulting in more informed and participatory biodiversity conservation. The project encompasses three separate focal areas, including biodiversity, land degradation, and sustainable forestry. The integrated approaches embedded in the project design promote community driven NRM, including climate-resilient practices in agro-forestry that will enhance biodiversity conservation, not only through strengthening the national protected area system but also through demonstrating sustainable natural resource management outside of protected areas.
182. The project is also innovative through supporting increased awareness and preservation of traditional knowledge and conflict prevention systems, e.g., based on the principles of *tara bandu*. Innovation is not limited to applying formal scientific approaches to natural resource management, but also recognizes the knowledge and practices of local communities that have developed over centuries.
183. In regard to delivery of outputs and outcomes, the innovation of the project is highlighted through the planned partnership arrangements and knowledge management. One of the main comparative advantages of GEF's global outreach is the extensive networks the institution has with a wide range of multilateral agencies, inter-governmental bodies, public and private research institutions, academia, civil society, and the private sector. The project will leverage off this institutional capacity through working with key national and regional partners in facilitating the requisite enabling conditions and incentives that promote innovation in natural resource management. Moreover, investing in improved GIS based information management systems and repositories of traditional knowledge will help leverage innovative know-how among the stakeholder community.
184. Timor-Leste has been a sovereign state since 2002 and, as such, it is a blank slate for conservation planning purposes, wherein the national partners embrace integrating the most cutting-edge information, tools, models, and approaches with the development priorities of the country. Other innovative approaches under the TLSNAP project include developing and delivering a NRM training program focused on the youth, introducing the application of classifying forests based upon high conservation values, promoting land and forest rehabilitation with native species, and advocating for natural regeneration where appropriate.

I. Replicability and Potential for Scaling Up

185. The project will have a catalytic influence across a number of fronts. First and foremost, the project will develop a strategic blueprint for the PA system in Timor-Leste, and provide replicable models of management systems for individual PAs. Moreover, implementation of community-driven integrated approaches will provide scale-able frameworks for capacitated national and local stakeholders to replicate in other areas, not only among terrestrial ecosystems but also marine and coastal areas.
186. The results of the sustainable PA financing assessment and lessons learned through implementation of business plans for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs will serve as a guide for scaling up alternative financing efforts and replicating the approach at other PAs in the system. Coordination with other complementary initiatives and projects, will help ensure that lessons learned and best practices are exchanged across sectors, and synergies capitalized upon for mutually supporting replication.
187. Broader inclusion of women and local people into the processes of natural resource management and conservation (e.g., business and financial management, alternative livelihood training, etc.) will also be promoted. The project will identify and train “change agents”, e.g., through the youth training, establishment of the community conservation groups, and also the project catchment coordinators. These individuals will be capacitated to support government and non-government partners in replicating the results achieved on the project in other areas in the country.
188. The likelihood for replication will also be enhanced through strengthening collaborative partnerships, including inter-governmental, with civil society, with academia, and with the private sector. Opportunities within the private sector include with the coffee sector, sustainable bamboo development, ecotourism sector, etc.
189. Finally, distilling the project results and lessons learned into informative, easily understood knowledge products will also support replication efforts after project closure.

J. Consistency with National Priorities, Plans, Policies and Legal Frameworks

190. Since independence in 2002, Timor-Leste has been addressing environmental challenges as an integral part of the strategic development priorities for the country. Environmental conservation is, in fact, embedded in the Constitution of Timor-Leste, specifically under Article 61, which includes:

- *Everyone has the right to a humane, healthy and ecologically balanced environment and the duty to protect it and improve it for the benefit of the future generations.*
- *The State shall recognise the need to preserve and rationalise natural resources.*
- *The State should promote actions aimed at protecting the environment and safeguarding the sustainable development of the economy.*

191. The project is closely aligned with the following seven goals of the Timor-Leste PoWPA, Strategic Action Plan⁶⁶, which are also reflected in the National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (NBSAP) for the period of 2011-2020 (revised in 2015):

Goal 1: Establish and Strengthen National Systems of Protected Areas

Goal 2: Establish and Strengthen Networks and Improve Collaboration

Goal 3: Build Capacity for the Planning, Establishment and Management of Protected Areas

Goal 4: Prevent and Mitigate Negative Impacts of Key Threats to Protected Areas

Goal 5: Promote Equity and Benefit Sharing to ensure socio-economic benefits and Financial Sustainability

Goal 6: Enhance Involvement of Local Communities and Relevant Stakeholders through improved Communication, Education and Public Awareness

Goal 7: Provide Enabling laws, Policy, Institutions and Systems for Protected Areas.

192. The project has been designed in collaboration with national governmental partners and is consistent with relevant national priorities, plans, and policies, as outlined below in **Table 11**.

Table 11: Consistency with National Priorities, Plans, and Policies

National Priorities	Project Consistency
Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan, 2011-2030 (approved in 2012)	The strategic development plan provides a vision, targets, and indicators for the two-decade period of 2011-2030. The project is relevant to the social capital and economic development aspects of the plan. Short-term targets under the social capital aspect of the plan call for an appropriate environmental legislative framework, and long-term goals include establishment of an extensive system of terrestrial and marine protected areas. With respect to the economic aspect of the plan, there are extensive aims for expanding agriculture output, supporting sensible forest management, exploiting water resources, strengthening the tourism sector, etc.
Decree-Law No. 5/2016 on the National Protected Area System	This Decree-Law was promulgated in March 2016, after the PIF for the TLSNAP project was submitted. The decree-law provides a solid legal foundation for establishing a national PA system, and the design of the project has been

⁶⁶McIntyre, M.A., 2011. Strategic Action Plan for the Programme of Works on Protected Areas, Timor Leste, 2011. Prepared for the Department of Protected Areas and National Parks, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Government of Timor Leste with the assistance of United Nations Development Program, Timor-Leste and the Global Environment Facility. Planning for Sustainable Development Pty Ltd, Landsborough, Queensland, Australia.

National Priorities	Project Consistency
(SNAP), promulgated in March 2016	adapted with incremental support to the government, including developing a 5-year national PA system plan that provides a strategic framework based on biophysical and legislative gap analyses. The project is also supporting a sustainable financing assessment, and will develop and initiate the implementation of management plans and business plans for two PAs situated in priority catchments.
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) of Timor-Leste 2011-2020 (revised in 2015)	<p>The TLSNAP project is consistent with aspects of each of the five priority strategies included in the NBSAP (2015 revision):</p> <p>Priority Strategy PS-1: Mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral plans and programmes to address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss. <u>Strategic Action 1:</u> Raise awareness on the values of biodiversity and engage various sectors including the media, business sector, youth and women groups and local communities in conservation activities.</p> <p>Priority Strategy PS-2: Protecting biodiversity and promoting sustainable use. <u>Strategic Action 7:</u> Rehabilitate damaged and critical habitats and ecosystems and degraded watersheds through massive tree planting including mangrove reforestation. <u>Strategic Action 9:</u> Implement sustainable livelihood activities for local communities, promote traditional conservation knowledge and practices, and enhance the role of women and youth in biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>Priority Strategy PS-3: Building climate resilient ecosystems through effectively managing protected areas and reducing threats to biodiversity. <u>Strategic Action 10:</u> Effectively manage representative samples of biodiversity in identified protected areas and create natural conservation zones to protect specific biodiversity and ecosystems.</p> <p>Priority Strategy PS-4: Enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services to ensure benefits to all. <u>Strategic Action 15:</u> Safeguard and maintain ecosystem services through promoting the Integrated Water Resource Management Plan.</p> <p>Priority Strategy PS-5: Enhancing implementation of the NBSAP through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building, including district and sub-district and community levels. <u>Strategic Action 17:</u> Enhance technical and managerial capacity of officials and staff on biodiversity conservation and management as laid out in the Strategic Action Plan (SAP) and the Capacity Building Plan on Protected Areas under the PoWPA Project of the MAF (cf. also NBSAP Capacity-building Plan Chapter).</p>
National Action Programme (NAP) to Combat Land Degradation revised draft November 2008	<p>The 2008 NAP reflects the understanding by the government of the importance of combating land degradation to achieve sustainable agriculture development and maintain ecosystem integrity. The TLSNAP project is consistent with five of the seven action programmes, as summarized below.</p> <p>LAND DEGRADATION PREVENTION:</p> <p>Action Programme 1: Sustainable agriculture and forestry development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of needs-based training packages to support rural communities in sustainable land management. • Promote integrated natural resource management programs. <p>Action Programme 2: Poverty alleviation programmes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting community-driven forestry development to allow community access to forest resources at the same time caring for the sustainability of these resources.

National Priorities	Project Consistency
	<p>Action Programme 3: Public education and awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving national awareness programs on the character and impact of deforestation, land degradation and drought. <p>LAND DEGRADATION MITIGATION:</p> <p>Action Programme 5: Land degradation inventory and monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inventory and mapping (using GIS systems where specific maps can be prepared as required) of forest resources and degraded lands. Conduct regular information dissemination about sustainable land management to farmers, land owners and forest dwellers. <p>Action Programme 6: Rehabilitation of degraded lands and protection of water resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation of degraded forest, agriculture and other types of land through adoption of appropriate technologies. Promote reforestation and agro-forestry activities on degraded forest lands. Develop and strengthen local community (both men and women) capacity to initiate reforestation, agro-forestry and water resource protection programs.
<p>National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) on Climate Change, December 2010 – approved by the council of ministers in October 2011</p>	<p>The highest ranked issue outlined in the NAPA is food security, and the TLSNAP project is closely aligned with several of the activities planned under the food security adaptation option, as outlined below.</p> <p>Adaptation Option: Food Security (ranked No. 1):</p> <p>Activities relevant to the TLSNAP project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop integrated agroforestry and watershed management including climate change dimensions. Based on existing national action plans on sustainable land management, implement integrated, sustainable land management promoting fixed/permanent agriculture, reduced burning, reduced erosion, and increased soil fertility. Reforestation of degraded land to prevent landslides and provide a sustainable firewood source in priority areas with high vulnerability to climate-related risks. Improve physical infrastructure/civil engineering and natural vegetation methods to prevent landslides in hill sites, roads and river banks. Education and awareness and conduct a pilot demonstration on sustainable agriculture and forest management that increases resilience and reduces climate-related impacts of shifting cultivation and unsustainable upland farming practices.
<p>General Forestry Regime Law 2017 (the National Parliament on 15 May 2017 approved Bill 53 / III (5a))</p>	<p>This law regulates the management and protection of forest resources in Timor-Leste. The TLSNAP project will provide incremental support to the implementation of this law, particularly with respect to engaging local communities through collaborative management arrangements.</p>

193. Other laws, policies, and strategies that were consulted in developing the project design include:

- a. Medium Term Operation Plan (2014-2018), Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.
- b. Strategic Action Plan for the Programme of Works on Protected Areas in Timor-Leste, 2011. This strategic action plan has been integrated into the revised NBSAP 2011-2020 (2015 revision).
- c. National Forest Policy and Strategy, No. 9/2007.

- d. National Ecological Gap Assessment (NEGA), 2010. The results of the NEGO have been incorporated into the NBSAP.
- e. Draft Biodiversity Decree Law.
- f. Draft Community Forestry Policy, 2007.

K. Consistency with GEF Focal Area and/or Fund(s) Strategies

194. TLSNAP is a multi-focal area project, integrating aspects of the GEF-6 biodiversity, land degradation, and sustainable forest management (SFM) strategies. Component 1 of the project is consistent with Objective 1 of the biodiversity strategy, “*Improve Sustainability of Protected Area Systems*”, particularly Outcome 1.2 of the strategy, “*Improved management effectiveness of protected areas*”. The project will support the Government of Timor-Leste in establishing a functioning national PA system, and provide scale-able best practice on improving the management effectiveness of individual PAs.
195. Component 2 of the project is aligned with Objective 1 of the GEF-6 land degradation strategy, “*Agriculture and Rangeland Systems: Main or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustain food production and livelihoods*”, through working with local communities in two priority catchment areas in developing and implementing natural resource management (NRM) plans, including sustainable use of natural resources into *suco* regulations and traditional systems, and building capacity of people to enhance their well-being.
196. Component 3 was designed concordant with Objectives 1 and 2 of the GEF-6 SFM strategy. With respect to SFM-1, “*Maintained Forest Resources: Reduce the pressures on high conservation value forests by addressing the drivers of deforestation*”, the project will support classification of an estimated 58,900 ha of high conservation value forests, and strengthen the capacities of local communities to maintain these forest areas through community driven SFM management principles. The project will also finance rehabilitation of an estimated 500 ha of degraded areas within priority catchments; these activities are consistent with SFM-2, “*Enhanced Forest Management: Maintain flows of forest ecosystem services and improve resilience to climate change through SFM*”.
197. The consistencies between the GEF focal area strategies and the project design are summarized below in **Table 12**.

Table 12: Consistency with GEF Focal Area Strategies

GEF-6 Focal Area Objectives, Programs, Outcomes, and Indicators		Project Consistency
BD-1, Objective 1: Improve sustainability of protected area systems		Component 1: Establishment of a national protected area system
Program 1: Improving Financial Sustainability and Effective Management of the National Ecological Infrastructure	Outcome 1.2: Improved management effectiveness of protected areas. Indicator 1.2: Protected area management effectiveness score.	Outcome 1.1: National PA system established and implementation initiated. <u>Targets:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comprehensive national PA system plan (<i>plano nacional</i>) developed and approved by government (covering 480,341 ha). • Management effectiveness tracking tool score for Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau increased.
LD-1: Agriculture and Rangeland Systems: Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustain food production and livelihoods		Component 2: Improvement of community-based natural resource management systems in priority catchment corridors
Program 1: Agro-ecological Intensification Program 2: SLM for Climate Smart Agriculture	Outcome 1.1: Improved agricultural, rangeland and pastoral management Indicator 1.1 Land area under effective agricultural, rangeland and pastoral management practices	Outcome 2.1: Land degradation drivers halted and/or minimized in key catchment areas <u>Targets:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 <i>suco</i> NRM plans, covering a cumulative land area of approximately 31,949 ha, developed and

GEF-6 Focal Area Objectives, Programs, Outcomes, and Indicators		Project Consistency
	<p>Outcome 1.2: Functionality and cover of agro-ecosystems maintained</p> <p>Indicator 1.2 Land area under effective management in production systems with improved vegetative cover</p>	<p>adopted into <i>suco</i> regulations and recognized under traditional law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the 10 <i>suco</i> NRM plans initiated by established and/or strengthened community based conservation groups. <p>Outcome 2.2: Capacity of communities to manage their natural resources substantially increased.</p> <p><u>Targets:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 youth, including at least 50% females, trained in NRM management 10 Community Conservation Groups, having at least 50% female members, capacitated. 250 households, including at least 30% women, benefit from participation in sustainable use of forest resources
SFM-1: Maintained Forest Resources: Reduce the pressures on high conservation value forests by addressing the drivers of deforestation		Component 3: Improvement of forest management and reforestation of degraded lands in priority catchment corridors
<p>Program 1: Integrated land use planning.</p> <p>Program 2: Identification and maintenance of high conservation value forests.</p> <p>Program 3: Identifying and monitoring forest loss.</p>	<p>Outcome 1: Cross-sector policy and planning approaches at appropriate governance scales, avoid loss of high conservation value forests.</p> <p>Indicator 1: Area of high conservation value forest identified and maintained.</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved</p> <p><u>Target:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High conservation value forests classified within the two priority catchments covering a cumulative area of 58,900 ha.
SFM-2: Enhanced Forest Management: Maintain flows of forest ecosystem services and improve resilience to climate change through SFM		Component 3: Improvement of forest management and reforestation of degraded lands in priority catchment corridors
Program 5: Capacity development for SFM within local communities	<p>Outcome 3: Increased application of good management practices in all forests by relevant government, local community (both women and men) and private sector actors.</p> <p>Indicator 3: Area of sustainably managed forest, stratified by forest management actors.</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved</p> <p><u>Target:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 ha of forests under community-driven sustainable management. <p>Outcome 3.2: Priority degraded areas rehabilitated and/or reforested</p> <p><u>Targets:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 ha of degraded land rehabilitated and/or reforested. 25 plant nurseries strengthened and/or established. 10 community-based conservation groups support nursery operation and forest rehabilitation

L. Linkages with other GEF Projects and Relevant Initiatives

198. Linkages with other GEF projects and relevant initiatives are summarized below in **Table 13**.

Table 13: Other Relevant Projects and Initiatives

GEF Projects Other Projects/Initiatives	Linkages and Coordination
GEF-financed projects:	
Building Shoreline Resilience of Timor-Leste to Protect Local Communities and their Livelihoods (GEF 5671)	The shoreline resilience project and the TLSNAP project have common geographic coverage, i.e., the Irabere River catchment. The two projects will coordinate their activities to ensure there is no duplication of efforts, ensuring target communities receive consistent support for management of local ecosystems.
Implementation of the Arafura and Timor Seas Regional and National Strategic Action Programs: ATSEA-2 (GEF 6920)	The ATSEA-2 regional project, including Timor-Leste, Indonesia, and Papua New Guinea, follows the first phase implemented from 2010 to 2014. ATSEA-2 will support fisheries and marine protected area activities in Timor-Leste, including establishment of a new marine protected area off the south coast of the country. The ATSEA-2 project will also support the development and implementation of a management plan for the NKS National Park. In this aspect, there are synergies with the TLSNAP project, i.e., working jointly on developing best practice guidelines for PA management plans.
Enhancing the Conservation Effectiveness of Seagrass Ecosystems Supporting Globally Significant Populations of Dugong Across the Indian and Pacific Ocean Basins (Short Title: The Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project) (GEF 4930)	CI will work closely with Mohamed bin Zayed (MBZ) Species Conservation Fund, the Executing Agency of this GEF financed project. It is expected that by addressing the drivers of deforestation and land degradation, the sediment runoff that negatively impacts the coastal line and sensitive marine ecosystems will be greatly reduced.
Other initiatives:	
JICA-financed, community based sustainable natural resource management, Phase 2	JICA has been supporting community-based natural resource management in Timor-Leste since 2007. This JICA financed project is a follow-up phase of a successful community catchment management initiative. The TLSNAP project can build upon the collaborative management arrangements developed over the past several years. Moreover, the JICA project is working in one of the same catchments as TLSNAP, the Comoro, in a different sub-catchment.
EU and German financed Partnership for Sustainable Agroforestry (PSAF)	The PSAF program aims to develop a sustainable market oriented, competitive, climate resilient and prosperous agroforestry system in order to increase employment and income in rural areas. There are synergies with TLSNAP with respect to agroforestry as a sustainable livelihood alternative for rural communities. There could be synergies in terms of trainings and other capacity building activities, and regarding development of partnerships for marketing agroforestry products.
USAID, AVANSKA AGRİKULTURA project	The AVANSKA AGRİKULTURA is a USD 19.2 million project implemented by USAID over the period of April 2015 to March 2020, with the objective accelerating inclusive and sustainable economic growth through increased productivity and profitability of the horticulture value chain and to promote nutrition and climate-smart agriculture activities that support increased food production, agricultural income, and women's empowerment. Potential synergies with the TLSNAP project include capacity building, gender mainstreaming, and partnerships with the private sector and civil society.
Government of Australia financed TOMAK (To'os ba Moris Diak) – Farming for Prosperity program	Building upon the success of the Seeds of Life Program (2001-2016), TOMAK aims to strengthen the capacity of targeted rural households to engage in profitable agricultural markets and establish a foundation of food security and good nutrition. There are thematic synergies with the TLSNAP project, and the two projects could support each other in developing innovative partnerships with government, private

GEF Projects Other Projects/Initiatives	Linkages and Coordination
	sector, and civil society, and also with respect to promoting women’s economic empowerment in agriculture.
FAO supported, Strengthening National Forest Policy	Through this project the FAO is continuing their long-standing support in Timor-Leste. The main outcome of this particular project is a strengthened national forestry policy that promotes the implementation of community forestry. An enabling policy framework for community forestry would help facilitate the activities planned under the TLSNAP project, through ensuring that forest resources are sustainably managed while supporting the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities.
Sustainable Agriculture Productivity Improvement Project (SAPIP): World Bank	Financed through the Global Agricultural and Food Security Program (GAFSP), this project aims to increase the productivity and marketed production of smallholder agriculture in Beluli, Loes, Raumoco, and Tono catchments. Consistent with the TLSNAP project, this project will be applying integrated catchment approaches. There could be synergies in terms of capacity building, aligning management planning activities, and linkages with civil society and private sector stakeholders.
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	From CRS’s website: Resilient, sustainable vegetable gardens. Vegetable and seed varieties are selected based on their nutritional value, how quickly they grow and their drought resilience. The garden designs also lead to sustainable environmental practices, natural disease and pest control, and safe seed saving and storage. CRS will also introduce families to Savings and Internal Lending Communities, or SILCs. SILC members contribute to a group fund each week and, as savings build, they can take out loans for large expenses like school fees, farm animals or home repairs. Profits from interest are shared by the group.
WithOneSeed, an xpand Foundation initiative	WithOneSeed is a social enterprise that is taking action on climate change through community forestry in Timor Leste and through open education initiatives in Australia. Subsistence farming communities are re-establishing and maintaining the natural forests where they live was to develop a certified carbon sink that would allow the farming community to derive an income through the international carbon markets. WithOneSeed has partnered with Ramp Carbon and Baker and McKenzie to attain Gold Standard Afforestation/Reforestation Certification. There are opportunities for synergies with the TLSNAP project, including collaborating with tree nurseries and capacity building in the Irabere catchment where WithOneSeed is operating.
Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO)	AFoCO is a regional forest cooperation, which aims to strengthen regional forest cooperation, undertake projects, and translate sound forest policies and proven technologies into action, towards rehabilitating degraded forest land and preventing deforestation. Timor-Leste joined the cooperation in 2016. With respect to the TLSNAP project, there are potential synergies with respect to sharing regional experiences and best practice, fostering regional partnerships, and capacity building through a regional education and training center that AFoCO plans to initiate in 2017.

M. Consistency and Alignment with CI Institutional Priorities

199. For nearly 30 years, the guiding institutional priorities of Conservation International have been driven by the principle that people need nature to thrive. In Timor-Leste, CI has been implementing state-of-the-art conservation interventions and strengthening the capacities of local communities, governments, and other stakeholders to sustainably manage the unique and globally significant ecosystems in the country.
200. On a regional basis, being situated within the Coral Triangle, Timor-Leste is an institutional priority for CI. The Coral Triangle hosts the highest coral and reef fish diversity globally and provides vital spawning grounds for whales, turtles and other charismatic species. Moreover, one third of people living within the Coral Triangle countries depend on coastal and marine ecosystem goods and services for their livelihoods. In this regard, CI has been leading the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) and strengthening coordination and knowledge sharing among CTI governments, representatives, and managers with the aim to help the region fully progress toward the widespread implementation of large-scale, ecosystem-based approach to natural resource management. CI has also been facilitating regional exchange and collaboration, and working to integrate successes and lessons learned into management guidelines that can be adapted and shared throughout the region.
201. CI operates with a Rights-based Approach to conservation, meaning that human rights are embedded in all of our work. This project aligns closely with this approach, proactively ensuring that the rights and ability of men, women and youth to participate and benefit from this project are fully embedded in project design.

N. Communications and Knowledge Management

202. In order to realize institutional and individual change, it is imperative that the results realized with the support of GEF funding are effectively communicated to a wide spectrum of stakeholders, including governmental decision makers, community level beneficiaries, non-governmental organizations, the scientific and professional communities, and the private sector. The knowledge management strategy for the project is, therefore, multifaceted and focuses on producing informative knowledge products, enhancing access to the knowledge created, and mainstreaming the knowledge products and services created in order to garner ownership and to ensure sustainable institutional and financial support following completion of the planned activities.
203. The main objectives of the knowledge management strategy is to raise awareness and to facilitate the uptake of the project results into policy and best practices with respect to community driven natural resource management. Some of the key aspects of the knowledge management strategy include:
- Facilitating effective stakeholder engagement;
 - Delivering timely and targeted information to end-users in forms that are accessible, lead to on the ground responses, and are culturally appropriate;
 - Providing direct lines for feedback to agencies, industry, NGOs and other community groups;
 - Monitoring and evaluating the success of knowledge management and communications activities, such that their efficiency and effectiveness can be increased over time;
 - Establishing arrangements relating to data custodianship and other legacy issues, ensuring that project outputs are widely accessible long after GEF funding ceases;
 - Increasing community ownership of the solutions to the challenges facing the communities.
204. The community driven NRM management approaches promoted in the project strategy require certain changes in behavior. For example, introducing restrictions on access to protected areas could have implications that affect local residents' way of life, e.g., with respect to livestock grazing, hunting, or collection of natural products. Communicating the importance of behavioral changes is also made more complex if recommendations are inconsistent with local traditions and customs. Participatory rural appraisal techniques will be used to initiate community engagement and set the foundation for continued communication throughout the course of the implementation. The project will hire catchment coordinators, one for the Comoro catchment and one for the Irabere catchment, to help facilitate communication and act as accessible points of contact. Recruitment of the catchment coordinators will focus on persons with experience working with locals and having extensive training in community development, gender issues, and a variety of participatory approaches.
205. The project has a concerted focus on increasing involvement among youth, nurturing future transformative change agents. Engagement will also be facilitated with relevant enabling stakeholders, including within the scientific communities and with NGOs who have built up collaborative relationships with local communities.
206. The project will utilize and share learning and best practices through existing mechanisms like IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas, The CTI Network, and UNTL Environment Center. The project will develop and maintain a website throughout the 4-year implementation timeframe, and project information will also be made available on the websites and social media platforms of MAF. The project website will be hosted by Conservation International / MAF, and a

permanent page will be integrated into Timor-Leste’s Clearing House Mechanism knowledge platform, to ensure access to the project information after GEF funding ceases.

207. The project has also make provisions for development and dissemination of knowledge products, including but not limited to training modules, printed information material, video case studies, awareness campaign materials, radio communication spots, etc.
208. The project will also promote communication and knowledge dissemination through organizing workshops and awareness campaigns. Some of the planned workshops and campaigns are listed below in **Table 14**.

Table 14: *Planned workshops and awareness campaigns during project implementation*

No.	Workshop Subject	Est. No. of Attendees	Est. Location	Est. Date
1	Project Inception Workshop	50	Dili	Y1
2	Regional Workshop on PA Sustainable Financing	40	Dili	Y2
3	Mount Fatumasin PA public hearing	40	Bazartete	Y2
4	Mount Legumau PA public hearing	120	Baguai and Luro	Y2
5	National workshop on youth training	50	Dili	Y3
6	National workshop on sustainable use of forest resources	50	Dili	Y3
7	National stakeholder workshop on HCV assessments	50	Dili	Y3
8	Awareness campaign: sustainable forest management	500	All target sucos	Y3
9	National stakeholder workshop on reforestation and rehabilitation	50	Dili	Y4
10	National Project Completion Workshop	50	Dili	Y4

209. Given low literacy levels in some of the target *sucos*, the project will ensure that communication is presented orally and visually as well as in written form, to ensure local stakeholders can understand the specific activities being implemented and the potential impacts and benefits.

O. Lessons Learned During the PPG Phase and from other Relevant GEF Projects

210. Lessons drawn from other relevant GEF projects, projects with similar themes in Timor-Leste, and experiences during the project preparation phase, were integrated into the project design, including the following:
211. **Transitioning to sustainable use arrangements takes time:** Income from community-scale livelihood initiatives is unlikely to offset the earnings from illegal and unsustainable activities. This lesson was highlighted in the terminal evaluation of the GEF financed regional project entitled Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action Programme (ATSEA), which ran from 2010 to 2014 (GEF Project ID: 3522). Over the short-term, following implementation sustainable use based natural resource management, a combination of interventions and incentive mechanisms are required over the short term, to bridge the period of time required for alternative livelihood options to become economically viable.
212. **The value of value chain analyses:** Another lesson documented on the ATSEA project is the need to support alternative livelihood options with feasibility and value chain analyses, before investing in training and capital expenditures. Under the TLSNAP project, the alternative livelihood options involving sustainable use of forest resources will be underpinned by feasibility studies, market studies, and where applicable, value chain analyses.
213. **Establishing collaborative management arrangements with local communities requires inclusive stakeholder engagement:** The Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP) program was established in Timor-Leste from 2009 to 2013 with funding by USAID. The focal area was Timor-Leste's only national park, Nino Konis Santana. During this time the project team piloted several novel tools for Timor-Leste, and piloted the collaborative management model that was eventually adopted in 2015 by the government as a by-law for organizations working with communities on their natural resources. The first community based and managed marine "No Take Zones" were established combining both local and scientific knowledge, and adopted into Timorese legislation through the traditional and national systems. The marine area of the national park has been zoned and is still in effect today. The success of the program was due to the heavy engagement with the community all through the process. The community drove the direction of the management plans, its adoption at *suco* level, and the ongoing enforcement of its protection.
214. **Strengthening local capacities is a work-in-progress:** In a 2008 report⁶⁷ on conservation in Timor-Leste, it was noted that limited human resources and capacity were constraining progress towards establishing a protected area system in the country. There has been substantial progress made in the nearly 10 years since this report, but this constraint remains as one of the key barriers hindering progress towards establishing a functioning PA system.
215. **Plant nurseries require reliable water supplies:** One of the lessons shared by local representatives of the WithOneSeed initiative in Baucau municipality, plant nurseries established without rainwater harvesting based water supply were unsustainable. It is important to factor in a reliable water supply in the design of the plant nurseries planned in the TLSNAP project.
216. **Establishing a national PA system requires broad stakeholder involvement.** Over the past 10 years, several partners among the international donor and NGO communities have made substantive contributions in Timor-Leste with respect to biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, on land degradation issues, and poverty alleviation initiatives. One of the key lessons has been the importance of participatory community driven processes and broad

⁶⁷ Trainor, C. R., et al., 2008. Birds, birding and conservation in Timor-Leste. *BirdingASIA* 9 (2008): 16-45.

engagement among enabling stakeholders. Stakeholder engagement is an integral element in the design of the TLSNAP project.

SECTION 4: COMPLIANCE WITH CI-GEF PROJECT AGENCY'S ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (ESMF)

A. Safeguards Screening Results and Categorization

Table 15: Safeguard Screening Results

Policy/Best Practice	Triggered (Yes/No)	Justification
Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Policy	No	The safeguard screening concluded the project falls under Category C, which does not require an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment.
Protection of Natural Habitats Policy	No	The project objective is centered on enhanced protection of natural habitats.
Involuntary Resettlement Policy	Yes	Resettlement is not planned on the project; however, certain communities will be affected by changes regarding access and use of natural resources, as part of the improved natural resource management measures planned on the project.
Indigenous Peoples Policy	No	Timor-Leste does not recognize the term Indigenous to describe its people
Pest Management Policy	No	The planned project interventions do not include significant pest management requirements.
Physical Cultural Resources Policy	No	Significant impacts to physical cultural resources are not envisaged on the project.
Stakeholder Engagement	Yes	Inclusive and participatory stakeholder engagement will be critical for the success of the project.
Gender mainstreaming	Yes	Gender empowerment will be promoted on the project, including with respect to sustainable livelihood interventions planned in local communities.
Accountability & Grievance Mechanism	Yes	The project will establish a mechanism where stakeholders may raise a project-related grievance at any time

Table 16: Safeguard Categorization

PROJECT CATEGORY	Category A	Category B	Category C
			X
<i>Justification:</i> The proposed project activities are likely to have minimal or no adverse environmental and social impacts.			

B. Compliance with Safeguard Recommendations

Process Framework for Restrictions to Access to Natural Resources:

217. **Involuntary resettlement is NOT planned under the TLSNAP project.** In fact, resettlement of any kind is not planned. The project strategy seeks to strengthen participatory, community level collaborative management of natural resources, including inside protected areas and inside critical catchments having high conservation value. The safeguard compliance plan compiled in **Appendix VI** to this project document outlines the process for restrictions to access to natural resources.

218. There are households currently inside the two target protected areas, Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau. These households were in place before the protected areas were declared, and government partners have stressed that there will be no involuntary resettlement initiated, but rather sustainable use classification would be advocated for these two sites.
219. The safeguard policy is triggered because the project will support a stricter enforcement of natural resource management, which will likely include imposing certain restrictions on current access of local people. The project will support more sustainable livelihood options for targeted households, but short-term loss of livelihood could be unavoidable because transitioning into alternative, sustainable options will likely take time.
220. For development and implementation of community driven natural resource management (NRM) plans, one sub-catchment in each of the two main catchments were selected: the Moto Hare sub-catchment in the Comoro catchment, and the Afalita sub-catchment in the Irabere catchment. Within the two sub-catchments, at total of 10 *sucos* were selected for field interventions. There are clear differences between the four *sucos* selected in the Comoro catchment that are closer to Dili and has reasonably developed services, compared to the six remote *sucos* in the Irabere catchment that are further from the district capital and have considerably lower levels of services.
221. **Participatory Implementation:** Affected households will be meaningfully consulted and be provided with opportunities to participate in planning and implementing project interventions. Given low literacy levels in the some of the target *sucos*, the project will need to ensure that communication is presented orally and visually as well as in written form, to ensure stakeholders can understand the project and its potential impacts and benefits. The preliminary criteria for selecting the eligibility of households for assistance under the project include the following:
- Situated inside the delineated borders of the target protected areas;
 - An indication of interest by the residents of these households;
 - Household income (preference will be extended to lower income families); and
 - Opportunities for involvement of women and other vulnerable groups.
222. The project will provide assistance in the form of capacity building, e.g., skills training in sustainable livelihood alternatives, for households that are affected by new restrictions are imposed regarding access to ecosystem goods or services that might result in a loss of income sources. The types of activities promoted by the project include the following:
- Protection and/or conservation of natural resources and habitats;
 - Community conservation of natural resources, including community driven sustainable forest management.
 - Rehabilitation of degraded forest and other lands;
 - Improved use of firewood or promotion of environmentally sustainable alternatives fuel sources;
 - Technical assistance to improve land and natural resource use, and marketing of sustainable products and commodities;
 - Various ‘eco-agriculture’ or ‘mosaic landscape’ activities that combine agricultural production to sustain rural livelihoods as well as protection of wild plant and animal species.

- Strengthening participation of local people and application of traditional ecological knowledge;
 - Improved livestock management, through capacity building with the assistance of extension services.
223. Based on consultations made during the project preparation phase, the following preliminary set of activities are considered prohibited from financing under the TLSNAP project, either with GEF resources or as part of cofinancing activities:
- Damage to cultural resources;
 - Construction or improvement of unsafe infrastructure;
 - Introduction of non-native species;
 - Conversion or degradation of natural habitats;
 - Unsustainable exploitation of natural resources;
 - Production and trade of wildlife products;
 - Unsafe pesticide use;
 - Improper working conditions; and
 - Procurement of potentially detrimental assets.
224. The project will ensure that local communities participate throughout the implementation phase and will strive to avoid potentially adverse impacts, including unintended consequences. Given low literacy levels in some of the target sucos, project details will be communicated orally and visually as well as in written form in local languages, to ensure local stakeholders can understand the specific activities being implemented and the potential impacts and benefits. The project will also work closely with existing suco level administrative and traditional structures for addressing potential disputes. It will be imperative to maintain proactive engagement with suco councils and traditional leaders, who are often called upon to settle land related issues and other conflicts in rural communities. Stakeholders may raise a grievance at any time to Conservation International (CI), as the Executing Agency (EA) about actions implemented by the project and the application of its safeguard frameworks.

Stakeholder Engagement:

225. The project will ensure that stakeholder engagement is undertaken in a culturally appropriate manner, delivering environmental and development benefits. The safeguard compliance plan compiled in **Appendix VII** to this project document outlines the stakeholder engagement plan. The approach to stakeholder involvement and participation encourages adherence to a number of guiding principles, including:
- a. Adding value to project activities;
 - b. Ensuring accessibility of information, including by both government and non-government, to inform decision-making processes;
 - c. Encouraging adherence to values of transparency, trust, equity, and fairness;
 - d. Promoting responsiveness to identified needs and the highest ethical standards and respects for differing priorities and values;
 - e. Ensuring local ownership and the creation of outputs that are relevant and of benefit to communities and organizations;
 - f. Supporting collaborative approaches to project interventions;

- g. Including different types of stakeholder groups in participation processes and benefit distribution, including but not limited to engagement, capacity building, employment, skills transfer, sharing of knowledge and the increase of cultural awareness;
 - h. Developing mechanisms to manage conflicts in the public interest;
 - i. Being flexible to adapt to changing circumstances;
 - j. Fostering well-coordinated and planned implementation;
 - k. Generating, and responding to, feedback; and
 - l. Creating proactive partnerships that will enhance sustainability of project results after GEF funding ceases.
226. The project will provide the following opportunities for long-term participation of stakeholders, with a special emphasis on the active participation of local communities and institutions, and enhancement of inter-agency, inter-sectoral coordination.
- a. Decision-making – through the project management unit. The terms of reference for the project management will outline protocols and procedures involving stakeholder participation, including managing key stakeholder relationships, conducting consultations with relevant stakeholders as required; and providing guidance and oversight for project implementation.
 - b. Capacity building – at systemic, institutional and individual level – is one of the key strategic interventions of the project and will target all stakeholders that have the potential to be involved in implementing and/or monitoring management agreements related to project activities. The project will target especially organizations operating at the community level to enable them to actively participate in developing and implementing activities.
 - c. Knowledge management - will include the participatory development of an integrated knowledge management strategy, which will emphasize “communities of practice”, outreach services, dissemination of information on good practices and lessons learned on as wide a scale as possible. Moreover, the project will create an enabling platform for multi-layered stakeholder participation through establishment of interoperable information systems, and institutionalizing participation through a range of networks, partnerships, and exhibitions.
 - d. Coordination with related initiatives – The project will coordinate its activities with other GEF funded projects and also with other complementary initiatives.
227. The project management unit, led by the project manager, will be responsible for implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan and for installing adaptive management measures as deemed relevant based on progress made on project activities. The project advisory committee will be responsible for providing technical and strategic guidance during implementation, and the committee members will be invited to make presentations at project board meetings as needed. At the local level, the PA management committees will be the main stakeholder engagement structures for guiding the activities associated with PA management. The project will also engage with the *suco* councils in the ten target *sucos*, through the auspices of the community conservation groups and facilitated by the two project catchment coordinators.
228. Participation of the civil society and private sectors are important with respect to enhancing the likelihood that the results achieved during the project’s lifespan will be sustained after GEF funding ceases. Local NGOs have established operations in Timor-Leste, and private sector

enterprises can provide market entry points that could enable local communities in further developing sustainable use of certain ecosystem goods and services. The Timor-Leste NGO Forum and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry will be key focal points for facilitating civil society and private sector engagement, respectively.

229. Engagement with other key regional and international stakeholders, including the JICA, UNDP, USAID, DFAT, GIZ will be facilitated, largely through technical advisory arrangements and networking on complementary projects and initiatives.

Gender Mainstreaming:

230. Women are key stakeholders in a large number of activities that occur within and adjacent to the protected areas. These activities range from direct collection of firewood, farming, to running households. Women's vulnerabilities to resource overuse impacts are similar to those of men; however, women also have specific additional concerns, linked to their key roles in the household and the community. The position of women in the society is more vulnerable than that of men, due to lack of land rights and asset ownership in some cases, lower educational levels, and patriarchal rule in domestic sphere. Gender issues were, therefore, carefully taken into consideration in the project design.
231. The proposed project is firmly rooted in CI's belief that in order for conservation work to be successful gender and the understanding of gender roles plays an important role in achieving our long-term goals and objectives. As part of Conservation International's existing Rights-based Approach to conservation, CI has identified gender as a critical component of the overall strategy to protect human rights and ensure equitable participation and decision-making by stakeholders at all scales in our project activities. Both men and women encounter constraints based on gender to varying degrees and if unaddressed, these constraints can cause delays or impediments to achieving CI's global mission.
232. In line with the gender equality and social inclusion strategies and policy frameworks of both CI and GEF, the participation of women and men with equal voice, and also in accordance with cultural norms, is integral to the successful implementation of development projects. The objectives of the project gender mainstreaming plan, outlined in the safeguard compliance plan compiled in **Appendix VIII** to this project document, are to ensure that women and men involved on the TLSNAP project:
 - a. Receive culturally compatible social and economic benefits,
 - b. Do not suffer adverse effects during the development process, and
 - c. Receive full respect for their dignity and human rights.

Accountability and Grievance Mechanism:

233. The Accountability and Grievance Mechanism, outlined in the safeguard compliance plan compiled in **Appendix IX** to this project document, is intended to supplement the proactive stakeholder engagement that is required of CI and implementing partners throughout duration of the project. Communities and individuals may request an Accountability and Grievance Mechanism process when they have used standard channels for project management and quality assurance, and are not satisfied with the response.
234. The project will ensure that local communities participate throughout the implementation phase and will strive to avoid potentially adverse impacts, including unintended consequences. Given low literacy levels in some of the target sucos, project details will be communicated orally and

visually as well as in written form in local languages, to ensure local stakeholders can understand the specific activities being implemented and the potential impacts and benefits. The project will also work closely with existing suco level administrative and traditional structures for addressing potential disputes. It will be imperative to maintain proactive engagement with suco councils and traditional leaders, who are often called upon to settle land related issues and other conflicts in rural communities. Stakeholders may raise a grievance at any time to Conservation International (CI), as the Executing Agency (EA) about actions implemented by the project and the application of its safeguard frameworks.

235. CI as a Project Agency has devised Accountability and Grievance Mechanisms so that local communities and other stakeholders may raise a grievance at all times to the Executing Entity, CI or the GEF about any issues covered in the ESMF. Affected communities should be informed about this possibility and contact information of the respective organizations at relevant levels should be made available publicly.

SECTION 5: IMPLEMENTATION AND EXECUTION ARRANGEMENTS FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT

A. Execution Arrangements and Partners

236. The **Implementing Agency (IA)** for this project is the CI-GEF Project Agency. The IA makes the funding available on behalf of GEF, provides oversight, and is accountable to GEF. Moreover, the IA ensures fiduciary standards are adhered to, and supervises development, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of projects.
237. The **Executing Partners** for this project are MAF, MCIE, and CI Timor-Leste (CI-TL). The MAF will be responsible for facilitating the requisite enabling conditions for implementation of the project, and the MAF will designate a senior official to act as **National Project Director (NPD)**⁶⁸. The NPD will provide strategic oversight and guidance for project implementation.
238. A **Project Steering Committee (PSC)** will be established as the management oversight body for the project. As a minimum, the PSC will include representatives from the recipient government agencies (MAF, MCIE, and Ministry of Finance), CI-TL (not the project manager), and the administrative posts where project activities will be implemented (Liquiça and Baucau). The PSC will meet at the start of the project, coincident with the project inception workshop, and then, at a minimum, annually for the remainder of the project implementation timeframe. The first and final PSC meetings will be held in Dili. At least one PSC meeting will be convened in each of the two priority catchments, Comoro and Irabere, and field visits will be arranged for the PSC members at these times. The duties and responsibilities of the PSC include, but are not limited to the following:
- a. Strategic guidance, assuring the project works towards achievement of the agreed upon results;
 - b. Direction regarding critical project risks, including agreement upon risk mitigation measures;
 - c. Review project progress and results, including results of midterm review and terminal evaluation;
 - d. Review and approve annual work plans and budgets;
 - e. Provide strategic advice on adaptive management responses to unforeseen or changed circumstances;
 - f. Appraise and agree whether to endorse recommended project changes; and
 - g. Review and endorse recruitment results of key project staff and functions.
239. The CI-GEF Project Agency will provide **project assurance**, including supporting project implementation by maintaining oversight of all technical and financial management aspects, and providing other assistance upon request of the Executing Agency. The CI-GEF Project Agency will also monitor the project's implementation and achievement of the project outputs, ensure the proper use of GEF funds, and review and approve any changes in budgets or workplans. The CI-GEF Project Agency will arbitrate and ensure resolution of any execution conflicts. In addition, the NPD and the GEF Operation Focal Point for Timor-Leste will provide oversight and quality assurance support.

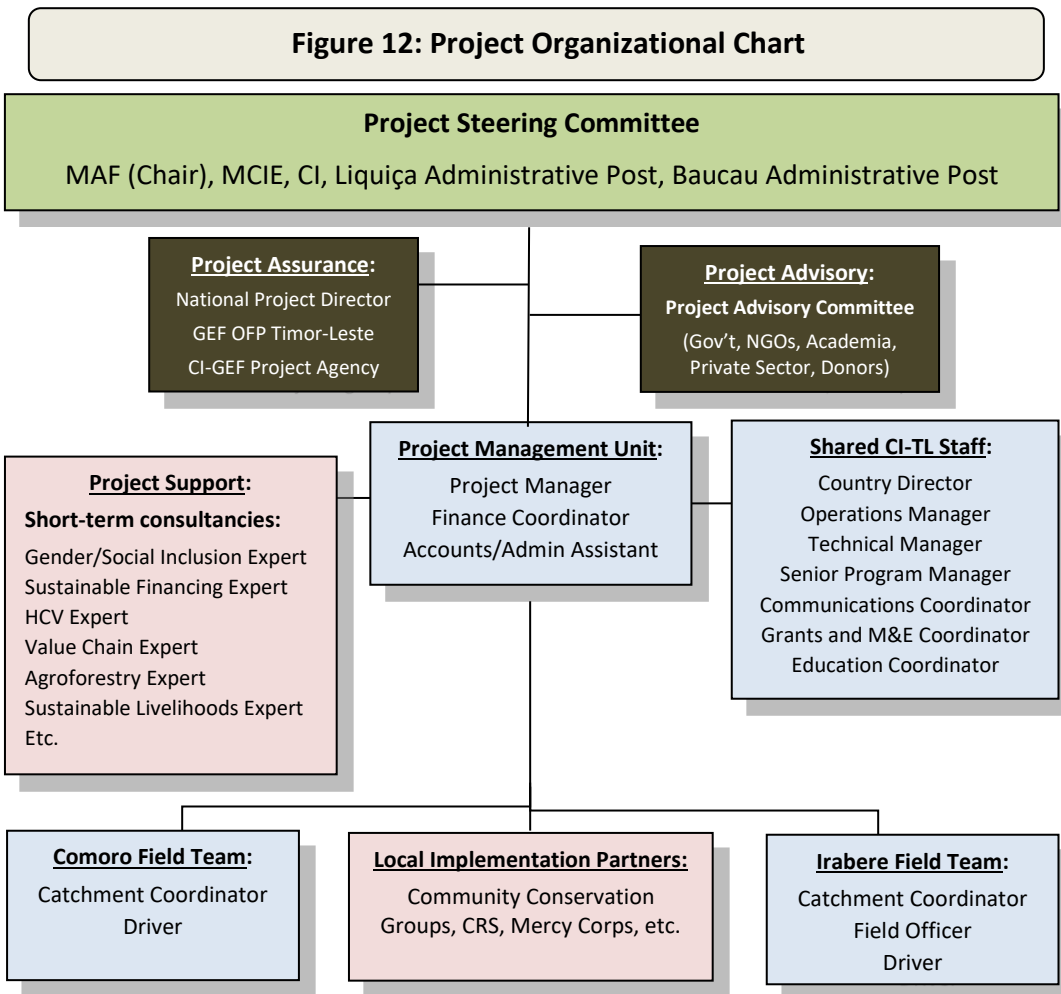
⁶⁸ The NPD will not be paid from the GEF project funds, but rather this function will be included under the in-kind cofinancing contributions from the Government of Timor-Leste.

240. In order to facilitate inclusive stakeholder engagement, a **Project Advisory Committee** will be assembled to provide technical and strategic guidance to the PSC and project management unit. Members of the Project Advisory Committee will include representatives from cross-sectoral national government agencies, non-governmental organizations, academic and research institutions, private sector enterprises, and the local donor community. It is envisaged that the committee would convene regular thematic based meetings and on an as-needed basis. Apart from providing project advisory support, the committee may also play a role in the capacity building activities on the project.
241. CI-TL will recruit and host the **Project Management Unit (PMU)**, which will be responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of the project. The envisaged composition of the PMU consists of three full-time positions based in Dili: project manager, finance coordinator, and accounts and administrative assistant. The PMU will also include field staff, specifically one catchment coordinator for the Comoro catchment, one catchment coordinator for the Irabere catchment, a field officer⁶⁹ for the Irabere catchment, and two drivers to support the catchment coordinators. The responsibilities of the PMU include, but are not limited to the following:
- a. Provide guidance to the project teams and executing partners;
 - b. Liaise with project stakeholders, ensuring that engagement is inclusive and participatory;
 - c. Report to the PSC;
 - d. Plan the project activities and monitor progress against the project results framework and approved work plans;
 - e. Mobilize personnel, goods and services, training, and other project support, including drafting terms of reference and overseeing activities performed by PMU staff, shared staff, and implementation partners;
 - f. Manage and monitor financial resources;
 - g. Manage and monitor project risks, delegating responsibilities to relevant partners and following up on relevant risk mitigation measures undertaken;
 - h. Prepare project progress reports;
 - i. Document lessons learned
242. The PMU will serve as the secretariat to the PSC. The **project manager** will attend PSC but will not have a right to vote. The position of project manager will be recruited by CI-TL in close collaboration with the other executing partners, MAF and MCIE. The desired candidate would be someone with local and regional experience, having expertise in biodiversity conservation and participatory collaborative management with local communities.
243. The PMU will be supported by a number of shared functions within CI-TL, including:
- Country Director
 - Operations Manager
 - Technical Manager
 - Senior Program Manager
 - Communications Coordinator

⁶⁹ Considering the large spatial expanse of the Irabere catchment, a field officer would support the catchment coordinator there. For Comoro, the catchment coordinator will be responsible for facilitating and overseeing field activities.

- Grants and M&E Coordinator
 - Education Coordinator
244. Community mobilization, socialization of plans, and project field activities will be supported by local implementation partners, including community based organizations and NGOs that have a proven track record of implementing development projects in Timor-Leste. Administrative arrangements with these partners will be managed through grant agreements, contractors, memoranda of understanding, or other appropriate means.
245. The PMU will also be supported technically by short-term consultants, NGOs, and/or service providers. Envisaged technical support includes the following functions:
- Gender/Social Inclusion Expert
 - Sustainable Financing Expert
 - HCV Expert
 - Value Chain Expert
 - Agroforestry Expert
 - Sustainable Livelihoods Expert
246. Recruitment of support services and procurement of equipment and materials for the project will be done by the PMU, in consultation with the NPD and in accordance with relevant recruitment and procurement rules and procedures.

B. Project Execution Organizational Chart



SECTION 6: MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

247. Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established Conservation International and GEF procedures by the project team and the CI-GEF Project Agency. The project's M&E plan will be presented and finalized at the project inception workshop, including a review of indicators, means of verification, and the full definition of project staff M&E responsibilities.

A. Monitoring and Evaluation Roles and Responsibilities

248. The Project Management Unit on the ground will be responsible for initiating and organizing key monitoring and evaluation tasks. This includes the project inception workshop and report, quarterly progress reporting, annual progress and implementation reporting, documentation of lessons learned, and support for and cooperation with the independent external evaluation exercises.
249. The project Executing Agency is responsible for ensuring the monitoring and evaluation activities are carried out in a timely and comprehensive manner, and for initiating key monitoring and evaluation activities, such as the independent evaluation exercises.
250. Key project executing partners are responsible for providing any and all required information and data necessary for timely and comprehensive project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary and appropriate.
251. The Project Steering Committee plays a key oversight role for the project, with regular meetings to receive updates on project implementation progress and approve annual workplans. The Project Steering Committee also provides continuous ad-hoc oversight and feedback on project activities, responding to inquiries or requests for approval from the Project Management Unit or Executing Agency.
252. The CI-GEF Project Agency plays an overall assurance, backstopping, and oversight role with respect to monitoring and evaluation activities.
253. The CI Internal Audit function is responsible for contracting and oversight of the planned independent external evaluation exercises at the mid-point and end of the project.

B. Monitoring and Evaluation Components and Activities

254. The Project M&E Plan includes the following components (see M&E **Table 17** for details):
- a. **Inception workshop**
Project inception workshop will be held within the first three months of project start with the project stakeholders. An overarching objective of the inception workshop is to assist the project team in understanding and taking ownership of the project's objectives and outcomes. The inception workshop will be used to detail the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of the CI-GEF Project Agency and the Executing Agency.
 - b. **Inception workshop Report**
The Executing Agency will produce an inception report documenting all changes and decisions made during the inception workshop to the project planned activities, budget, results framework, and any other key aspects of the project. The inception report will be produced within one month of the inception workshop, as it will serve as a key input to the timely planning and execution of project start-up and activities.

c. **Project Results Monitoring Plan** (Objective, Outcomes, and Outputs)

A Project Results Monitoring Plan will be developed by the Project Agency, which will include objective, outcome and output indicators, metrics to be collected for each indicator, methodology for data collection and analysis, baseline information, location of data gathering, frequency of data collection, responsible parties, and indicative resources needed to complete the plan. Appendix IV provides the indicative Project Results Monitoring Plan table that will help complete this M&E component.

In addition to the objective, outcome, and output indicators, the Project Results Monitoring Plan table also includes all indicators identified in the Safeguard Plans prepared for the project, thus they will be consistently and timely monitored.

The monitoring of these indicators throughout the life of the project will be necessary to assess if the project has successfully achieved its expected results.

Baseline Establishment: in the case that all necessary baseline data has not been collected during the PPG phase, it will be collected and documented by the relevant project partners ***within the first year*** of project implementation.

d. **GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools**

The relevant GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools will also be completed i) prior to project start-up, ii) prior to mid-term review, and iii) at the time of the terminal evaluation.

e. **Project Steering Committee Meetings**

Project Steering Committee (PSC) meetings will be held annually, semi-annually, or quarterly, as appropriate. Meetings shall be held to review and approve project annual budget and work plans, discuss implementation issues and identify solutions, and to increase coordination and communication between key project partners. The meetings held by the PSC will be monitored and results adequately reported.

f. **CI-GEF Project Agency Field Supervision Missions**

The CI-GEF PA will conduct annual visits to the project country and potentially to project field sites based on the agreed schedule in the project's Inception Report/Annual Work Plan to assess first hand project progress. Oversight visits will most likely be conducted to coincide with the timing of PSC meetings. Other members of the PSC may also join field visits. A Field Visit Report will be prepared by the CI-GEF PA staff participating in the oversight mission, and will be circulated to the project team and PSC members within one month of the visit.

g. **Quarterly Progress Reporting**

The Executing Agency will submit quarterly progress reports to the CI-GEF Project Agency, including a budget follow-up and requests for disbursement to cover expected quarterly expenditures.

h. **Annual Project Implementation Report** (PIR)

The Executing Agency will prepare an annual PIR to monitor progress made since project start and in particular for the reporting period (July 1st to June 30th). The PIR will summarize the annual project result and progress. A summary of the report will be shared with the Project Steering Committee.

i. **Final Project Report**

The Executing Agency will draft a final report at the end of the project.

j. **Independent External Mid-term Review**

The project will undergo an independent Mid-term Review within 30 days of the mid-point of the grant term. The Mid-term Review will determine progress being made toward the achievement of outcomes and will identify course correction if needed. The Mid-term Review will highlight issues requiring decisions and actions, and will present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. Findings and recommendations of the Mid-term Review will be incorporated to secure maximum project results and sustainability during the second half of project implementation.

k. **Independent Terminal Evaluation**

An independent Terminal Evaluation will take place within six months after project completion and will be undertaken in accordance with CI and GEF guidance. The terminal evaluation will focus on the delivery of the project’s results as initially planned (and as corrected after the mid-term evaluation, if any such correction took place). The Executing Agency in collaboration with the PSC will provide a formal management answer to the findings and recommendations of the terminal evaluation.

l. **Lessons Learned and Knowledge Generation**

Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention area through existing information sharing networks and forums. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to project implementation though lessons learned. The project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects. There will be a two-way flow of information between this project and other projects of a similar focus.

m. **Financial Statements Audit**

Annual Financial reports submitted by the executing Agency will be audited annually by external auditors appointed by the Executing Agency.

255. The Terms of References for the evaluations will be drafted by the CI-GEF PA in accordance with GEF requirements. The procurement and contracting for the independent evaluations will be handled by CI’s General Counsel’s Office. The funding for the evaluations will come from the project budget, as indicated at project approval.

Table 17: M&E Plan Summary

Type of M&E	Reporting Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Budget from GEF (USD)
a. Inception workshop and Report	Within three months of signing of CI Grant Agreement for GEF Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Team • Executing Agency • CI-GEF PA 	8,000
b. Inception workshop Report	Within one month of inception workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Team • CI-GEF PA 	2,000
c. Project Results Monitoring Plan (Objective, Outcomes and Outputs)	Annually (data on indicators will be gathered according to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Team • CI-GEF PA 	10,000

Type of M&E	Reporting Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Budget from GEF (USD)
	monitoring plan schedule shown on Appendix IV)		
d. GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools	i) Project development phase; ii) prior to project mid-term evaluation; and iii) project completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Team • Executing Agency • CI-GEF PA 	4,000
e. Project Steering Committee Meetings	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Team • Executing Agency • CI-GEF PA 	4,000
f. CI-GEF Project Agency Field Supervision Missions	Approximately annual visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CI-GEF PA 	0
g. Quarterly Progress Reporting	Quarterly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Team • Executing Agency 	8,000
h. Annual Project Implementation Report (PIR)	Annually for year ending June 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Team • Executing Agency • CI-GEF PA 	8,000
i. Project Completion Report	Upon project operational closure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Team • Executing Agency 	3,000
j. Independent External Mid-term Review	CI Evaluation Office Project Team CI-GEF PA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximate mid-point of project implementation period 	21,000
k. Independent Terminal Evaluation	CI Evaluation Office Project Team CI-GEF PA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation field mission within three months prior to project completion. 	23,153
l. Lessons Learned and Knowledge Generation	Project Team Executing Agency CI-GEF PA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least annually 	40,000
m. Financial Statements Audit	Executing Agency CI-GEF PA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annually 	8,620

SECTION 7: PROJECT BUDGET AND FINANCING

A. Overall Project Budget

256. The project will be financed by a full size GEF grant of USD 3,340,367 with co-financing from MAF, MCIE, JICA, and CI. A summary of the project costs and the co-financing contributions is given in the two tables below. The project budget may be subject to revision during implementation. The detailed Project Budget is provided in Appendix VII.

Table 18: Planned Project Budget by Component

	Project budget by component (in USD)				
	Component 1	Component 2	Component 3	PMC	Total budget
Personnel Salaries and benefits	405,727	544,353	472,952	112,042	1,535,074
Contractual services	100,826	198,782	60,224	10,971	370,803
Travels and accommodations	80,083	139,458	108,174	0	327,714
Meetings and workshops	33,023	42,557	41,291	0	116,871
Grants & Agreements	75,800	5,000	60,000	0	140,800
Equipment	68,246	128,726	85,908	0	282,879
Other Direct Costs	91,491	188,309	252,087	34,338	566,226
TOTAL GEF FUNDED PROJECT	855,195	1,247,184	1,080,637	157,351	3,340,367

Table 19: Planned Project Budget by Year

	Project budget by year (in USD)				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total budget
Personnel Salaries and benefits	362,860	368,204	390,296	413,714	1,535,074
Contractual services	107,203	128,706	54,640	80,254	370,803
Travels and accommodations	81,583	79,466	79,039	87,626	327,714
Meetings and workshops	42,920	37,926	16,670	19,355	116,871
Grants & Agreements	28,200	59,800	42,800	10,000	140,800
Equipment	251,293	0	31,587	0	282,879
Other Direct Costs	166,262	145,285	134,446	120,232	566,225
TOTAL GEF FUNDED PROJECT	1,040,320	819,387	749,478	731,182	3,340,367

B. Overall Project Co-financing

257. A total of USD 12,292,000 will support the implementation of this funding, which will cover costs of project implementation, monitoring and project management costs from Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Commerce, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and Conservation International as described below.

258. The co-financing commitment letters are attached in the Appendix XI

Table 20: Committed Cash and In-Kind Co-financing (USD)

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (DG Forestry, Coffee, and Industrial Plantation)	In-kind	4,000,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Environment (DG Environment)	In-kind	4,000,000
Donor Agency	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)	In-kind	3,942,000
GEF Agency	Conservation International	In-kind	\$350,000
TOTAL CO-FINANCING			12,292,000

APPENDIX I: Project Results Framework

Objective:	To establish Timor-Leste's National Protected Area System and improve the management of forest ecosystems in priority catchment corridors
Indicator(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Area of high conservation value forest identified and maintained (SFM-1, Program 2) b. Area of sustainably managed forest, stratified by forest management actors (SFM-2, Program 5) c. Protected area management effectiveness score (BD-1, Program 1) d. Land area under effective agricultural, rangeland and pastoral management practices (LD-1, Program 1) e. Land area under effective management in production systems with improved vegetative cover (LD-1, Program 2)

Expected Outcomes and Indicators	Project Baseline	End of Project Target	Expected Outputs and Indicators
Component 1: Establishment of a National Protected Area System			
Outcome 1.1: National PA system established and implementation initiated			Output 1.1.1.: National PA system plan, supported by results of gap analyses, formulated and approved by the government
<i>Indicator 1.: Area of terrestrial and marine ecosystems under enhanced protection</i>	Protected Area System legislation passed in 2016; however, there is a lack of strategic direction on implementation	A comprehensive national PA system plan (<i>plano nacional</i>) developed and approved by government (covering 480,341 ha)	<i>Indicator 1.1.1.: Approved system plan</i>
<i>Indicator 2.: Demarcation of protected areas</i>	The Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau protected areas are listed in the PAN legislation, but the boundaries are only approximate and demarcation has not been completed	Demarcation completed for two priority PAs (Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau), covering a cumulative area of 39,976 ha	Output 1.1.2.: National PA system sustainable financing assessment completed <i>Indicator 1.1.2.: Sustainable financing assessment endorsed by PSC</i>
<i>Indicator 3.: Protected area management effectiveness</i>	Management plans not yet prepared for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau protected areas METT Mount Fatumasin PA: 6 METT Mount Legumau PA: 7	Management and business plans developed and implementation initiated for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs METT Mount Fatumasin PA: 50 METT Mount Legumau PA: 50	Output 1.1.3.: Management and business plans developed in a participatory manner for Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau protected areas <i>Indicator 1.1.3.: Ministerial diplomas for the two management plans</i> Output 1.1.4.: Implementation of selected components of the approved management and business plans for the

Expected Outcomes and Indicators	Project Baseline	End of Project Target	Expected Outputs and Indicators
			Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs initiated <i>Indicator 1.1.4.: PA management committees functioning with government support</i>
Component 2: Improvement of community-based natural resource management systems in priority catchment corridors			
Outcome 2.1: Land degradation drivers halted and/or minimized in key catchment areas			Output 2.1.1.: Sucos design and adopt NRM plans into both traditional and government regulations <i>Indicator 2.1.1.: NRM plans endorsed by suco councils</i> Output 2.1.2.: Suco regulations to improve natural resource management approved and implemented <i>Indicator 2.1.2.: Suco regulations</i>
<i>Indicator 4.: Enabling framework for effective agricultural, rangeland and pastoral management practices</i>	NRM plans not yet prepared for the 10 selected sucos	10 Suco NRM plans, covering a cumulative land area of approximately 31,949 ha, developed in a participatory and socially inclusive manner and adopted into suco regulations and recognized under traditional law	
<i>Indicator 5.: Land area under effective agricultural, rangeland and pastoral management practices</i>	NRM plans not yet prepared for the 10 selected sucos	Implementation of the 10 suco NRM plans initiated by established and/or strengthened Conservation Groups	
Outcome 2.2: Capacity for communities to manage their natural resources substantially increased			Output 2.2.1.: Youth training program for environmental management designed and implemented <i>Indicator 2.2.1.: SEPFOPE decision</i> Output 2.2.2.: Community level conservation groups established (or strengthened) and capacitated through training, exchange visits, and learning-by-doing field activities <i>Indicator 2.2.2.: Interventions completed by community conservation groups</i>
<i>Indicator 6.: Capacity of youth to manage natural resources</i>	No formal NRM management training for youth.	100 youth, including at least 30% females, trained in NRM management	
<i>Indicator 7.: Capacity of community groups to manage their natural resources</i>	Conservation groups have limited capacities to sustain community-driven natural resource management	10 community conservation groups, having at least 30% female members, capacitated to lead natural resource management interventions	
<i>Indicator 8.: Number of households benefitting from sustainable use of forest resources</i>	No households currently benefit from sustainable use of forest resources in the two priority sub-catchments	250 households, including at least 30% women, benefit from participation in sustainable use of forest resources;	

Expected Outcomes and Indicators	Project Baseline	End of Project Target	Expected Outputs and Indicators
		measured using the sustainable livelihoods framework	Output 2.2.3.: Sustainable use of forest resources training delivered and pilot implementation supported <i>Indicator 2.2.3.: Number of sustainable use interventions introduced</i>
Component 3: Improvement of forest management and reforestation of degraded lands in priority catchment corridors			
Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved			Output 3.1.1.: Forests in the two priority catchments are mapped and identified according to their conservation value <i>Indicator 3.1.1.: Classified areas integrated into national GIS system</i> Output 3.1.2.: Community-based sustainable forest management integrated into <i>suco</i> NRM plans and implementation initiated <i>Indicator 3.1.2.: Amended NRM plans approved by suco councils</i>
<i>Indicator 9.: Area of high conservation value forest mapped</i>	0 ha of forests within the Comoro and Irabere catchments mapped according to high conservation value criteria	High conservation value forests classified within the two priority catchments covering a cumulative area of 58,900 ha (includes 24,800 ha in the Comoro catchment and 34,100 ha in the Irabere catchment)	
<i>Indicator 10.: Area of sustainably managed forest by community management actors</i>	0 ha currently under community-driven sustainable management in the two priority catchment corridors	At least 500 hectares of forests under community-driven sustainable management	
Outcome 3.2: Priority degraded areas rehabilitated and/or reforested			Output 3.2.1.: Priority forest rehabilitation and reforestation plans developed, validated, and approved by communities and government <i>Indicator 3.2.1.: Rehabilitation plans approved</i> Output 3.2.2.: Plant nurseries strengthened and/or established, and communities trained on revegetation techniques
<i>Indicator 11.: Area of priority forest area rehabilitated</i>	There are modest reforestation and rehabilitation activities in the two priority catchments by governmental and non-governmental partners. In 2016, 24 ha in the Comoro catchment were reforested/rehabilitated and 87 ha in the Irabere catchment.	At least 500 hectares of degraded land rehabilitated and/or reforested	
<i>Indicator 12.: Nursery capacity for supporting forest rehabilitation</i>	A few nurseries operating with insufficient capacity in the priority catchments	25 plant nurseries strengthened and/or established	

Expected Outcomes and Indicators	Project Baseline	End of Project Target	Expected Outputs and Indicators
Indicator 13.: Capacity of local conservation groups in rehabilitating priority forests	A few conservation groups participate in nursery operation and forest rehabilitation	10 community-based conservation groups participate in nursery operation and forest rehabilitation	Indicator 3.2.2.: Species grown in nurseries Output 3.2.3.: Rehabilitation and/or reforestation plans implemented Indicator 3.2.3.: Number of seedlings distributed

- **Components:** components are sub-sections of a project. They are used to group issues within a project into smaller and manageable parts in terms of size, duration, and responsibility (e.g., systems, subsystems, components, tasks, sub-tasks, and work packages), which include all steps necessary to achieve the objective. [Note: Project management should NOT be included as a specific project component; it is not part of the project strategy and expected results. Project management arrangements will be described later in the project document section on project execution.]
- **Outcomes:** the intended or achieved short and medium term effects of an intervention's outputs, usually requiring the collective effort of partners. Outcomes represent changes in development conditions which occur between the completion of outputs and the achievement of impact. Outcomes respond to the question of "what are the short and medium term impacts or results of the project?" There can be several outcomes for each component.
- **Baselines:** the current/original status or condition of the environment without the project. The project's baseline must be completely defined and documented before the project execution can begin. Baseline values or conditions will be used to assess the success of the project, through the implementation monitoring and evaluation activities. Baselines need to be quantified whenever possible (hectares, tons of CO₂, percentage of coverage, number of staff trained, number of participants, etc.).
- **Target:** the change in the baseline value that will be achieved at the end of the project (number of hectares protected, number of species conserved, tons of CO₂ emissions avoided or captured, legislation passed, plans adopted, staff trained, etc.).
- **Outputs:** the products and services which result from the completion of activities within a development intervention. Outputs respond to the questions of "what does the project do? And who does the project reach/benefit?" There can be several outputs for each outcome. Outputs need to be quantified whenever possible (hectares, tons of CO₂, percentage of coverage, number of staff trained, number of participants, etc.).
- **Indicators:** measurable entities related to a specific information need, such as the status of a target, change in a pressure, or progress towards achieving an objective, outcome and/or output. By identifying indicators the project can develop a rigorous monitoring plan,

evaluate the program's responses and progress towards success, and provide for adaptive management. Indicators should be measurable, precise, consistent, and sensitive.

APPENDIX II: Project Timeline

Outcome/Output	Timeline															
	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Outcome 1.1: National PA system established and implementation initiated																
Output 1.1.1: PAN strategy developed/approved																
Output 1.1.2: Sustainable financing assessment																
Output 1.1.3: PA management/business plans																
Output 1.1.4: Implement management plans																
Outcome 2.1: Improvement of community-based natural resource management systems in priority catchment corridors																
Output 2.1.1: NRM Suco plans																
Output 2.1.2: Implement NRM Suco plans																
Outcome 2.2: Capacity for communities to manage their natural resources substantially increased																
Output 2.2.1: Youth training program																
Output 2.2.2: CBOs capacitated																
Output 2.2.3: Sustainable use of forest resources																
Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved																
Output 3.1.1: Forests of 2 catchments mapped																
Output 3.1.2: SFM implemented																
Outcome 3.2: Priority degraded areas reforested																
Output 3.2.1: Identify rehabilitation areas																
Output 3.2.2: Strengthen nurseries/techniques																
Output 3.2.3: Implement forest rehabilitation																

APPENDIX III: Project Results Monitoring Plan

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
Objective: To establish Timor-Leste's National Protected Area System and improve the management of forest ecosystems in priority catchment corridors							
Indicator a: Area of high conservation value forest identified and maintained	hectare	Verify completed mapping survey	0 ha	Comoro catchment: 24,800 ha Irabere catchment: 34,100 ha	Following completion of survey	PMU, MAF, service providers	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator b: Area of sustainably managed forest, stratified by forest management actors	hectare	Verify approved suco NRM plans	0 ha	10 sucos in the Moto Hare sub-catchment and Afalita sub-catchment	Midpoint, Endpoint	PMU, suco councils	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator c: Protected area management effectiveness score	METT score	METT assessment, GEF-6 BD tracking tool	Mount Fatumasin PA: 25 Mount Legumau PA: 27	Mount Fatumasin PA Mount Legumau PA	Inception, Midpoint, Endpoint	PMU, MAF, PA management committees	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator d: Land area under effective agricultural,	hectare	Verify approved suco NRM plans	0 ha	10 sucos in the Moto Hare sub-catchment and	Midpoint, Endpoint	PMU, suco councils	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
rangeland and pastoral management practices				Afalita sub-catchment			project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator e: Land area under effective management in production systems with improved vegetative cover	hectare	Field verification of land rehabilitation	0 ha	Moto Hare sub-catchment Afalita sub-catchment	Midpoint, Endpoint	PMU, MAF, service providers	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Component 1: Establishment of a National Protected Area System							
Outcome 1.1: National PA system established and implementation initiated							
Indicator 1.: Area of terrestrial and marine ecosystems under enhanced protection	Ministerial diploma	Approval of 5-yr national PA system plan	Protected Area System legislation passed in 2016; however, there is a lack of strategic direction on implementation	Nationwide	Midpoint, Endpoint	MAF	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 2.: Demarcation of protected areas	hectare	Boundaries of protected areas physically demarcated, verified with GIS based survey	The Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau protected areas are listed in the PAN legislation, but the boundaries are only approximate and	Mount Fatumasin PA, Mount Legumau PA	Following completion of demarcation	PMU, MAF, PA management committees	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
			demarcation has not been completed				contractual service providers
Indicator 3.: Protected area management effectiveness	METT score	METT assessment, GEF-6 BD tracking tool	Mount Fatumasin PA: 25 Mount Legumau PA: 27	Mount Fatumasin PA Mount Legumau PA	Inception, Midpoint, Endpoint	PMU, MAF, PA management committees	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 1.1.1.: <i>Approved system plan</i>	PSC endorsement	PSC endorses national PA system plan prior to submitting to the Cabinet of Ministers	National PA system plan is not in place	Nationwide	Quarterly	PMU, PSC	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 1.1.2.: <i>Sustainable financing assessment endorsed by PSC</i>	PSC endorsement	PSC endorses the sustainable financing assessment	Insufficient financing available for PA management	Nationwide	Quarterly	PMU, PSC	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 1.1.3.: <i>Ministerial diplomas for the</i>	Ministerial Diploma	Government approval of the management plans for the PAs	There are no management plans in place	Mount Fatumasin PA Mount Legumau PA	Quarterly	MAF	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
<i>two management plans</i>							project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 1.1.4.: <i>PA management committees functioning with government support</i>	Departmental approval	Department approval of the charters of the PA management committees	There are no PA management committees in place	Mount Fatumasin PA Mount Legumau PA	Quarterly	MAF (Department of Protected Areas), Administrative Posts	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Component 2: Improvement of community-based natural resource management systems in priority catchment corridors							
Outcome 2.1: Land degradation drivers halted and/or minimized in key catchment areas							
Indicator 4.: <i>Enabling framework for effective agricultural, rangeland and pastoral management practices</i>	Suco council approval	Suco council approval of the 10 suco NRM plans	NRM plans not yet prepared for the 10 selected sucos	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Quarterly	Suco Councils, Administrative Posts, PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 5.: <i>Land area under effective agricultural, rangeland and pastoral management practices</i>	Hectare	Verify approval and implementation of the 10 suco NRM plans	NRM plans not yet prepared for the 10 selected sucos	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Quarterly	Suco Councils, Administrative Posts, PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
							contractual service providers
Indicator 2.1.1.: NRM plans endorsed by suco councils	Suco council approval	Suco council approval of the 10 suco NRM plans	NRM plans not yet prepared for the 10 selected sucos	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Quarterly	Suco Councils, Administrative Posts, PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 2.1.2.: <i>Suco regulations</i>	Suco regulation	Suco Council passes suco regulations on NRM plans	Suco regulations for NRM are not in place	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Quarterly	Suco Councils, Administrative Posts, PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Outcome 2.2: Capacity for communities to manage their natural resources substantially increased							
Indicator 6.: <i>Capacity of youth to manage natural resources</i>	Training certification	Verify successful completion of training	No formal NRM management training for youth	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Quarterly	PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 7.: <i>Capacity of community</i>	Learning-by-doing records	Verify participation of community	Conservation groups have limited capacities to sustain community-	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and	Quarterly	PMU, Catchment Coordinators	Included within M&E plan and budget, and

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
<i>groups to manage their natural resources</i>		conservation groups through records of learning-by-doing field interventions	driven natural resource management	6 in Afalita sub-catchment)			supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 8.: <i>Number of households benefitting from sustainable use of forest resources</i>	Sustainable livelihood framework assessment	Evaluate household benefits through sustainable livelihood framework assessment	No households currently benefit from sustainable use of forest resources in the two priority sub-catchments	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Inception (baseline), annual, and endpoint (final)	PMU, independent M&E service provider/partner	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 2.2.1.: <i>SEPFOPE decision</i>	SEPFOPE decision	Verify approval of youth training module through SEPFOPE decision	Youth training NRM program is not in place	National	Quarterly	SEPFOPE, PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 2.2.2.: Interventions completed by community conservation groups	Number of completed interventions by community conservation groups	Assess completion of interventions by community conservation groups	Conservation groups have limited capacities to sustain community-driven natural resource management	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Quarterly	PMU, Catchment Coordinators	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
Indicator 2.2.3.: Number of sustainable use interventions introduced	Number of sustainable use interventions introduced	Assess the number of sustainable use interventions introduced in each of the 10 sucos	Limited sustainable use alternatives implemented in the 10 sucos	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Quarterly	PMU, Catchment Coordinators	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Component 3: Improvement of forest management and reforestation of degraded lands in priority catchment corridors							
Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved							
Indicator 9.: <i>Area of high conservation value forest mapped</i>	Hectare	Confirm the area of HCV forest mapped through approval of HCV maps by MAF	0 ha of forests within the Comoro and Irabere catchments mapped according to high conservation value criteria	Comoro and Irabere catchments	Annually	MAF, PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 10.: <i>Area of sustainably managed forest by community management actors</i>	Hectare	Verify area of sustainably managed forest through approval of amended suco NRM plans	0 ha of forests within the Comoro and Irabere catchments mapped according to high conservation value criteria	Comoro and Irabere catchments	Annually	PMU, Administrative Posts, Suco Councils	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 3.1.1.: <i>Classified areas integrated into</i>	Enhanced forest maps	Verify HCV classified forests mapped are integrated onto	0 ha of forests within the Comoro and Irabere catchments mapped according to high	Comoro and Irabere catchments	Annually	MAF	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
<i>national GIS system</i>		GIS based forest maps	conservation value criteria				project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 3.1.2.: <i>Amended NRM plans approved by suco councils</i>	Approved suco NRM plans	Verify sustainable forest management is integrated into the suco NRM plans	0 ha of forests within the Comoro and Irabere catchments mapped according to high conservation value criteria	Comoro and Irabere catchments	Quarterly	Suco Councils, Administrative Posts, PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Outcome 3.2: Priority degraded areas rehabilitated							
Indicator 11.: <i>Area of priority forest area rehabilitated</i>	hectare	Verify in the field the area rehabilitated, post-rehabilitation monitoring	In 2016, 24 ha in the Comoro catchment were reforested/rehabilitated and 87 ha in the Irabere catchment	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Annually	PMU, MAF	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 12.: <i>Nursery capacity for supporting forest rehabilitation</i>	Number of established and/or strengthened nurseries	Assess the completeness and functionality of the nurseries	In 2016, 24 ha in the Comoro catchment were reforested/rehabilitated and 87 ha in the Irabere catchment	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Quarterly	PMU, Catchment Coordinators	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
Indicator 13.: <i>Capacity of local conservation groups in rehabilitating priority forests</i>	Number of community conservation groups operating nurseries and rehabilitating forest areas	Assess the participation of community conservation groups in the operation of the nurseries and forest rehabilitation	A few conservation groups participate in nursery operation and forest rehabilitation	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Quarterly	PMU, Catchment Coordinators	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 3.2.1.: <i>Rehabilitation plans approved</i>	Number of approved rehabilitation plans	Verify approval of the rehabilitation plans by MAF	Rehabilitation plans are not yet prepared	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Quarterly	MAF	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 3.2.2.: <i>Species grown in nurseries</i>	Number and type of species grown in nurseries	Assess the number and type of species grown in the nurseries	Only a few nurseries are in place, and these are mostly growing economic species such as teak	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	Quarterly	PMU, Catchment Coordinators	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator 3.2.3.: <i>Number of seedlings distributed</i>	Number of seedlings distributed from the nurseries	Assess the number of seedlings distributed from the nurseries	Only a few nurseries are operating in the target catchment areas	10 Sucos (4 in Moto Hare sub-catchment, and 6 in Afalita sub-catchment)	<i>Quarterly</i>	PMU, Catchment Coordinators	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
							contractual service providers
Safeguard Plans:							
Involuntary Resettlement:							
Indicator SG-IR1: Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been voluntary restricted	Number of households	Socioeconomic survey	127 households are located inside the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau Pas	Mount Fatumasin PA and Mount Legumau PA	<i>Project inception (baseline updated), annually thereafter</i>	PMU, Catchment Coordinators	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator SG-IR2: Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been involuntary restricted	Number of households	Socioeconomic survey	127 households are located inside the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau Pas	Mount Fatumasin PA and Mount Legumau PA	<i>Project inception (baseline updated), annually thereafter</i>	PMU, Catchment Coordinators	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator SG-IR3: Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been involuntary restricted	Number of households	Socioeconomic survey	127 households are located inside the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau Pas	Mount Fatumasin PA and Mount Legumau PA	<i>Project inception (baseline updated), annually thereafter</i>	PMU, Catchment Coordinators	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
Indicator SG-IR4: Percentage of persons who have received compensation for voluntary restrictions	Number of households	Socioeconomic survey	127 households are located inside the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau Pas	Mount Fatumasin PA and Mount Legumau PA	<i>Project inception (baseline updated), annually thereafter</i>	PMU, Catchment Coordinators	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Stakeholder Engagement:							
Indicator SG-SE1: Number of government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, local people, and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in the project implementation phase on an annual basis	Records of meetings, interventions, contracts, grant agreements, etc.	Assess stakeholder participation by reviewing records of meetings, interventions, contracts, grant agreements, etc.	Participatory stakeholder involvement during PPG phase	National, and two main priority catchments (Comoro and Irabere)	<i>Quarterly</i>	PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator SG-SE2: Number persons (sex disaggregated) that have been involved in project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	Records of meetings, interventions, contracts, grant agreements, etc.	Assess stakeholder participation by reviewing records of meetings, interventions, contracts, grant agreements, etc.	Participatory stakeholder involvement during PPG phase	National, and two main priority catchments (Comoro and Irabere)	<i>Quarterly</i>	PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
Indicator SG-SE3: Number of engagement (e.g. meeting, workshops, consultations) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	Records of stakeholder engagement (e.g., meetings, workshops, consultations)	Assess stakeholder participation by reviewing records of stakeholder engagement (e.g., meetings, workshops, consultations)	Participatory stakeholder involvement during PPG phase	National, and two main priority catchments (Comoro and Irabere)	<i>Quarterly</i>	PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator SG-SE4.: Percentage of stakeholders who rate as satisfactory the level at which their views and concerns are taken into account by the project	Satisfaction survey/interview	Midterm review and terminal evaluation	N/A	National, and two main priority catchments (Comoro and Irabere)	<i>Midpoint, endpoint</i>	Responsible party for measuring this indicator is CI-GEF Agency and this will be undertaken by the consultant hired by the CI-GEF Agency to conduct the MTR and Terminal Evaluation	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Gender Mainstreaming:							
Indicator SG-GM1: Number of men and women that participate in project activities (e.g., meetings, workshops, consultations, group membership, etc.)	Records of meetings, interventions, contracts, grant agreements, etc.	Assess stakeholder participation by reviewing records of meetings, interventions, contracts, grant agreements, etc.	Participatory stakeholder involvement during PPG phase	National, and two main priority catchments (Comoro and Irabere)	<i>Quarterly</i>	PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
Indicator SG-GM2: Number of men and women that receive benefits (e.g., employment, income generating activities, training, access to natural resources, land tenure or resource rights, equipment, leadership roles) from the project	Sustainable livelihood framework assessment	Evaluate benefits using sustainable livelihood framework assessment techniques	Unsustainable exploitation of forest resources	10 project sucos	<i>Inception (updated baseline), midpoint, endpoint</i>	Independent M&E service provider/partner	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator SG-GM3: Number of strategies, plans (e.g., management plans and land use plans) and policies derived from the project that includes gender considerations	Records of strategies, plans, policies, etc.	Assess gender participation through review of strategies, plans, policies, etc.	Participatory stakeholder involvement during PPG phase	National, and two main priority catchments (Comoro and Irabere)	<i>Quarterly</i>	PMU	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator SG-GM4: Percentage of project implementation staff and partners receiving gender	Training records (including training assessment)	Evaluate gender awareness by reviewing training records (including training assessment)	Participatory stakeholder involvement during PPG phase	National, and two main priority catchments (Comoro and Irabere)	<i>Quarterly</i>	PMU, training providers	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and

Indicators	Metrics	Methodology	Baseline	Location	Frequency	Responsible Parties	Indicative Resources
awareness training							contractual service providers
Accountability and Grievance Mechanism:							
Indicator SG-AG1: Number of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	Case records	Assess accountability and grievance through review of case records	N/A	Nationwide	<i>Quarterly</i>	PMU, MAF	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers
Indicator SG-AG2: Number of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	Case records	Assess accountability and grievance through review of case records	N/A	Nationwide	<i>Quarterly</i>	PMU, MAF	Included within M&E plan and budget, and supported by project management team and contractual service providers

APPENDIX IV: GEF Tracking Tool by Focal Area

- *Include the GEF Focal Area Tracking Tool, including the baseline information*

APPENDIX V: Safeguard Screening Form and Analysis

Include here the Safeguard Screening Form and Analysis documents

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data	
Country: Timor-Leste	GEF Project ID: 9434
Project Title: Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area Network and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridor	
Executing Entity: Conservation International Timor-Leste, Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Environment	
GEF Focal Area: Biodiversity, Sustainable Forest Management, Land Degradation	
GEF Project Amount: US\$3,750,000	
Reviewer(s): Ian Kisson	
Date of Review: September 27, 2016	
Comments: Analysis completed and approved	

B. Project Objective:

To establish Timor-Leste's National Protected Area (PA) Network to improve the management of forest ecosystems in priority catchment corridors.

C. Project Description:

This project aims to formally establish the Timor-Leste PA Network and strengthen the management of two key catchment areas as pilot sites to demonstrate how to manage protected areas and corridors outside PAs. The project also aims to build the understanding, ability, and capacity of the local communities, to manage their own resources in accordance with the collaborative management requirement of the country.

Project Components and Main Proposed Activities:

1. Establishment of a National Protected Area Network
 - Review legislation and complete a Gap Analysis
 - Develop a PAN strategy and associated legislation
 - Develop a long-term business and financial plan for the PAN
 - Design and implement PA management plans in 2 PA's as well as developing HCV plans for forests
2. Improvement of community-based natural resource management systems in priority catchments corridors
 - Develop Suco level NRM plans
 - Improve Suco regulations
 - Improve household level income
 - Training and education programs for Youth, Adult and communities

3. Improvement of forest management and reforestation of degraded lands in priority catchment corridors
 - Map remaining forest for HCV
 - Develop community based forest plans
 - Establish community tree nurseries for reforestation and restoration purposes
 - Develop and implement restoration and reforestation plans

D. Project location and biophysical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis:

The project is located in the Irabere River and Comoro River catchments in Timor-Leste. Timor-Leste formerly known as East Timor, covers the eastern half of the Timor Island, sharing its border with Indonesia and the north-west boundary of Australia. Timor-Leste also includes the islands of Atauro and Jaco, and covers an area of 15,007km², with a coastline of 706km. In May 2002, Timor-Leste was internationally recognized as an independent state. The last decade has seen continued internal tensions and the country now has its 6th government in place in the space of 12 years.

Timor is a mountainous island surrounded by a narrow band of coastal plain, reef and seagrass. The majority of Timor-Leste is steeply sloped (gradients greater than 40%). The country extends east to west and is very narrow from north to south. Three sides are surrounded by sea with a mountainous central ridge where the elevation rises to almost 3,000m above sea level at Tatamailau (Mount Ramelau). The climate is tropical with a great deal of local variations as is common in small islands with steep topography.

Timor-Leste holds a large number of globally significant ecosystems including tropical rainforests, mangroves, wetlands as well as agricultural areas and remarkably rich marine ecosystems. The Lesser Sundas, in particular, also offer large areas of seagrass beds (covering more than 700,000 hectares) concentrated in shallow coastal waters free from intense wave action and sedimentation. Seagrass areas function as a nursery for many invertebrate and fish species and provide rich feeding grounds for fish, molluscs, green turtles and dugongs. In addition, they stabilize offshore sand reservoirs, act as sediment collectors and prevent coastal erosion.

Timor-Leste as part of the Coral Triangle offers the richest marine biodiversity on earth. The Coral Triangle holds some 76% of the world's coral species, six of the world's seven marine turtle species, more than 3,000 species of reef fish and a wide diversity of marine mammals (including whales and 22 species of dolphin). The marine basins between the island arcs may be several thousand meters deep and are swept by powerful currents forming a barrier to the dispersal of terrestrial species and an obstacle to the dispersal of marine species.

Timor-Leste also belongs to the Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot which is situated between the Sunda and Sahul continental shelves and includes a large part of the Indonesian archipelago. The land area is therefore fragmented into thousands of islands covering an area of 33.8 million hectares and separated by deep oceanic trenches. Wallacea is made up of three biogeographic sub-regions: Maluku, Sulawesi and Lesser Sundas (of which Timor-Leste is a part). This Biodiversity Hotspot has a total 560 species classified as Threatened with extinction by IUCN, and of these threatened species, 308 are terrestrial or freshwater while 252 are marine.

Timor-Leste's mostly mountainous environments have experienced significant destruction of natural capital and ecosystem services caused variously by deforestation, poor farming practices, wildfires and overgrazing. Most worryingly the country now experiences extended periods during which

water is not available to rural communities. In total, only 3 of the 29 main river catchments in Timor-Leste are now considered to be perennial. This lack of water flow, over already shallow soil, is directly influenced by the reduced vegetative cover which would otherwise allow for deeper permeation of water into the shallow soils.

Timor-Leste has a relatively small population of 1.2 million but with a staggering 65% of the population under 25 years of age, Timor-Leste is one of the youngest countries in the world. Life expectancy is around 68 years, but infant mortality is still just under 40 deaths/1,000 live births, and 45% of children under the age of five are underweight. Population growth rate remains high at 2.44%. The majority of children attend school for 12 years, but only half (48%) the population are literate. Over 70% of the population resides in rural areas, and over half the urban population resides in Dili. Despite strong economic growth over the last decade, the World Bank estimates the poverty level has increased from 36% in 2001 to almost 50% in 2015. This dichotomy is mainly attributed to the oil and gas extraction off shore that has impacted the country's macro-economic figures but has had very little impact on the economic situation for the Timorese people and their living standards. The increase in poverty underscores a very strong need for the nation to address the pressing issue of a growing and predominantly young population placing more pressure on ecosystems as they look for employment opportunities and to support their families.

Of the total population, 80% are rearing livestock and 63% are directly engaged with agricultural production, mainly subsistence farming. Agriculture provides livelihoods for more than 80% of the Timorese population, and accounts for 30% of the GDP. Main crops are rice, maize and coffee. The industry/manufacturing sector is underdeveloped and the non-oil and gas sector contributes little to the GDP.

The development of oil and gas resources in offshore waters has greatly supplemented government revenues. This technology-intensive industry, however, has done little to create jobs for the unemployed, in part because there are no production facilities in Timor-Leste. Benefitting from high global oil prices, Timor-Leste achieved lower middle-income status in 2011, but this growth has not been accompanied by a reduction in poverty which remains persistently high, particularly in rural areas, where the majority of the population lives.

E. Executing Entity's Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies:

The EA indicated that with support from CI's regional Asia Pacific Field Division and the government, it is able to implement the safeguard policies. However, the EA did not describe the resources, experiences and capacities available within the CI Timor-Leste team, government nor the regional division in dealing with environmental and social safeguards. Such description would have indicated whether the EA needs to hire relevant experts to develop and implement the safeguard plans or if these experts are already on board.

II. SAFEGUARD AND POLICIES

Environmental and Social Safeguards:

Safeguard Triggered	Yes	No	TBD	Date Completed
1. Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)		X		
<i>Justification: No significant adverse environmental and social impacts that are sensitive, diverse, or unprecedented is anticipated</i>				
2. Natural Habitats		X		
<i>Justification: The project is not proposing to alter natural habitats</i>				
3. Involuntary Resettlement	X			
<i>Justification: The project is proposing restriction of access/use of natural resources.</i>				
4. Indigenous Peoples		X		
<i>Justification: The project does not plan to work in lands or territories traditionally owned, customarily used, or occupied by indigenous peoples.</i>				
5. Pest Management		X		
<i>Justification: There are no proposed activities related to pest management</i>				
6. Physical & Cultural Resources		X		
<i>Justification: There are no proposed activities related to physical and cultural resources</i>				
7. Stakeholder Engagement	X			
<i>Justification: The project is required to engage stakeholders</i>				
8. Gender mainstreaming	X			
<i>Justification: The project is required to mainstream gender at all levels</i>				
9. Accountability and Grievance Mechanisms	X			
<i>Justification: As a publicly funded GEF project, a Grievance Mechanism is required.</i>				

III. KEY SAFEGUARD POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:

From information provided in the Safeguard Screening Form, this project has triggered four safeguard policies. These are:

- I. Restriction of Access to and Use of Natural Resources (Involuntary Resettlement),*
- II. Stakeholder Engagement,*
- III. Gender Mainstreaming, and*
- IV. Grievance Mechanism.*

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:

No indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities are foreseen at this time.

3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts:

The proposed approach of the project is expected to avoid or minimize adverse impacts. As such, no better alternative can be conceived at this time.

4. Describe measures to be taken by the Executing Entity to address safeguard policy issues.

I. *Restriction of Access to and Use of Natural Resources*

To ensure that the project meets CI-GEF Project Agency's "Involuntary Resettlement Policy #3" the Executing Agency is required to develop during the PPG phase, a "Process Framework" that describes the nature of the restrictions, the participatory process by which project components will be prepared, and the means by which any conflicts would be resolved. A plan may also be developed during implementation providing more detail on the arrangements to assist affected persons to improve or restore their livelihoods. The terms of reference for the "Process Framework" will be provided by the CI-GEF Project Agency, who will approve and oversee the implementation of this Framework throughout the duration of the project.

II. *Stakeholder Engagement*

To ensure that the project meets CI-GEF Project Agency's "Stakeholders' Engagement Best Practice", the Executing Agency is required to develop, during of the PPG phase, a Stakeholder Engagement Plan. The CI-GEF Project Agency will oversee the implementation of this plan throughout the duration of the project.

III. *Gender Mainstreaming*

To ensure that the project meets CI-GEF Project Agency's "Gender Mainstreaming Policy #8", the Executing Agency is required to develop, during of the PPG phase, a "Gender Mainstreaming Plan" that will ensure the mainstreaming of gender issues throughout the project. The CI-GEF Project Agency will provide a gender mainstreaming guideline, and will approve and oversee the implementation of the Gender Mainstreaming Plan throughout the duration of the project.

IV. *Grievance Mechanism*

An Accountability and Grievance Mechanism is required to ensure people affected by the project are able to bring their grievances to the Executing Entity for consideration and redress. The mechanism must be in place before the start of project activities, and also disclosed to all stakeholders in a language, manner and means that best suits the local context.

5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people:

The key stakeholders are the government, municipalities, communities, NGOs/CSOs, and private sector.

The mechanisms for consultation and disclosure should be culturally appropriate, gender sensitive, effective, and in keeping with local customs. Engagement can take the form of village meetings, group meetings, workshops, interviews/surveys, etc. and done using local languages and methods. The Executing Entity should take these contexts into consideration when designing engagement activities.



IV. PROJECT CATEGORIZATION

PROJECT CATEGORY	Category A	Category B	Category C
<i>Justification: The proposed project activities are likely to have minimal or no adverse environmental and social impacts.</i>			

V. EXPECTED DISCLOSURE DATES

Safeguard Plan	CI Disclosure Date	In-Country Disclosure Date
Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)	NA	NA
Environmental Management Plan (EMP)	NA	NA
Voluntary Resettlement Action Plan (V- RAP)	NA	NA
Process Framework for Restriction of Access to Natural Resources	<i>Within 15 days of CI-GEF approval</i>	<i>Within 30 days of CI-GEF approval</i>
Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP)	NA	NA
Pest Management Plan (PMP)	NA	NA
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	<i>Within 15 days of CI-GEF approval</i>	<i>Within 30 days of CI-GEF approval</i>
Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP)	<i>Within 15 days of CI-GEF approval</i>	<i>Within 30 days of CI-GEF approval</i>
Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	<i>Within 15 days of CI-GEF approval</i>	<i>No later than inception workshop/kick-off meeting</i>

VI. APPROVALS

Signed and submitted by:		
Vice President:	Name: Miguel Morales	Date:
Approved by:		
Safeguard Manager: 	Name: Ian Kissoon	Date: 2016-09-27
Project Manager: 	Name: Ian Kissoon	Date: 2016-09-27

APPENDIX VI: Safeguard Compliance Plan: Involuntary Resettlement

Process Framework for Restrictions to Access to Natural Resources

Project Title: Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste's biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area System and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridors				
Country: Timor-Leste		Implementation Timeframe: 2018-2021	GEF ID: 9434	CI Contract ID:
Date:	Version:	Description:		
August 2017	1	Project preparation phase		

INTRODUCTION

The TLSNAP project will support the Government of Timor-Leste in establishing a functional protected area (PA) system. At the site level, the project will facilitate participatory collaborative management arrangements with local communities, reducing threats to critical ecosystems and enhancing sustainable livelihoods. Innovative management mechanisms will be developed and implemented, supporting rehabilitation of degraded forest and other land areas, securing ecosystem functions including water and soil protection, and protecting against habitat damage and fragmentation.

Involuntary resettlement is NOT planned under the TLSNAP project. In fact, resettlement of any kind is not planned. The project strategy seeks to strengthen participatory, community level collaborative management of natural resources, including inside protected areas and inside critical catchments having high conservation value.

There are households currently inside the two target protected areas, Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau. These households were in place before the protected areas were declared, and government partners have stressed that there will be no involuntary resettlement initiated, but rather sustainable use classification would be advocated for these two sites.

The safeguard policy is triggered because the project will support a stricter enforcement of natural resource management, which will likely include imposing certain restrictions on current access of local people. The project will support more sustainable livelihood options for targeted households, but short-term loss of livelihood could be unavoidable because transitioning into alternative, sustainable options will likely take time.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this plan is to minimize, mitigate, and/or compensate the potential adverse socioeconomic and cultural impacts of restrictions of access to natural resources the TLSNAP might create.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The two protected areas selected for project implementation are listed below.

Mount Fatumasin Protected Area (WDPA ID: 555547943; surface area: 40 km²). This PA is situated in the Liqueça *município*, within the upland region of the Comoro catchment.

Mount Legumau Protected Area (WDPA ID: 555547948; surface area: 359.67 km²). This PA is situated near the intersection of the Baucau, Lautem, and Viqueque *municípios*, within the upland portion of the Irabere catchment.

For development and implementation of community driven natural resource management (NRM) plans, one sub-catchment in each of the two main catchments were selected: the Moto Hare sub-catchment in the Comoro catchment, and the Afalita sub-catchment in the Irabere catchment. Within the two sub-catchments, a total of 10 *sucos* were selected for field interventions. There are clear differences between the four *sucos* selected in the Comoro catchment that are closer to Dili and has reasonably developed services, compared to the six remote *sucos* in the Irabere catchment that are further from the district capital and have considerably lower levels of services (see **Table VI-1**).

Table VI-1: Socioeconomic information of the 10 project *sucos*

Suco	Land Area (ha)	Population			Living Standard Rank*	Households with			Adult literacy	Kilometers to district capital
		Total	Female	Male		Electricity	Improved water	Improved sanitation		
Source:	[1]	[2]			[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]
Moto Hare sub-catchment (Comoro catchment):										
Leorema	2,235	6,493	3,158	3,335	281	1%	36%	9%	54%	25
Fahilebo	2,417	1,423	677	746	252	5%	46%	58%	42%	17
Lihu	1,848	1,187	560	627	400	59%	89%	71%	81%	10
Ulmera	3,890	3,527	1,729	1,798	382	54%	68%	37%	62%	14
Afalita sub-catchment (Irabere catchment):										
Uacala	6,009	755	414	341	7	1%	15%	2%	46%	49
Baricafa	2,317	1,552	763	789	21	1%	76%	2%	29%	64
Lari Sula	3,635	821	415	406	13	0%	2%	0%	47%	71
Bahatata	1,136	804	396	408	9	0%	23%	0%	39%	86
Irabin de Cima	1,317	1,108	567	541	63	2%	1%	5%	46%	78
Cainliu	7,146	1,893	925	968	18	2%	78%	65%	49%	44
Total:	31,949	19,563	9,604	9,959						

[1]: Source: ALGIS (suco maps)

[2]: Source: Community consultations during PPG phase (2017)

[3]: Source: ADB estimates based on the 2010 Timor-Leste population and housing census (National Statistics Directorate 2011) and the 2001 Suco Survey (East Timor Transitional Administration, ADB, World Bank, and United Nations Development Programme, 2001).

*The rank ranges from 1 to 442, where 1 is the suco with the lowest standard of living based on the asset index and 442 is the suco with the highest standard of living.

There are significant differences between the two catchments in terms of threats from human activities. The **Comoro catchment** is in proximity to the capital city Dili (see **Figure V1-1**), which is the key economic and populous center for the country. The catchment also hosts the Comoro Power Plant which situated within the core of the national electricity grid, it is close to the Presidente Nicolau Lobato international airport, and is in the vicinity of the Dili port, the main point at which all goods either enter or exit Timor-Leste.

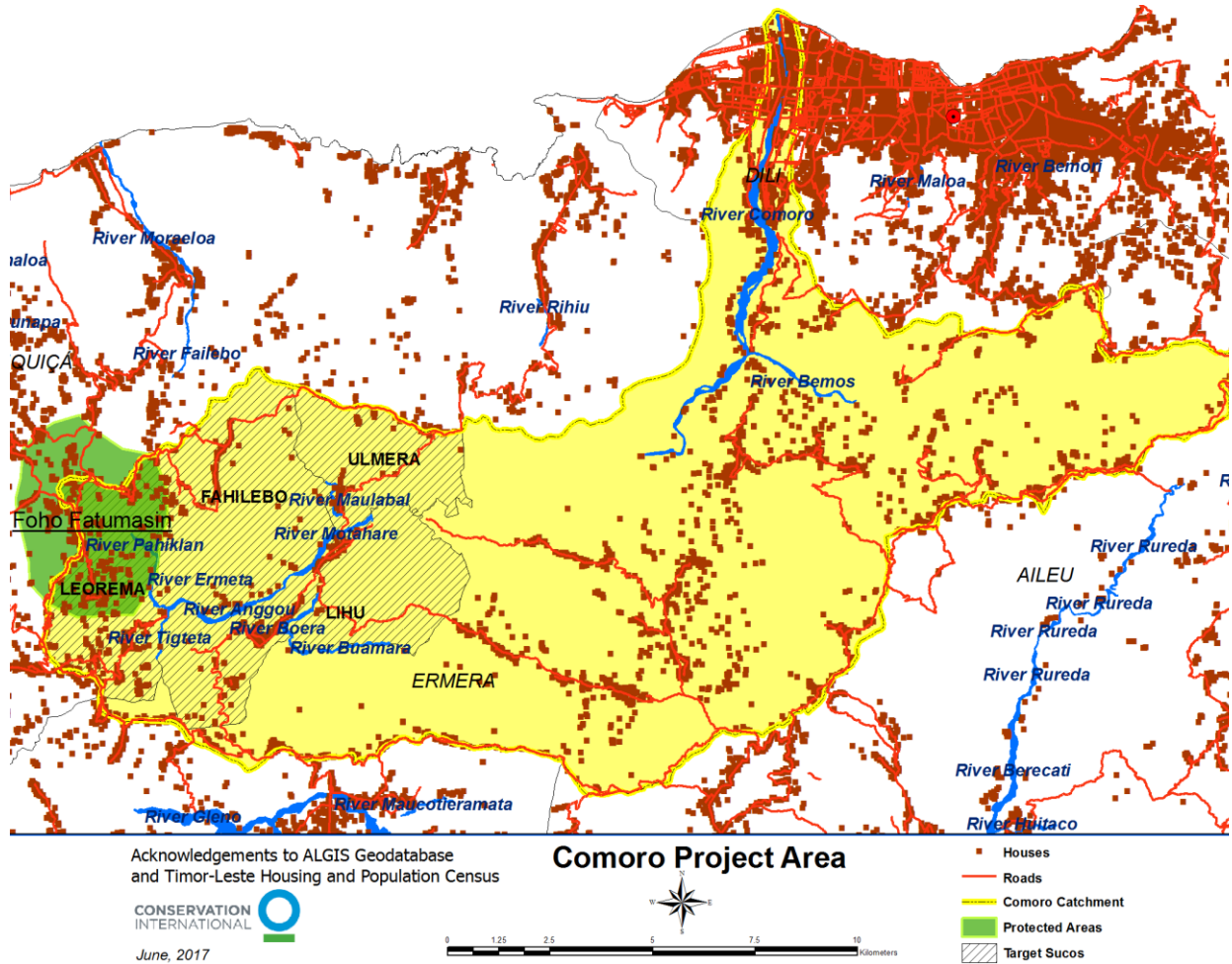
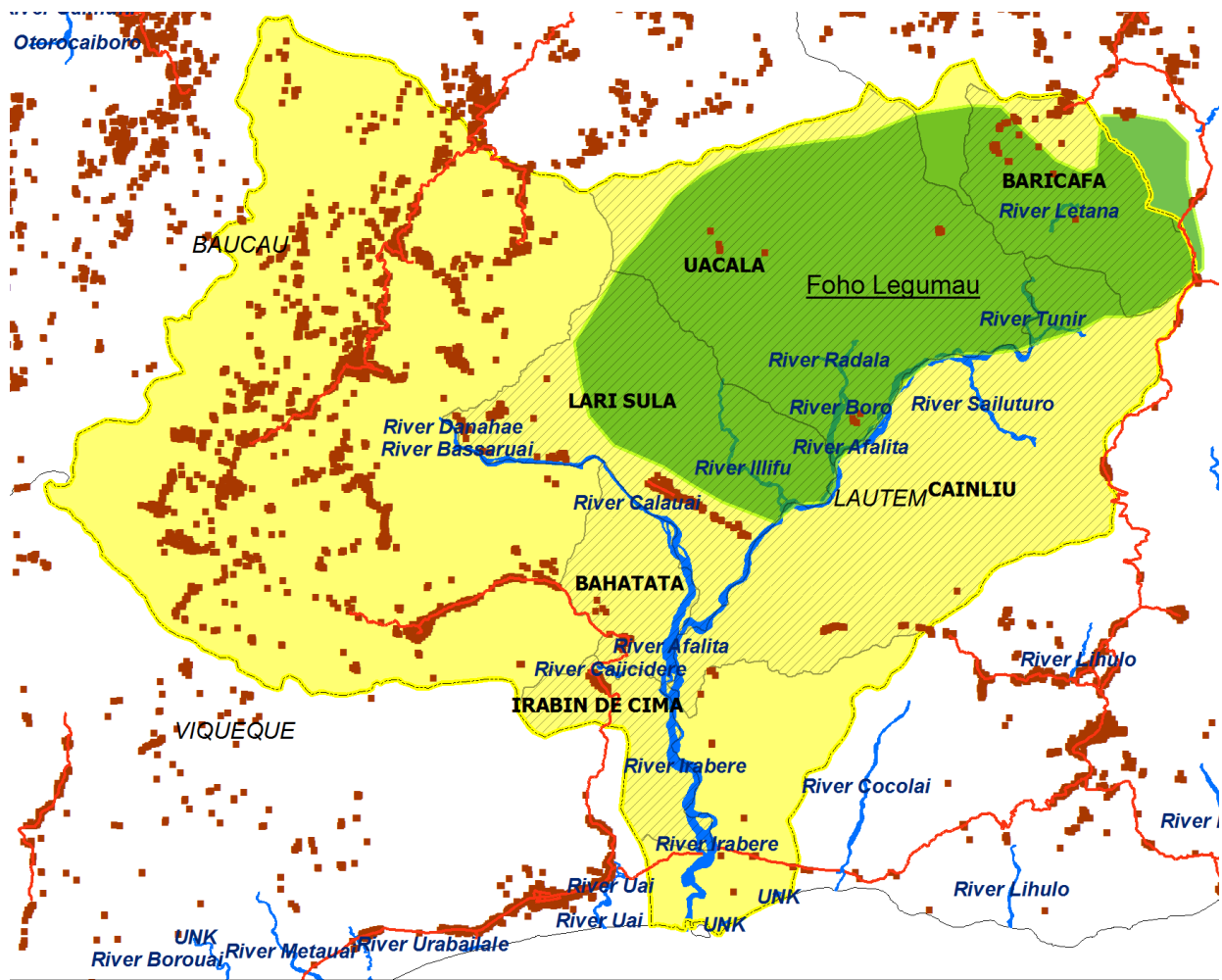


Figure V1-1: Map of the project area in the Comoro catchment

The Comoro catchment is also a main source of resources such as water, gravel, and firewood for the city of Dili and surrounding communities, and as such has been targeted by the government for rehabilitation⁷⁰. There is enormous pressure on this catchment and its resources due to the prevalence of illegal cutting, firewood collection, and cattle grazing, as well as the constant migration of the younger population to the center looking for work.

The **Irabere catchment** straddles the borders of the Baucau, Lautem, and Viqueque municipalities (*municípios*), extending to the Irabere River Estuary at the south coast of Timor-Leste, as shown below in the map in **Figure V1-2**.

⁷⁰ Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030, version submitted to the National Parliament.; and McIntyre, M.A., 2011. Strategic Action Plan for the Programme of Works on Protected Areas.



Acknowledgements to ALGIS Geodatabase and Timor-Leste Housing and Population Census



June, 2017

Irabere Project Area

- Roads
- Houses
- Irabere Catchment
- Protected Areas
- Target Suco



Figure V1-2: Map of the project area in the Irabere catchment

The Irabere catchment has within its boundary part of four declared protected areas: Mount Matebian, Mount Legumau, Mount Burabo, and Mount Maure. No other catchment in Timor-Leste contains as many protected areas. This critical element along with fairly intact forest cover outside the protected areas, limited access to employment or income generating opportunities, and its relative closeness to Nino Konis Santana National Park which provides a critical opportunity to develop habitat corridors between these protected areas, made the selection committee recognize it as a prime project site. There are far fewer houses inside or near the Mount Legumau PA compared to the Mount Fatumasin PA, due largely to the remoteness of the place, but some *sucos* are expanding there as part of certain land restitution initiatives.

There are an estimated 93 households situated within the delineated borders of the Mount Fatumasin PA; these households are in the *aldeia* of Cutulao, located in the Leorema *suco*. For the Mount Legumau PA, there are an estimated 12 households in the *aldeia* of Baifa and 14 households in the *aldeia* of Baburo, both located in the Uacala *suco*, that are within the borders of the protected area.

PARTICIPATORY IMPLEMENTATION

Affected households will be meaningfully consulted and be provided with opportunities to participate in planning and implementing project interventions. The *suco* NRM plans, upon consultation with local communities, will include descriptions of restrictions to natural resources. For households situated within delineated protected areas, the project will offer training and skills development opportunities for sustainable use of forest resources.

Given low literacy levels in some of the target *sucos*, the project will need to ensure that communication is presented orally and visually as well as in written form, to ensure stakeholders can understand the project and its potential impacts and benefits.

Criteria for eligibility of affected persons

The preliminary criteria for selecting the eligibility of households for assistance under the project include the following:

- Situated inside the delineated borders of the target protected areas;
- An indication of interest by the residents of these households;
- Household income (preference will be extended to lower income families); and
- Opportunities for involvement of women and other vulnerable groups.

These criteria will be refined during the inception phase of the project, as part of the participatory social, biological, and ecological assessments in conjunction with development of the protected area management plans and as part of community discussion regarding demarcation of PA borders.

Land Tenure Considerations

In Timor-Leste access and holdings on land are through customary and informal systems; there is not yet a formal legal land tenure framework. Under this context, the term “land ownership” is different from western derived definitions and practices.

The project will not finance any major civil works. Plant nurseries will be established and strengthened in the ten target *sucos*. Based upon consultations during the PPG phase, land area required for establishing new nurseries or expanding existing ones will be provided by the local farmers groups and/or individual farmers as in-kind cofinancing contributions. The project will facilitate appropriate land use arrangements between the farmers and *suco* councils.

Assistance for communities where new restrictions are imposed regarding access to natural resources

The project will provide assistance in the form of capacity building, e.g., skills training in sustainable livelihood alternatives, for households that are affected by new restrictions imposed regarding access to ecosystem goods or services that might result in a loss of income sources. The types of activities promoted by the project include the following:

- Protection and/or conservation of natural resources and habitats;
- Community conservation of natural resources, including community driven sustainable forest management.
- Rehabilitation of degraded forest and other lands;
- Improved use of firewood or promotion of environmentally sustainable alternatives fuel sources;

- Technical assistance to improve land and natural resource use, and marketing of sustainable products and commodities;
- Various ‘eco-agriculture’ or ‘mosaic landscape’ activities that combine agricultural production to sustain rural livelihoods as well as protection of wild plant and animal species.
- Strengthening participation of local people and application of traditional ecological knowledge;
- Improved livestock management, through capacity building with the assistance of extension services;

Prohibited Activities

Based on consultations made during the project preparation phase, the following preliminary set of activities are considered prohibited from financing under the TLSNAP project, either with GEF resources or as part of cofinancing activities:

- **Damage to Cultural Resources:** Damages or losses to cultural resources, including sites have historical, religious, cultural, and unique natural values will be prohibited.
- **Construction or Improvement of Unsafe Infrastructure:** Construction of roads or other infrastructure inside natural habitats and existing or proposed protected areas that lead to negative environmental impacts will be prohibited.
- **Introduction of Non-Native Species:** Introduction of non-native species, unless those already present in the vicinity or known from similar settings to be non-invasive, will be prohibited. Introduction of genetically modified plant varieties into a designated protected area will also be prohibited.
- **Conversion or Degradation of Natural Habitats:** Conversion or degradation of natural habitats will be prohibited.
- **Unsustainable Exploitation of Natural Resources:** Unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, including non-timber forest products (NTFPs), will be prohibited.
- **Production and Trade of Wildlife Products:** Production or trade in wildlife products or other activities deemed illegal under national laws and regulations or according to international conventions and agreements will be prohibited.
- **Unsafe Pesticide Use:** Purchase and application of pesticides prohibited under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and relevant national regulations and international agreements will be prohibited. If the use of pesticides is necessary, procurement, handling, and management will be made in accordance with The International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management⁷¹, including training local people to ensure safe use.
- **Improper Working Conditions:** Implementing working conditions involving harmful or involuntary forms of labor or unsafe occupational health and safety conditions will be prohibited.
- **Procuring Potentially Detrimental Assets:** Purchase of assets that could be detrimental to the environment, including destructive hunting and fishing gear will be prohibited.

Conflict resolution and compliant mechanism

⁷¹ IOMC, 2014. The International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management. World Health Organization, and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals.

The project will ensure that local communities participate throughout the implementation phase and will strive to avoid potentially adverse impacts, including unintended consequences.

In the first instance, any grievance should be addressed and where possible resolved locally. CI will be responsible for informing project-affected communities about the grievance provisions, including the ESMF's accountability and grievance mechanism. Contact information of CI and the GEF will be made publicly available to involved stakeholders. Complaints to CI can be made through many different channels including, but not limited to face-to-face meetings, written complaints, telephone conversations, or e-mail.

Given low literacy levels in some of the target *sucos*, project details will be communicated orally and visually as well as in written form in local languages, to ensure local stakeholders can understand the specific activities being implemented and the potential impacts and benefits.

The project will also work closely with existing *suco* level administrative and traditional structures for addressing potential disputes. It will be imperative to maintain proactive engagement with *suco* councils and traditional leaders, who are often called upon to settle land related issues and other conflicts in rural communities.

Stakeholders may raise a grievance at any time to Conservation International (CI), as the Executing Agency (EA) about actions implemented by the project and the application of its safeguard frameworks. Affected stakeholders should be informed about this possibility and contact information of the respective organizations at relevant levels should be made available either online, during the project inception workshop and/or in project target sites where most relevant.

The Accountability and Grievance Mechanism is intended to supplement the proactive stakeholder engagement that is required of CI and implementing partners throughout duration of the project. Communities and individuals may request an Accountability and Grievance Mechanism process when they have used standard channels for project management and quality assurance, and are not satisfied with the response.

If this process does not result in resolution of the grievance, the grievant may file a claim through CI's EthicsPoint Hotline at <https://secure.ethicspoint.com>

Through EthicsPoint, CI will respond within 15 calendar days of receipt, and claims will be filed and included in project monitoring processes.

Alternatively, the grievant may file a claim with the Director of Compliance (DOC) who is responsible for the CI Accountability and Grievance Mechanism and who can be reached at:

Mailing address: Director of Compliance
Conservation International
2011 Crystal Drive, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22202, USA.

Implementation Arrangements

As the executing agency, Conservation International will establish a project management unit, headed by a project manager. The project manager will have overall responsibility of day to day implementation of the project and report directly to the project board. The main implementation partner will be the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, specifically the National Directorate of Protected Areas.

The project management unit will include two catchment coordinators, one for the Comoro catchment (Mount Fatumasin PA) and one for the Irabere catchment (Legumau PA). The catchment coordinators will facilitate the design and implementation of community interventions.

Protected area management committees will be established for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs. Design and implementation of the PA management and business plans will be guided by these management committees. There will also be community conservation groups established in each of the 10 target sucos, and these groups will be responsible for carrying out and/or supporting the community level project interventions.

Action Plan

Activity	Actions	Indicator	Target
Advocating voluntary agreement to restrictions of access to natural resources	Advocate for voluntary restrictions of access to natural resources, through participatory social consultations with local communications. Involve affected households into the planning and design of sustainable livelihood alternatives.	Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been voluntary restricted	127 households (93 in the aldeia of Cutalao, 12 in the aldeia of Baiafa, and 14 in the aldeia of Baburo)
Advocating against involuntary restrictions of access to natural resources	Advocate against involuntary restrictions of access to natural resources, through participatory social consultations with local communications. Involve affected households into the planning and design of sustainable livelihood alternatives.	Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been involuntary restricted	0
Promoting voluntary agreement to restrictions of access to natural resources	Design and deliver awareness campaigns, as part of development and implementation of <i>suco</i> NRM plans. Percentage of persons who have received compensation for voluntary restrictions.	Percentage of persons who gave their consent for voluntary restrictions	100%
Discouraging monetary compensation of persons who agree to voluntary restrictions	Provide assistance to households that voluntarily agree to restrictions of access to natural resources, in the form for capacity building, skills training, linking up with enabling partners, etc.	Percentage of persons who have received compensation for voluntary restrictions	0%

Monitoring and Evaluation

Performance of the targets specified in the action plan will be regularly monitored and monitoring and evaluation results will be reported in the project progress reports and project implementation review (PIR) reports.

The indicative budget for the planned monitoring and evaluation activities under this safeguard plan is included in Line Item c (Project Results Monitoring) in the project M&E plan.

APPENDIX VII: Safeguard Compliance Plan: Stakeholder Engagement

Project Title: Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste’s biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area System and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridors				
Country: Timor-Leste		Implementation Timeframe: 2018-2021	GEF ID: 9434	CI Contract ID:
Date:	Version:	Description:		
June 2017	1	Project preparation phase		

INTRODUCTION

The TLSNAP project will support the Government of Timor-Leste in establishing a functional protected area (PA) system. At the site level, the project will facilitate participatory collaborative management arrangements with local communities, reducing threats to critical ecosystems and enhancing sustainable livelihoods. Innovative management mechanisms will be developed and implemented, supporting rehabilitation of degraded forest and other land areas, securing ecosystem functions including water and soil protection, and protecting against habitat damage and fragmentation.

The project objective, “*to establish Timor-Leste’s National Protected Area System and improve the management of forest ecosystems in priority catchment corridors*” will be achieved through the following five outcomes distributed among the three project components:

Component 1: Establishment of a National Protected Area System

Outcome 1.1: National PA system established and implementation initiated

Component 2: Improvement of community-based natural resource management systems in priority catchment corridors

Outcome 2.1: Land degradation drivers halted and/or minimized in key catchment areas

Outcome 2.2: Capacity for communities to manage their natural resources substantially increased

Component 3: Improvement of forest management and reforestation of degraded lands in priority catchment corridors

Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved

Outcome 3.2: Priority degraded areas reforested

POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS

The approach to stakeholder involvement and participation encourages adherence to a number of guiding principles, including:

- m. Adding value to project activities;
- n. Ensuring accessibility of information, including by both government and non-government, to inform decision-making processes;
- o. Encouraging adherence to values of transparency, trust, equity, and fairness;
- p. Promoting responsiveness to identified needs and the highest ethical standards and respects for differing priorities and values;

- q. Ensuring local ownership and the creation of outputs that are relevant and of benefit to communities and organizations;
- r. Supporting collaborative approaches to project interventions;
- s. Including different types of stakeholder groups in participation processes and benefit distribution, including but not limited to engagement, capacity building, employment, skills transfer, sharing of knowledge and the increase of cultural awareness;
- t. Developing mechanisms to manage conflicts in the public interest;
- u. Being flexible to adapt to changing circumstances;
- v. Fostering well-coordinated and planned implementation;
- w. Generating, and responding to, feedback; and
- x. Creating proactive partnerships that will enhance sustainability of project results after GEF funding ceases.

Effective stakeholder engagement is expected to support the project in generating the following benefits:

- a. Relate better to the local context;
- b. Provide technical excellence;
- c. Follow international good practice;
- d. Harmonize with other development partners and projects; and
- e. Reflect a broad range of information and perspectives.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Stakeholder engagement during the implementation phase will build on the consultations made as part of the project preparation phase. Generally, project design has followed highly participatory and inclusive processes, in line with CI and GEF requirements. It should be noted that a number of different and ongoing stakeholder engagement processes have led to project formulations. This includes consultations related to:

- a. The identification target sucos and field interventions;
- b. Needs and opinions of government and non-government stakeholders;
- c. Gender inequities as related to natural resource management;
- d. Broader social inclusion at the community level in relation to decision-making around the sustainable use of natural resources; and
- e. National consultations related to project document formulation, consolidation of outputs, activity design, and setting of targets /indicators.

Stakeholder consultations completed during the PPG phase are summarized below in **Table VII-1**.

Table VII-1: Stakeholder consultations during PPG phase

Date	Activity	Subject	Location	Remark
2016 Aug 17	Partner meetings and logistics analysis	Project introduction and identification of community partners	Irabere catchment (Baguia, Uatucarbau, Illiomar)	Senior CI and one Forestry staff member undertook a 3 day visit to the catchment to meet with stakeholders and identify project site locations
2016 Sept 23	Meet with Private Partner	Meet with Olam to discuss the project and how Olam can partner	Dili	Olam are a coffee buying company who are working with farmers in the Fatumasin project site. They are keen to partner with the project to improve the forest cover for the coffee
2016 Oct 6	Partner meeting and logistical analysis	Project introduction and identification of community partners	Comoro catchment (Fatumasin PA communities)	Senior CI and one Forestry staff member undertook a visit to the catchment to meet with stakeholders and identify project site locations
2016 Oct 7	GEF Management team meeting	Project introduction and formed the GEF management team during PPG phase	Dili	2 National Directorate from Environment and one from Fishery, two Chief of Department from Forestry was in the meeting
2016 Oct 20	GEF inception workshop	Project introduction to representative from Forestry, Fishery and Environment and other development partner	Dili	DG of Forestry, Coffee and Industrial Crops attended the meeting
2016 Nov 21-24	Irabere field visit	First local authority meeting in order to delivered CI official letter and explained them about the upcoming activity	Baucau, Lautem and Viqueque	Municipality Administrator, Post Administrator, Director of Agriculture Services and Chief of Suco
2016 Nov 26-27	Comoro catchment field visit	First local authority meeting in order to delivered and informed CI official letter and explained them about the upcoming activity	Liquisa and Ermera	Meeting with Municipality Administrator, Post Administrator, Regional Agriculture Director, Director of Agriculture Service and Chief of Suco

Date	Activity	Subject	Location	Remark
2016 Dec 14	GEF Management Team meeting	Update GEF progress activity GEF management team	Dili	National Directorate of Conservation Nature, ND of Forestry and Watershed Management, representative from environment and fishery
2017 Jan 17	Stakeholder workshop	Project introduction	Dili	Invited senior staff from Forestry Department, Environment and Fishery, International NGO and Local NGO as well USAID, JICA, FAO and OLAM, representative from Secretary State for Policy and Professional Training
2017 Feb 14	Community meeting and consultation in Baguai, Baucau	Community consultation	Baguai (Participant from council member Suco Uacala and Larisula)	Invited all suco council member from target Suco
2017 Feb 15	Community meeting and consultation in Uatu Carbau	Community consultation	Uatucarbau (Participant from council member of Suco Bahatata and Irabin de Cima)	Invited all suco council member from target Suco
2017 Feb 16	Community meeting and consultation in Ilomar, Lautem	Community consultation	Suco Caenliu	Invited all suco council member from target Suco
2017 Feb 17	Community meeting and consultation in Luro, Lospalos	Community consultation	Suco Baricafa	Invited all suco council member from target Suco
2017 Feb 21	Community meeting and consultation in Bazartete, Liquisa	Community consultation	Suco Fahilebo	Invited all suco council member from target Suco
2017 Feb 22	Community meeting and consultation in Railako, Ermera	Community consultation	Suco Lihu	Invited all suco council member from target Suco
2017 Mar 09	Community meeting and consultation in Bazartete, Liquisa	Community consultation	Suco Leorema	Invited all suco council member from target Suco
2017 Mar 28	Community meeting and consultation in Bazartete, Liquisa	Community consultation	Suco Ulmera	Invited all suco council member from target Suco
2017 Feb 22	Youth Training Program	Consultation with INDIMO	Tibar	Discussed with Director about the procedure for providing professional training
2017 Mar 14	Youth Training Program	Consultation with SEFOPE	Dili	Discussed with Director for Policy and Professional Training

Date	Activity	Subject	Location	Remark
2017 Apr 26	Meeting with Government staff from Forestry and Environment	Project activity and budget presentation	Office of DG FCIC	DG Forestry, National Directorate of Conservation Nature, Protected Area, Biodiversity both from Forestry and Environment, HoD of Watershed Management and Costal Area, HoD of Reforestation
2017 May 29	Focus group discussion	Baseline METT assessment for the GEF-6 Biodiversity tracking tool	Office of Department of Protected Areas, MAF	The focus group jointly completed the baseline METT assessments for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAS
2017 June 12	Meeting about Land using planning training	PLUP training	MAF - Caicoli	Possible participating on PLUP training provide by JICA CBNRM project phase 2
2017 June 7	Potential collaboration with JICA	Co- financing letter	JICA office	Discussed about the co-financing letter
2017 June 19	MCIE Cofinancing	Co- financing letter	MCIE - Environment	Discussing about the co-financing letter
2017 June 16	MAF/DGFC	Co – financing letter	MAF - Caicoli	Discussed about the co-financing letter

PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS

The project will engage with stakeholders at the local, national, and regional level, utilising existing structures as much as practicable. The project stakeholders and their envisaged roles on the project are described below in **Table VII-2**:

Table VII-2: Project Stakeholder Engagement Matrix

Stakeholder	Current function	Project role/responsibility
Government Agencies		
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) (Forestry sector - various departments) <i>{Ministério de Agricultura e Pesca}</i>	Governing institution for forestry and terrestrial protected areas. Lead agency for implementing Decree Law No. 5/2016 on the National PA System.	MAF will be the lead government partner for all components of the project. The project will collaborate primarily with the Department of Protected Areas (<i>Departamento de Áreas Protegidas</i>) which is under the National Directorate of Nature Conservation (<i>Direcção Nacional de Conservação da Natureza</i>). For the forest mapping and reforestation and rehabilitation activities, staff from the National Directorate of Forestry will also be engaged. Other directorates will also

Stakeholder	Current function	Project role/responsibility
		be involved according to the subject matter. MAF will appoint a national project director, who will be the chairperson of the project board.
Ministry of Commerce, Industry and the Environment (Biodiversity Directorate) Ministry of Commerce, Industry and the Environment (MCIE) { <i>Ministério de Comércio, Industria e Ambiente</i> }	National administrative and managing authority for biodiversity, GEF Focal point, CBD focal point. MCIE is responsible for industry and economic development, as well as the environment. The Ministry is the GEF operational focal point in Timor-Leste and the focal agency for the Rio Conventions (CBD, UNFCCC, and UNCCD).	MCIE staff will be engaged by the project on a number of fronts, specifically in terms of biodiversity conservation planning. Considering that MCIE is one of the main cofinancing partners, there will also be collaboration on complementary, parallel initiatives, collaborating on capacity building, technical advisory, and other functions. A MCIE official will be included on the project board.
Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MTAC) { <i>Ministério de Turismo, Artes e Cultura</i> }	MTAC develops tourism sector policies, supports the enterprise sector in their business growth, and promotes sustainable tourism in the country.	MTAC will be engaged by the project in assessing protected area sustainable financing alternatives and in supporting community groups in developing ecotourism opportunities.
Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communications { <i>Ministério das Obras Publicas, Transportes e Comunicações (MOPTC)</i> }	MOPTC proposes and implements policy guidelines and enforces legal frameworks, including for electricity distribution, water resource management, transportation, and communications. MOPTC is also a lead government agency with respect to national spatial planning.	MOPTC will be engaged by the project in developing reforestation and rehabilitation plans, ensuring these plans are aligned with infrastructure investments in the two target catchments.
Ministry of Education { <i>Ministério do Educacau</i> }	The Ministry of Education develops and implements education policies, and through their municipal level offices is responsible for delivering education services.	It will be important to work with the Ministry of Education regarding capacity building initiatives on the project, including development of a youth training program.
Local government units, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipality (<i>Município</i>) • Administrative Posts (<i>Posto Administrativo</i>) • Village (<i>Suco</i>) • Hamlet (<i>Aldeia</i>) 	Timor-Leste has been undergoing a process of decentralization in recent years. The Law of Sucos (No. 9/2016) stipulates expanded administrative authority for the Suco Chiefs and Suco Councils, including in community development, dispute mediation, and revenue collection.	The project will have direct engagement with suco level governments, in the 10 selected sucos: 4 in the Comoro catchment and 6 in the Irabere catchment. Suco level NRM plans will be developed and integrated into suco regulations.
Civil Society Organizations (CSO)		
Conservation International (CI) Timor-Leste	For nearly 30 years, CI has been protecting nature for the benefits of all, working in 20 countries on safeguarding land, marine, and coastal ecosystems. In Timor-Leste, the CI resident office promotes biodiversity conservation, supports the development of environmental policy, and conducts ecological and biological baseline surveys.	As GEF Agency and executing agency for the project, CI will have primary day to day project implementation responsibilities. CI will also establish a project management unit, including a project manager and administrative and operational support staff.

Stakeholder	Current function	Project role/responsibility
RAEBIA	Raebia is an organization well establish, transformed form USK Canada, has been working in Agriculture and forestry sector since Indonesia occupation. Currently they are the main partner of JICA CBNRM project implementing in LACLO catchment. RAEBIA also as a partners of FAO in Agriculture Conservation project in Baucau.	RAEBIA would be an important stakeholder, possibly as an implementing partners for planned community activities.
SANTALUM	Formed in 2003, SANTALUM is one of organization has been working in forestry sector such as community forestry, agroforestry and seedling production in the nursery which currently implementing activities funded by Small Grant Program under UNDP in Comoro catchment.	SANTALUM would be an important stakeholder, possibly as an implementing partner for the planned community activities.
HASATIL	HASATIL is a network for all non-government organization which focus in agriculture and environmental protection sector in Timor Leste.	HASATIL is an important stakeholder, possibly as an implementing partner for the planned community level activities
Timor Verde	Formed in 2003, Timor Verde is one of the organization located in Baucau, has been working in upland farming and also providing expertise in Agroforestry sector, currently implementing small grant project from UNDP	Possibly as providing training on natural recourse management in Irabere catchment.
Weed-With One Seed	One seed program currently implementing in BAGUIA, funded by private company from Australia, is part of carbon sequestration program.	One Seed Program as main partner in Baguia, already establish community nursery in several villages including Uacala, Larisula and Bahatata which is part of project target.
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	CRS works with organizations around the world to help poor and vulnerable people overcome emergencies, to earn a living through agriculture, and to access affordable health care. In Timor-Leste, CRS works on several fronts to improve health, food security, income generation and ongoing peacebuilding	CRS is an important stakeholder, possibly as an implementing partner for the planned community level activities.
Mercy Corps	Mercy Corps is active in Timor-Leste working to address the root causes of poverty by increasing food production, building local economies and increasing access to energy and financial services for rural communities most vulnerable to climate change and other shocks. Mercy Corps is also one of the implementing partners on the TOMAK project funded by the Government of Australia.	Mercy Corps could possibly be an implementing partner for the planned community level activities.

Stakeholder	Current function	Project role/responsibility
Permatil	Permatil is a local NGO, supporting the WithOneSeed initiative with permaculture activities in rural communities.	Permatil is a potential local implementing partner, drawing on their experience on the WithOneSeed initiative in supporting the community level activities on the TLSNAP project.
Timor-Leste NGO Forum { <i>Forum ONG Timor-Leste (FONGTIL)</i> }	FONGTIL is a national umbrella membership-based non-government organization, for Local, National and International NGOs in Timor-Leste that share the belief to promote and advocate in all sectors for the wellbeing and interests of all Timorese citizens.	FONGTIL should be considered as a member on the Project Advisory Group, providing guidance on civil society participation on the project.
Private Sector:		
Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) { <i>Camára Comercio e Industria - Kamar Dagang Dan Industri</i> }	The CCI TL is an important chamber of commerce in Timor Leste. The organization objective is to represent its members in policy advocacy, and to deliver a range of business services to enhance the skills, knowledge and performance of the businesses its represent to achieve private sector growth.	CCI should be regularly consulted, e.g., linking partners among the private sector with community groups involved in sustainable use interventions within the two target catchments.
OLAM	Coffee buyer currently buying coffee in four target villages surrounding Monte Fatumasin Protected Area.	Possibly partner in target villages ULmera, Lihu, Leorema and Fahilebo are producing coffee arabica and Robusta.
Education and Certification Institutions:		
National University of Timor-Leste { <i>Universitas Nasional Timor-Leste (UNTL)</i> }	UNTL is one of the main tertiary academic institutions in the country, with a Centre for Climate Change and Biodiversity established in 2014.	Professional staff from the Center for Climate Change and Biodiversity could support the ecological and biological surveys planned for the Comoro and Irabere catchments. The university staff and resources could also support capacity building and technical advisory needs on the project. UNTL representatives might also be considered for inclusion on the Project Advisory Committee.
Universidade Oriental Timor Lorosa'e (UNITAL)	UNITAL is a private university based in Dili with courses offered in forestry and conservation.	There could be opportunities for collaborating with UNITAL in developing and delivering the training programs planned under the TLSNAP project.
Secretariat of State for Vocational Training Policy and Employment (SEPFOPE) { <i>Secretaria de Estado para a Política de Formação Profissional e Emprego</i> }	SEPFOPE is responsible for developing policies and programs on vocational training in Timor-Leste.	SEPFOPE will be engaged by the project in certifying the youth training program on natural resource management.
National Institute for the Development of Manpower (INDMO)	INDMO is the training accreditation unit in Timor-Leste.	INDMO will be engaged by the project regarding accreditation of the youth training module. The envisaged registered training organization (RTO)

Stakeholder		Current function	Project role/responsibility
{ <i>Instituto Nacional de Desenvolvimento de Mão de Obra</i> }			qualification for CI will also be issued by INDMO.
Local communities:			
Local people		Local people in the Moto Hare sub-catchment (Comoro catchment) in the Dili Municipality and in the Afalita sub-catchment (Irabere catchment) in the Bacau, Lautem, and Viqueque municipalities, that live in or near the target catchments and who are reliant on the available ecosystem goods and services.	Participating in community conservation activities; conducting forestry work, reforestation and rehabilitation; assisting in the establishment and operation of plant nurseries; receiving training; and implementing sustainable livelihood alternatives supported by the project.
Moto Hare sub-catchment	Afalita sub-catchment		
Leorema suco	Uacala suco		
Fahilebo suco	Baricafa suco		
Lihu suco	Lari Sula suco		
Ulmera suco	Bahatata suco		
	Irabin de Cima suco		
	Cainliu suco		
Regional and International Partners:			
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)		UNDP works in nearly 170 countries and territories, helping to achieve the eradication of poverty, and the reduction of inequalities and exclusion. We help countries to develop policies, leadership skills, partnering abilities, institutional capabilities and build resilience in order to sustain development results. As a GEF agency, UNDP has implemented several GEF financed projects in Timor-Leste, though the resident office they have in Dili. In addition to GEF projects, UNDP is active in the country in promoting sustainable human development.	UNDP is currently implementing two GEF-financed projects in Timor-Leste, and a third, a regional one, is approved for implementation. There are opportunities for collaborating on these projects, e.g., sharing experiences in addressing ecosystem rehabilitation, development of management plans for protected areas, and gender and social inclusion.
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations		FAO is an agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. In Timor-Leste, FAO has provided long-standing support, in five priority areas: 1) support to improvement of institution and coordination mechanisms for policies and laws and regulations; 2) supported first agriculture census; 3) support farming livelihoods, food availability, 4) support smallholders fishing and aquaculture households; and 5) support the renewal realignment and development of Timor-Leste's crop system.	The project should collaborate with FAO in their development of a community forestry policy for Timor-Leste, and also on technical matters including forest mapping, designing sustainable forest management plans, and on designing and implementing reforestation and rehabilitation interventions.
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)		JICA is a governmental agency that coordinates official development assistance for the government of Japan. JICA has provided critical support to the Government of Timor-Leste for several years, namely with respect to watershed management, forest conservation, spatial planning,	There are several opportunities for engaging JICA on the project. For example, JICA is implementing a watershed management program in the Comoro catchment, in a different sub-catchment as planned for the TLSNAP project. The TLSNAP project can build upon the collaborative

Stakeholder	Current function	Project role/responsibility
	and recently in infrastructure development. JICA is providing critical support to GoTL in several areas of relevance to this project, namely coastal forest management, catchment and watershed management and spatial planning. They should be invited to participate on the regional stakeholder partnership forum.	management arrangements developed over the past several years.
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	USAID is the United States Government agency which is primarily responsible for administering civilian foreign aid USAID is active in Timor-Leste, particularly in aquaculture, environmental protection, and climate change adaptation.	Potential collaboration opportunities with USAID and the TLSNAP project include capacity building, gender mainstreaming, and partnerships with the private sector and civil society.
Depart of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Government of Australia	DFAT is a department of the Government of Australia charged with the responsibility of advancing the interests of Australia and its citizens internationally DFAT programs in Timor Leste based on three strategic objectives: 1) improving livelihoods; 2) enhancing human development; and 3) strengthening governance and institutions.	Potential collaboration opportunities between DFAT and the TLSNAP project include developing innovative partnerships with government, private sector, and civil society, and also with respect to promoting women's economic empowerment in agriculture.
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)	GIZ is a German development agency headquartered in Bonn and Eschborn that provides services in the field of international development cooperation. GIZ has been active in Timor-Leste since 1999, on peace building and sustainable development programs, and the agency is currently one of the implementing partners for the EU funded Global Climate Change Alliance Programme in Timor-Leste.	There are potential synergies with GIZ on the GCCA-TL programme, e.g., in terms of developing and implementing community driven natural resource management.
Local Media:		
Timor Telecom	Timor Telecom (TT) is the fixed and mobile telecommunications network operator of Timor-Leste.	There could be support for ensuring effective communication across the landscapes where the project will be implementing activities.
Radio-Televisão Timor Leste (RTTL)	RTTL is the national radio and television broadcaster in Timor-Leste.	Potential support for producing and disseminating communication and knowledge products on the project.
Suara Timor Lorosae (STL)	STL is a media company, producing printed and online based content.	Potential support for producing and disseminating communication and knowledge products on the project.
Audiovisual Production House {Casa de Produção Audiovisual}	Casa de Produção Audiovisual (CPA) records and produces audiovisual	Potential support for producing and disseminating communication and

Stakeholder	Current function	Project role/responsibility
	stories on Timor-Leste that are broadcasted in the national network TVTL. CPA also works with partner organizations to produce advocacy and educational videos. CPA is a non-profit organization associated with the Society of Jesus Foundation.	knowledge products on the project, particularly with respect to traditional knowledge.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

The stakeholder engagement plan is based on consultations made during the project preparation grant (PPG) phase, starting with a national PPG inception workshop, and subsequently through interviews with key governmental sector officials, community consultations, and consultations with project partners.

Stakeholder groups

Beneficiaries

At the community level, the project focuses on vulnerable local beneficiaries, including women and youth, specifically those people who are reliant upon ecosystem goods and services within the target catchments. At the government level, strengthened capacities in participatory management of natural resources will enable operational staff the know-how and field experience to replicate the approaches in other catchments, and policy-makers will benefit from a functioning PA system, supported by a 5-year national PA system plan and a framework for sustainable protected area financing.

Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs)

NGOs will be important partners throughout implementation of the project, assisting with community conservation activities, sustainable livelihood interventions, land rehabilitation, public outreach, and knowledge management.

Private Sector

Participation of the private sector is an important element with respect to enhancing the likelihood that the results achieved during the project's lifespan will be sustained after GEF funding ceases. The private sector will benefit from the enabling environment created by the strengthened capacity of community conservation groups.

Professional and Scientific Communities

The project will make substantive contributions to the knowledge base and skills set of the professional and scientific communities in Timor-Leste. Local specialists and institutions will participate in advisory roles and service providers. Through collaboration with international experts, local professionals will also benefit from state-of-the-art approaches in natural resource management.

Regional and International Partners

One of the main comparative advantages of CI is the organization's global footprint, and their collective strategic and technical expertise in advancing state-of-the art approaches to conservation.

Culturally Appropriate Stakeholder Engagement

The project will ensure that stakeholder engagement is undertaken in a culturally appropriate manner, delivering environmental and development benefits.

Given low literacy levels in some of the target *sucos*, project details will be communicated orally and visually as well as in written form in local languages, to ensure local stakeholders can understand the specific activities being implemented and the potential impacts and benefits.

Long-term stakeholder participation

The project will provide the following opportunities for long-term participation of stakeholders, with a special emphasis on the active participation of local communities and institutions, and enhancement of inter-agency, inter-sectoral coordination.

- a. Decision-making – through the project management unit. The terms of reference for the project management will outline protocols and procedures involving stakeholder participation, including managing key stakeholder relationships, conducting consultations with relevant stakeholders as required; and providing guidance and oversight for project implementation.
- b. Capacity building – at systemic, institutional and individual level – is one of the key strategic interventions of the project and will target all stakeholders that have the potential to be involved in implementing and/or monitoring management agreements related to project activities. The project will target especially organizations operating at the community level to enable them to actively participate in developing and implementing activities.
- c. Knowledge management - will include the participatory development of an integrated knowledge management strategy, which will emphasize “communities of practice”, outreach services, dissemination of information on good practices and lessons learned on as wide a scale as possible. Moreover, the project will create an enabling platform for multi-layered stakeholder participation through establishment of interoperable information systems, and institutionalizing participation through a range of networks, partnerships, and exhibitions.
- d. Coordination with related initiatives – The project will coordinate its activities with other GEF funded projects and also with other complementary initiatives.

Change Agents

The project will also facilitate involvement by relevant change agents, including research institutions and other stakeholders within the scientific and professional communities, and NGOs, who have built up collaborative relationships with local communities, particularly lower income ones.

TIMETABLE

A number of groups (see **Table VII-3**) will be established or strengthened over the course of the project, to support implementation and to build stakeholder platforms that would guide continuation and upscaling of project results after GEF funding ceases.

Table VII-3: Planned groups that will be formed or strengthened during project implementation

No.	Group Description	Level	Est. Members	Est. No. Annual Meetings
1	Project Board	Multiple	MAF, MCIE, CI, Suco Reps.	1
2	Project advisory committee	National	12 (governmental agencies, CI, NGOs, community representatives)	4
3	Mount Fatumasin PA management committee	Catchment	MAF, CI, <i>município</i> , <i>posto administrativo</i> , <i>suco</i> , traditional leaders	4
4	Mount Legumau PA management committee	Catchment	MAF, CI, <i>município</i> , <i>posto administrativo</i> , <i>suco</i> , traditional leaders	4

No.	Group Description	Level	Est. Members	Est. No. Annual Meetings
5	Leorema <i>suco</i> community conservation group	<i>suco</i>	Community based organization, supported by <i>suco</i> and traditional leaders	4
6	Fahilebo <i>suco</i> community conservation group	<i>suco</i>	Community based organization, supported by <i>suco</i> and traditional leaders	4
7	Lihu <i>suco</i> community conservation group	<i>suco</i>	Community based organization, supported by <i>suco</i> and traditional leaders	4
8	Ulmera <i>suco</i> community conservation group	<i>suco</i>	Community based organization, supported by <i>suco</i> and traditional leaders	4
9	Uacala <i>suco</i> community conservation group	<i>suco</i>	Community based organization, supported by <i>suco</i> and traditional leaders	4
10	Baricafa <i>suco</i> community conservation group	<i>suco</i>	Community based organization, supported by <i>suco</i> and traditional leaders	4
11	Lari Sula <i>suco</i> community conservation group	<i>suco</i>	Community based organization, supported by <i>suco</i> and traditional leaders	4
12	Bahatata <i>suco</i> community conservation group	<i>suco</i>	Community based organization, supported by <i>suco</i> and traditional leaders	4
13	Irabin de Cima <i>suco</i> community conservation group	<i>suco</i>	Community based organization, supported by <i>suco</i> and traditional leaders	4
14	Caenliu <i>suco</i> community conservation group	<i>suco</i>	Community based organization, supported by <i>suco</i> and traditional leaders	4
15				

The project board, with representatives from MAF, MCIE, CI, and the target *sucos*, will convene once per year. A cross-sectoral project advisory committee will be established to support project implementation on technical matters and to ensure multiple stakeholder groups are proactively engaged. The project advisory committee will be an important stakeholder platform, with meetings planned on a quarterly basis. Protected area management committees will be established for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs, in accordance with requirements stipulated in Decree Law No. 5/2016. The projected area management committees will include representative stakeholders, ensuring that affected and interested stakeholder groups are involved. Community conservation groups will be established in each of the ten target *sucos*, to support the implementation of the collaborative PA management activities, the *suco* NRM plans, and the reforestation and rehabilitation activities.

Stakeholder engagement will also be facilitated through organizing several workshops over the course of the project, as listed below in **Table VII-4**.

Table VII-4: Planned workshops and awareness campaigns during project implementation

No.	Workshop Subject	Est. No. of Attendees	Est. Location	Est. Date
1	Project Inception Workshop	50	Dili	Y1
2	Regional Workshop on PA Sustainable Financing	40	Dili	Y2
3	Mount Fatumasin PA public hearing	40	Bazartete	Y2
4	Mount Legumau PA public hearing	120	Baguai and Luro	Y2
5	National workshop on youth training	50	Dili	Y3
6	National workshop on sustainable use of forest resources	50	Dili	Y3

No.	Workshop Subject	Est. No. of Attendees	Est. Location	Est. Date
7	National stakeholder workshop on HCV assessments	50	Dili	Y3
8	Awareness campaign: sustainable forest management	500	All target sucos	Y3
9	National stakeholder workshop on reforestation and rehabilitation	50	Dili	Y4
10	National Project Completion Workshop	50	Dili	Y4

The project inception workshop will set the stage for proactive stakeholder engagement. The project plans to organize a regional workshop on sustainable PA financing in Year 2, in order to share regional and international best practice. In accordance with the requirements under Decree Law No. 5/2016, public hearings will be held for the formal establishment of the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs. These public hearings are planned in Year 3. Several national workshops are planned to facilitate partnerships and to share best practice; including sustainable livelihoods, HCV assessments, reforestation and rehabilitation, and youth training on NRM. In Year 5, a project completion workshop will be held in Dili, to present the results achieved on the project and to enhance sustainability through various stakeholder partnerships and other arrangements.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

Performance of the targets specified in the action plan will be regularly monitored and monitoring and evaluation results will be reported in the project progress reports and project implementation review (PIR) reports.

RESOURCES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The project management unit, led by the project manager, will be responsible for implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan and for installing adaptive management measures as deemed relevant based on progress made on project activities.

The project advisory committee will be responsible for providing technical and strategic guidance during implementation, and the committee members will be invited to make presentations at project board meetings as needed.

At the local level, the PA management committees will be the main stakeholder engagement structures for guiding the activities associated with PA management. The project will also engage with the *suco* councils in the ten target *sucos*, through the auspices of the community conservation groups and facilitated by the two project catchment coordinators.

Participation of the civil society and private sectors are important with respect to enhancing the likelihood that the results achieved during the project's lifespan will be sustained after GEF funding ceases. Local NGOs have established operations in Timor-Leste, and private sector enterprises can provide market entry points that could enable local communities in further developing sustainable use of certain ecosystem goods and services. The Timor-Leste NGO Forum and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry will be key focal points for facilitating civil society and private sector engagement, respectively.

Engagement with other key regional and international stakeholders, including the JICA, UNDP, USAID, DFAT, GIZ will be facilitated, largely through technical advisory arrangements and networking on complementary projects and initiatives.

The indicative budget for the planned monitoring and evaluation activities under this safeguard plan is included in Line Item c (Project Results Monitoring) in the project M&E plan.

GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

The project will ensure that local communities participate throughout the implementation phase and will strive to avoid potentially adverse impacts, including unintended consequences.

In the first instance, any grievance should be addressed and where possible resolved locally. CI will be responsible for informing project-affected communities about the grievance provisions, including the ESMF's accountability and grievance mechanism. Contact information of CI and the GEF will be made publicly available to involved stakeholders. Complaints to CI can be made through many different channels including, but not limited to face-to-face meetings, written complaints, telephone conversations, or e-mail.

The project will also work closely with existing *suco* level administrative and traditional structures for addressing potential disputes. It will be imperative to maintain proactive engagement with *suco* councils and traditional leaders, who are often called upon to settle land related issues and other conflicts in rural communities.

Stakeholders may raise a grievance at any time to Conservation International (CI), as the Executing Agency (EA) about actions implemented by the project and the application of its safeguard frameworks. Affected stakeholders should be informed about this possibility and contact information of the respective organizations at relevant levels should be made available either online, during the project inception workshop and/or in project target sites where most relevant.

The Accountability and Grievance Mechanism is intended to supplement the proactive stakeholder engagement that is required of CI and implementing partners throughout duration of the project. Communities and individuals may request an Accountability and Grievance Mechanism process when they have used standard channels for project management and quality assurance, and are not satisfied with the response.

If this process does not result in resolution of the grievance, the grievant may file a claim through CI's EthicsPoint Hotline at <https://secure.ethicspoint.com>

Through EthicsPoint, CI will respond within 15 calendar days of receipt, and claims will be filed and included in project monitoring processes.

Alternatively, the grievant may file a claim with the Director of Compliance (DOC) who is responsible for the CI Accountability and Grievance Mechanism and who can be reached at:

Mailing address: Director of Compliance
Conservation International
2011 Crystal Drive, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22202, USA.

ACTION PLAN

Activity	Actions	Indicator	Target
Promoting cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary stakeholder engagement.	Promote cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary stakeholder engagement, including government agencies, civil society, private sector, local people, and other stakeholder groups as appropriate.	Number of government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, local people, and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in the project implementation phase on an annual basis	25
Promoting active stakeholder involvement.	Promote active and regular stakeholder involvement throughout the project implementation phase.	Number persons (sex disaggregated) that have been involved in project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	100
Organizing and facilitating stakeholder engagement.	Organize and facilitate stakeholder engagement functions, to ensure effective and inclusive involvement and participation.	Number of engagement (e.g. meeting, workshops, consultations) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	10
Monitoring and evaluating stakeholder satisfaction.	Monitor and evaluate stakeholder satisfaction by independent assessment at midterm and terminal phases of the project implementation.	Percentage of stakeholders who rate as satisfactory the level at which their views and concerns are taken into account by the project <i>(responsible party for measuring this indicator is CI-GEF Agency and this will be undertaken by the consultant hired by the CI-GEF Agency to conduct the MTR and Terminal Evaluation</i>	90%

MONITORING AND REPORTING

Performance of the targets specified in the action plan will be regularly monitored and monitoring and evaluation results will be reported in the project progress reports and project implementation review (PIR) reports.

APPENDIX VIII: Safeguard Compliance Plan: Gender Mainstreaming

Project Title: Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste’s biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area System and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridors (TLSNAP)			
Country: Timor-Leste		Implementation Timeframe: 2018-2021	GEF ID: 9434
CI Contract ID:			
Date:	Version:	Description:	
June 2017	1	Project preparation phase	

INTRODUCTION

The TLSNAP project will support the Government of Timor-Leste in establishing a functional protected area (PA) system. At the site level, the project will facilitate participatory collaborative management arrangements with local communities, reducing threats to critical ecosystems and enhancing sustainable livelihoods. Innovative management mechanisms will be developed and implemented, supporting rehabilitation of degraded forest and other land areas, securing ecosystem functions including water and soil protection, and protecting against habitat damage and fragmentation.

Women are key stakeholders in a large number of activities that occur within and adjacent to the protected areas. These activities range from direct collection of firewood, farming, rearing livestock, to running households. Activities commonly performed by men include land preparation and clearing (for agriculture), collecting wild mushrooms, honey, and seeds in the forest, and also rearing livestock. Women’s vulnerabilities to resource overuse impacts are similar to those of men; however, women also have specific additional concerns, linked to their key roles in the household and the community. The position of women in the society is more vulnerable than that of men, due to lack of land rights and asset ownership in some cases, lower educational levels, and patriarchal rule in domestic sphere. Gender issues were, therefore, carefully taken into consideration in the project design.

The proposed project is firmly rooted in CI’s belief that in order for conservation work to be successful gender and the understanding of different gender roles, responsibilities, priorities and interests plays an important role in achieving our long-term goals and objectives. As part of Conservation International’s existing Rights-based Approach to conservation, CI has identified gender as a critical component of the overall strategy to protect human rights and ensure equitable participation and decision-making by stakeholders at all scales in our project activities. Both men and women encounter constraints based on gender to varying degrees and if unaddressed, these constraints can cause delays or impediments to achieving CI’s global mission.

This document lays out the gender mainstreaming plan relevant to the TLSNAP project, and includes recommendations for gender integration in order to foster men’s and women’s full and effective inclusion and to enhance sustainability of project results. This document also contains a gender action plan for the project management team which will serve as a basis for addressing gender considerations throughout the project implementation phase, utilizing appropriate social development and gender indicators for monitoring progress towards envisaged gender mainstreaming objectives.

OBJECTIVES

In line with the gender equality and social inclusion strategies and policy frameworks of both CI and GEF, the participation of women and men with equal voice, and also in accordance with cultural norms, is integral to the successful implementation of development projects. As Timor-Leste is patriarchal society,

the project will need to be proactive, e.g., separating women for certain trainings or field interventions, to effectively achieve women involvement. The objectives of this gender mainstreaming plan are to ensure that women and men involved on the TLSNAP project:

- a) Receive culturally compatible social and economic benefits,
- b) Do not suffer adverse effects during the development process, and
- c) Receive full respect for their dignity and human rights.

METHODOLOGY

This plan was developed in accordance with relevant sections of the CI-GEF Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)⁷² and the GEF's Gender Equality Action Plan⁷³, and in consultation with a number of relevant stakeholders.

THE GENERAL STATE OF GENDER

Since independence, Timor-Leste has made concerted efforts to improve gender equality and women's empowerment through policy reform, legislation, institutional mechanisms, and public awareness campaigns. Equality for women is enshrined in the Constitution, specifically Section 17 (Equality between women and men), which states "*Women and men shall have the same rights and duties in all areas of family, political, economic, social and cultural life.*" Moreover, the Government of Timor-Leste acceded to Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination (CEDAW) in April 2003. The status of the national women's machinery was elevated in 2008 to a State Secretariat reporting directly to the Prime Minister's Office, which strengthens its authority to develop and implement policies and programmes that address women's needs and concerns. The government signed the Dili *Komprimisu*, a public declaration that acknowledges the importance of gender equality and investing in women and girls, to achieve sustainable development, address poverty and strengthen society.

In terms of gender inequality, the female human development index (HDI) value for Timor-Leste for 2015 was 0.558 in contrast with 0.651 for males, resulting in a gender development index (GDI) value of 0.858, which is below the average East Asia and Pacific GDI value of 0.956.⁷⁴ Although some progress has been made in addressing inequalities through legislation, institutional arrangements, and increased public awareness, several challenges remain. Timor-Leste is a patriarchal society in which social norms and cultural values influence gender roles. Some of the pressing issues include high rates of domestic violence, continued high rates of maternal mortality, low participation in local governance, and gender gaps in the labor market. Women are more likely than men to be in vulnerable employment, which tends to lack stable income and benefits. This is particularly so for rural women: 87% of working rural women are in vulnerable jobs compared with 54% of urban women. The rate is also high among rural men (78%) compared with urban men (37%).⁷⁵

Conservation International in Timor-Leste has carried out its own research into the Gender and Natural Resource management (*Gender Integration Pilot Project 2014*) in the fishing communities of Nino Konis Santana National Park. The results showed a very distinct separation of tasks between men and women

⁷² CI-GEF, February 2017. Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Version 06. CI-GEF Project Agency.

⁷³ GEF Gender Equality Action Plan, May 2015

⁷⁴ Ibid. Introduced in 2014, the GDI reflects gender inequalities in achievement in the same three dimensions of the HDI: health (measured by female and male life expectancy at birth), education (measured by female and male expected years of schooling for children and mean years for adults aged 25 years and older); and command over economic resources (measured by female and male estimated gross national income (GNI) per capita).

⁷⁵ ADB, 2014. Timor-Leste country gender assessment. Asian Development Bank.

and the research has guided CI's continued engagement with the fishing communities and how to work to better empower women in this area. The research also had a direct impact in the way CI programs are designed in Timor-Leste and now each project has a community based field team consisting of one male and one female part time staff member.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING CONSIDERATIONS

1. Consideration of differences in labor utilization when designing detailed project field activities, such as for example, the different roles of men and women in sustainable use of ecosystem goods and services.
2. Design of training activities targeting women on enhancing sustainable livelihoods within the 10 selected *sucos*.
3. Development of gender disaggregated indicators for monitoring project impacts, especially with respect to socioeconomic benefits and sustainable livelihoods.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING STRATEGY FOR THE TLSNAP PROJECT

The project gender mainstreaming strategy recognizes the differences between labor, knowledge, needs, and priorities of women and men, and includes but is not limited to the following aspects:

- a. Consultation with women groups on needs and requirements associated with project interventions;
- b. Promotion of appropriate representation of women and men in project activities and groups established and/or strengthened;
- c. Development of strategic and planning documents in consultation with women and women forums, at local and national levels;
- d. Targeted budgeting of activities promoting active involvement of women, and monitoring and evaluation of such activities;
- e. Participation, training and skills building of women identified and budgeted in relevant project outcomes;
- f. Encouragement of women participation in the recruitment of project implementation staff; and
- g. When applicable, equal payment of men and women.

PROJECT-SPECIFIC GENDER CONSIDERATIONS

The project objective, *"to establish Timor-Leste's National Protected Area System and improve the management of forest ecosystems in priority catchment corridors"* will be achieved through the following five outcomes distributed among the three project components:

Component 1: Establishment of a National Protected Area System

Outcome 1.1: National PA system established and implementation initiated

Component 2: Improvement of community-based natural resource management systems in priority catchment corridors

Outcome 2.1: Land degradation drivers halted and/or minimized in key catchment areas

Outcome 2.2: Capacity for communities to manage their natural resources substantially increased

Component 3: Improvement of forest management and reforestation of degraded lands in priority catchment corridors

Outcome 3.1: Sustainable forest management in priority catchment corridors substantially improved

Outcome 3.2: Priority degraded areas reforested

Women and men will be involved in planning and decision-making associated with implementation of the interventions, and preference will be given to funding interventions that benefit both women and men. Aligning the project with the needs of both women and men will increase the utility and longevity of the incremental GEF funding.

Under **Component 1**, the project will integrate gender sensitive considerations into the development of the 5-year national PA system plan, assuring women’s and men’s equitable participation in PA planning and management, e.g., requiring at least 30% women representation on PA management committees. The project implementation team will also ensure that there is 50% representation of women and men as part of the planned discussions with local communities regarding delineating the boundaries of the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs. The management and business plans for these two PAs will also be developed following a gender-sensitive approach, providing equal opportunities for women and men in decision making roles and designing specific opportunities for women in accessing natural resources and sharing the benefits of sustainable livelihood interventions. The project will also promote 30% representation of women onto the PA management committees that will be established for the Mount Fatumasin and Mount Legumau PAs.

The activities under **Component 2** are focused on strengthening capacities of local communities in participating in collaborative natural resource management arrangements and in implementing sustainable livelihood alternatives. The *suco* NRM plans for the ten target *sucos* will have gender mainstreaming sections, with specific objectives and activities aimed at enhancing gender equity and equality. The youth training designed under Outcome 2.2 has a target of including 30% females, of the total 100 to receive this formal NRM management training. Similarly, 30% female membership is also planned for the conservation groups established in each of the ten target *sucos*. The sustainable livelihood interventions supported will be assessed for ensuring appropriate opportunity and participation of women.

Under **Component 3**, the sustainable forest management plans, integrated into the *suco* NRM plans, will be developed in a manner that provides active participation by women and men, in both decision making and implementation. Design of the rehabilitation plans for degraded forest and other land areas will be taken into account equal opportunity for women and men, e.g., through agro-forestry, fodder banks, or other type of intervention. The project will also involve women and men into the design and operation of the planned 25 plant nurseries.

GENDER ACTION PLAN

Activity	Actions	Indicator	Target
Facilitating gender mainstreaming	Ensure appropriate representation of women in project activities, including meetings, workshops, group membership, and consultation forums. As needed, organize separate consultations with women prior to ensure that they receive sufficient information about the specific activities and opportunities for them to voice their views, needs and preferences.	Number of men and women that participate in project activities (e.g., meetings, workshops, consultations, group membership, etc.).	30% women

Activity	Actions	Indicator	Target
Enhancing gender equality	<p>Ensure appropriate proportion of benefits realized from the project will be delivered to women, including opportunities for employment, income generating activities, training, access to natural resource rights, leadership roles, etc.</p> <p>Ensure that selection of the interventions to be funded gives preference to those that specifically bring improvement to women's livelihoods.</p> <p>Equal pay will be provided to men and women for work of equal type in accordance with national laws and international treaty obligations, and safe working conditions for both women and men workers will be provided.</p> <p>Information campaigns about the project will be developed that incorporate messages outlining the benefits for both women and men.</p> <p>Information campaigns about the project (in local language and not reliant on written materials) developed as to outline the benefits for both women and men.</p>	Number of men and women that receive benefits (e.g., employment, income generating activities, training, access to natural resources, land tenure or resource rights, equipment, leadership roles) from the project.	30% women
Ensuring gender integration	Ensure gender considerations are integrated into strategies and plans, including the 5-year national PA system plan, management plans, business plans, suco NRM plans, and degraded land rehabilitation plans.	Number of strategies, plans (e.g., management plans and land use plans) and policies derived from the project that includes gender considerations.	17 , including: National PA system plan; Mount Fatumasin PA management and business plans; Mount Legumau management and business plans; 10 suco NRM plans; degraded land rehabilitation plans for Moto Hare (Comoro) and Afalita (Irabere) sub-catchments.
Promoting gender awareness	<p>Promote gender awareness throughout the project implementation phase.</p> <p>Gender awareness training will be delivered by qualified partner(s). Project management team members, including catchment coordinators, will be obliged to participate in the trainings. Training will also be conducted, when required, in order to raise gender awareness among staff of the implementing agencies, contractors, community leaders, and <i>suco</i> residents.</p> <p>Conduct workshops with the project staff to ensure they are able to detect, intercept, respond to, and prevent (or refer cases) of sexual harassment, gender based violence, and other problems that may emerge during project implementation.</p>	Percentage of project implementation staff and partners receiving gender awareness training.	100%

MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF GENDER

Performance of the targets specified in the gender action plan will be regularly monitored, reporting on gender disaggregated data, information, and indicators, in order to allow for evaluation of the progress

made. Monitoring and evaluation results will be reported in the project progress reports and project implementation review (PIR) reports.

Gender mainstreaming capacities of local conservation groups will also be strengthened to enable specified members to carry out long term monitoring following closure of the GEF project.

The indicative budget for the planned monitoring and evaluation activities under this safeguard plan is included in Line Item c (Project Results Monitoring) in the project M&E plan.

APPENDIX IX: Safeguard Compliance Plan: Accountability and Grievance Mechanisms

Project Title: Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste’s biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area System and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridors				
Country: Timor-Leste		Implementation Timeframe: 2018-2021	GEF ID: 9434	CI Contract ID:
Date:	Version:	Description:		
June 2017	1	Project preparation phase		

INTRODUCTION

Stakeholders may raise a grievance at any time to Conservation International (CI), as the Executing Agency (EA) about actions implemented by the project and the application of its safeguard frameworks. Affected stakeholders should be informed about this possibility and contact information of the respective organizations at relevant levels should be made available either online, during the project inception workshop and/or in project target sites where most relevant. Unless project-affected communities request an alternative process, the Accountability and Grievance Policy and Mechanism described in the Safeguard Policies and Processes section of the CI-ESMF shall apply – which is copied herein in its entirety as integral part of this safeguard compliance plan.

The Accountability and Grievance Mechanism is intended to supplement the proactive stakeholder engagement that is required of CI and implementing partners throughout duration of the project. Communities and individuals may request an Accountability and Grievance Mechanism process when they have used standard channels for project management and quality assurance, and are not satisfied with the response.

PROACTIVE AND PARTICIPATORY STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The project will ensure that local communities participate throughout the implementation phase and will strive to avoid potentially adverse impacts, including unintended consequences.

In the first instance any grievance should be addressed and where possible resolved locally. CI will be responsible for informing project-affected communities about the grievance provisions, including the ESMF’s accountability and grievance mechanism. Contact information of CI and the GEF will be made publicly available to involved stakeholders. Complaints to CI can be made through many different channels including, but not limited to face-to-face meetings, written complaints, telephone conversations, or e-mail.

The CI-TL Country Director will be responsible for overseeing the accountability and grievance mechanism. The contact details are presented below.

Country Director
Conservation International
P.O. Box 006
Rua Dom Aleixo Corte Real, Mandarin
Dili, Timor-Leste
Tel: 670 3310016

The Country Director will attempt to resolve all reasonable grievances raised, and provide a written response to grievances within 30 days. Grievances and executing entity responses must be well

documented. If this process does not result in the resolution of the grievance, the grievant may file a claim through CI’s Ethics Point Hotline at <https://secure.ethicspoint.com>.

Given low literacy levels in some of the target *sucos*, project details will be communicated orally and visually as well as in written form in local languages, to ensure local stakeholders can understand the specific activities being implemented and the potential impacts and benefits.

The project will also work closely with existing *suco* level administrative and traditional structures for addressing potential disputes. It will be imperative to maintain proactive engagement with *suco* councils and traditional leaders, who are often called upon to settle land related issues and other conflicts in rural communities. As stipulated in the *Law of Sucos* (No. 9/2016) of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, specifically under Article 6 on Competences, in pursuit of the respective duties, one of the competences exercised by the *sucos* is to “*Promote the resolution of conflicts that arise between the community members or between Aldeias, in accordance with the traditions and practices of the community and the respect for the principle of equality.*”

At a national level, the Ombudsman, with representation in four regional offices in addition to the main office in Dili, is charged with examining and settling citizen complaints against public bodies, according to duties prescribed in Section 27 of the Constitution.

ACTION PLAN

Activity	Actions	Indicator	Target
Promote participatory involvement and open communication	Promote proactive and participatory involvement by local communities and other project stakeholders. Facilitate open and regular communication, providing stakeholders with timely information regarding project plans and activities.	Number of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project’s Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	None
Facilitate fair and timely conflict resolution	In the case of conflicts or complaints reported to the Accountability and Grievance Mechanism, facilitate fair and timely resolution.	Percentage of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project’s Accountability and Grievance Mechanism that have been resolved	100%

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Performance of the targets specified in the action plan will be regularly monitored and monitoring and evaluation results will be reported in the project progress reports and project implementation review (PIR) reports.

CI ACCOUNTABILITY AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISMS

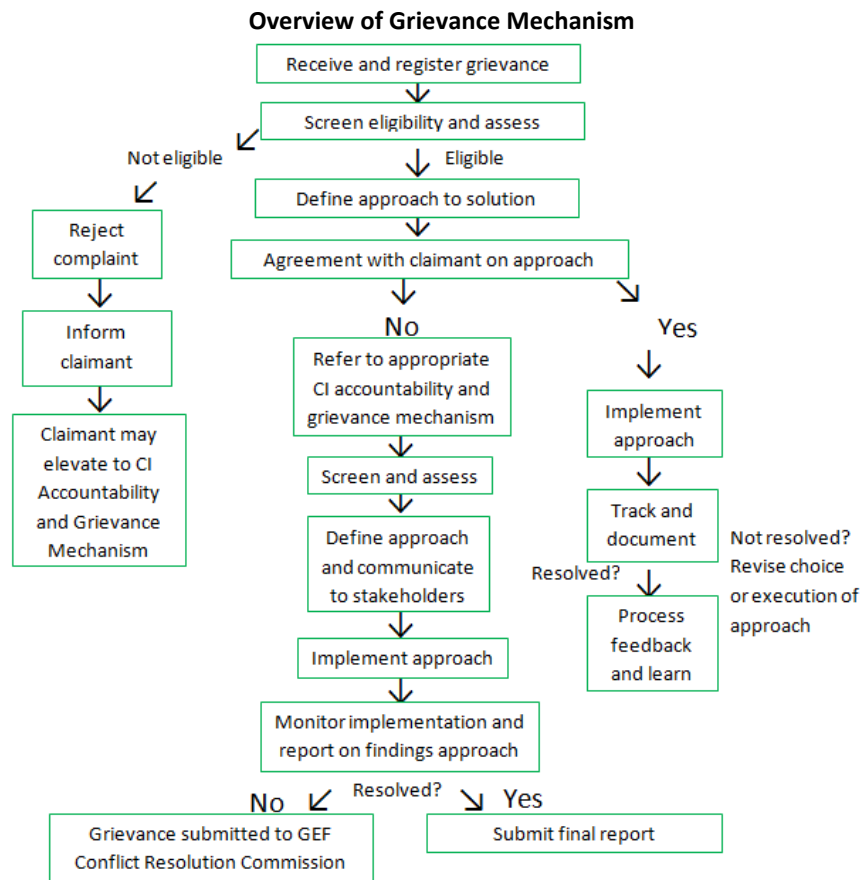
Context

1. Based on the requirements of accreditation as a Project Agency of the GEF, CI must have a system of accountability to ensure enforcement of its environmental and social safeguard policies and related systems. In addition, CI is required to have measures for the receipt of and timely response to complaints’ from parties affected by the implementation of GEF-funded project and which seek resolution of complaints.

- CI as a Project Agency has devised Accountability and Grievance Mechanisms so that local communities and other stakeholders may raise a grievance at all times to the Executing Entity, CI or the GEF about any issues covered in the ESMF. Affected communities should be informed about this possibility and contact information of the respective organizations at relevant levels should be made available publicly.

CI Organizational Structure and Staffing

- Recognizing that the accountability and grievance system needs to be separate from all divisions in CI that (potentially) implement and/or execute GEF funding, the Accountability and Grievance Mechanisms sit within the General Counsel’s Office. The Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management manages all activities and processes related to the Accountability and Grievance Mechanisms. To implement the Accountability and Grievance Mechanism, CI uses an Ethics Hotline, managed by Navex's Ethicspoint. Ethics Hotline is Safe Harbor Certified through the United States Department of Commerce and is available worldwide.



Conflict Resolution on a Project-by-Project basis

- The Executing Entity should be the first point of contact in the Grievance Mechanism. The Executing Entity will be responsible for informing Affected Communities about the project commitments and ESMF provisions. Contact information of the Executing Entity, CI, and the GEF will be made publicly available to all involved stakeholders. Complaints to the Executing Agency can be made through

many different channels including, but not limited to face-to-face meetings, written complaints, telephone conversations, or e-mail.

5. A Grievance Mechanism should be put in place by the Executing Entity as early as possible – ideally at the project design phase – and may be modified for later project phases as necessary. Problems are often resolved more easily, cheaply, and efficiently when they are dealt with early and locally. The project design must include a process for hearing, responding to and resolving community and other stakeholder grievances within a reasonable time period. This grievance process must be publicized to communities and other stakeholders and may be managed by a third party or mediator to prevent any conflict of interest. Executing Entities must attempt to resolve all reasonable grievances raised, and provide a written response to grievances within 30 days. Grievances and Executing Entity responses must be well documented.
6. If this process does not result in resolution of the grievance, the grievant may file a claim through CI’s EthicsPoint Hotline at <https://secure.ethicspoint.com>
7. Through EthicsPoint, CI will respond within 15 calendar days of receipt, and claims will be filed and included in project monitoring processes.
8. Alternatively, the grievant may file a claim with the Director of Compliance (DOC) who is responsible for the CI Accountability and Grievance Mechanism and who can be reached at:

Mailing address: Director of Compliance
Conservation International
2011 Crystal Drive, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22202, USA.

9. CI as a Project Agency must ensure that project design, implementation, and learning mechanisms are continuously strengthened to prevent problems and ensure compliance from the onset and to deal with the legitimate concerns of project affected people at the project and operational levels wherever possible. It is the responsibility of CI’s Project Agency to monitor any mitigating measures noted from the implementation of the GEF Environmental and Social Safeguards.
10. Specific activities in grievance review process include:
 - a) Upon receiving complaints, the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will determine eligibility of requests. Eligibility requirements for complaints will include that the complaint;
 - b) Relates to a project or program in which CI is implementing or executing;
 - c) Complainant has informed the Executing Entity of complaint and has worked with the Executing Entity towards identifying a solution by following the conflict resolution framework;
 - d) Is submitted by or on behalf of a person or people affected by the project or program ; and
 - e) Raises potential issues relating to compliance with the GEF’s Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Policy
11. Based on determination, the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will either follow up on complaint or designate a person or panel to conduct as needed, a thorough and objective review of grievance. Any designated person or panel will report to the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management. This review can include in-country inspections, interviews of project-affected

people, and comprehensive information gathering to allow a factual determination of the issues raised and a reliable basis for any recommendations made.

12. The Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will issue reports with findings to requesters and all stakeholders involved.
13. Based on reports, the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management or designated Person/Panel will assist parties to engage in resolving the problem. This may include: facilitating a consultative dialogue, promoting information sharing, undertaking joint fact-finding, facilitating establishment of a mediation mechanism, and/or using other approaches to problem solving. Remedial actions involving a change in the project require approval from the Project Agency who will then inform the GEF Secretariat.
14. Upon completion of step 4 (with or without agreement), the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management or designated person/panel creates a report summarizing the complaint, steps to resolve the issues, the parties' decisions, and the parties' agreement, if any. This report will be made available to all parties involved.
15. The Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will monitor implementation of decisions. As part of the monitoring process all parties involved will be consulted and the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will prepare monitoring reports on implementation of remedial actions to be sent to involved parties and submits them to them for information.
16. Conclusion of the process occurs after monitoring of remedial actions is completed. The person/panel prepares a final report and submits report to all parties involved.
17. If the claimant is not satisfied with the response from CI, the grievance may be submitted to the GEF Conflict Resolution Commissioner.

Accountability Mechanism for Non-Compliance with CI-GEF Safeguards and Gender Policy by CI/ CI-GEF Project Agency

18. For cases related to non-compliance on the part of the CI-GEF Project Agency in the implementation of environmental and social safeguards, the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management does an initial determination of the eligibility of request based on the Exclusion Criteria as described below.
19. Based on determination, the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will either follow up on complaint (reject complaint based on exclusion criteria) or designate a panel to conduct as needed a thorough and objective review of grievance. The panel should consist of 2-5 members with technical expertise in environmental and social safeguards and should have at least one member with knowledge and experience of working in the country where the grievance took place,
20. The panel will review the case looking at eligibility criteria etc. Based on the initial review, the panel will send review to the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management.
21. If the case is not eligible for the grievance review process, the panel will notify the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management.
22. If the panel determines that the case warrants further review through the grievance process, the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will notify the Project Agency and CI Leadership Group on panel review. The Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will also convene a meeting of CI Leadership Group to discuss panel review with the head of the GEF Project Agency. The purpose of this meeting is two-fold: 1) the head of the CI-GEF Project Agency

Team will explain the actions of the team in relation to the complaint and 2) can serve as a mitigation measure.

23. CI Leadership Group including the head of the CI-GEF Project Agency Team will draft a management response to the complaint which the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will provide to the panel.
24. The Panel will notify all parties involved and will draft a TOR for a full review and provide to all parties for comments. The Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will authorize the TOR for the review.
25. The Panel will conduct the full review based on the approved TOR. The review can include desk reviews, meetings, discussions, and site visits.
26. The Panel will provide a draft report to the complainants and the Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management for comments. The Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will ensure that CI's Leadership Group provides comments to the report.
27. The Panel issues final report based on comments received from complainants and CI Leadership Group (including CI-GEF Project Agency Team).
28. If the report concludes that Project Agency noncompliance caused direct and material harm, CI Leadership Group will propose remedial actions.
29. The Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will communicate remedial actions to the Panel who will then communicate these actions along with the final report to the complainants involved.
30. The Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management will monitor implementation of remedial actions and will prepare annual monitoring reports for submission to CI Leadership Group.
31. Monitoring and final reports will be included in the Complaints Registry (available online) and will be available to all parties involved.
32. Compliance review will not investigate the country or executing entities. The conduct of these parties will be considered only when relevant to the assessment of CI as the Project Agency's compliance with all policies related to the GEF process, including Environmental and Social Safeguards. Compliance review does not provide judicial-type remedies such as injunctions or monetary damages.

Who can submit?

33. Any group of two or more people (such as an organization, association, society, or other grouping of individuals) residing in the country where the GEF funded project is located.

To start the accountability review process

34. Complainants must submit the following information:
 - a) Names, designations, addresses, and contact information of the complainants and their representative(s);
 - b) If a complaint is made through a representative, identification of the project- affected people on whose behalf the complaint is made and evidence of the authority to represent them;
 - c) Whether the complainants choose to keep their identities confidential;
 - d) A brief description of the GEF funded project with the project name and location;

- e) An explanation of the complainants' claim that the alleged direct and material harm is, or will be, caused by CI-GEF Project Agency Team alleged failure to follow its operational policies and procedures during the formulating, processing, or implementing the GEF funded project;
- f) A description of the operational policies and procedures that have not been complied with by CI-GEF Project Agency Team during the formulating, processing, or implementing the GEF funded project;
- g) A description of the complainants' good faith efforts to address the problems first with the operations department concerned, and the results of these efforts; and
- h) A description of the complainants' efforts to address the problems with the project-level grievance redress mechanisms concerned, and the results of these.

Exclusions

35. Complaints will be excluded from accountability, problem solving and compliance review functions if:

- a) It is not related to the Project Agency's actions or omissions during formulating, processing, or implementing GEF funded- projects;
- b) Complainants have not made good faith efforts to address the problem with the Executing Entity or Project Agency;
- c) Two or more years have passed since the grant closing date of the CI-GEF project;
- d) It is frivolous, malicious, trivial, or generated to gain competitive advantage;
- e) It is about the procurement of goods and services, including consulting services;
- f) It is about fraud or corruption in GEF-funded projects or by CI staff;
- g) It is about the adequacy or suitability of CI's existing policies and procedures;
- h) It is within the jurisdiction of CI's Accountability and Grievance Mechanisms, or related to CI personnel matters; and/or
- i) It is about CI non-operational housekeeping matters, such as finance and administration.



36. The grievance review function also excludes complaints that:

- a) Are the responsibility of other parties such as the National Government or executing entity, unless the conduct of these other parties is directly relevant to the assessment of CI-GEF Project Agency Team compliance with its operational policies and procedures;
- b) Do not involve CI's noncompliance with its operational policies and procedures;
- c) Relate to the laws, policies, and regulations of the country, unless this directly relates to Project Agency compliance with its operational policies and procedures; and/or
- d) Are about matters already considered by the Compliance Team unless new evidence is presented and unless the subsequent complaint can be readily consolidated with the earlier complaint.

Remedial actions to mitigate the non-compliance

37. Recognizing that each situation regarding non-compliance will be project specific, the following actions are proposed steps to mitigate the lack of compliance. The Senior Director of Compliance and Risk Management (with direction from the General Counsel) will conduct the following actions:
- a) Work with the CI-GEF Project Agency Team to understand any deviations from CI-GEF Operations Manual and the ESMF;
 - b) Propose corrective actions (adaptive management) with a corresponding timeline;
 - c) Ensure that compliance issues are included in the CI Financial Management and Control Framework (related to managing institutional risk).
38. In cases of non-compliance on GEF funded projects, the head of the CI-GEF Project Agency Team will be accountable to the Chief Operating Officer and the General Counsel at Conservation International. The role of the head of the CI-GEF Project Agency Team is to ensure that all CI-GEF policies and procedures were followed in the implementation of GEF funded projects.
39. In case of continuous non-compliance actions to be taken by CI. As outlined in CI's Criteria for Cancellation or Suspension or Termination of Projects, if the Compliance Review process determines that the Project Agency is in continuous non-compliance, the Office of the General Counsel will have the authority to cancel, suspend or terminate the project, and will notify the GEF Secretariat and the GEF Trustee.
40. Information disclosure: Printed materials about the accountability and grievance review process will be distributed as widely as possible, specifically at the field program where the project is being implemented and/or executed. The stakeholder consultation process is one of the mechanisms that can be used to resolve conflicts. The CI/GEF Operations Manual details the ESMF that includes the Accountability and Grievance Mechanism as part of the implementation of the safeguards
- a) Basic information about the complaint review procedures;
 - b) Instructions for how to file a complaint;
 - c) Detailed rules of procedure;
 - d) A registry of complaints, including basic information about the complaint and the complaint's status;
 - e) Draft and final terms of reference and investigation reports as discussed above; and
 - f) Annual reports describing the compliance review activities.

APPENDIX X: Detailed Project Budget

Detailed GEF Project budget				Version (date)	7/27/2017		 						
GEF Project ID:	9434												
Project Title:	Securing the Long-term Conservation of Timor Leste Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services through the Establishment of a Functioning National Protected Area Network and the Improvement of Natural Resource Management in Priority Catchment Corridors												
Executing Agencies :	Conservation International-Timor-Leste												
Project Amount GEF-funded (USD) :	3,340,367			Indicative Project starting date :	1/Jan/18								
Project Amount co-financing (USD) :	12,292,000			Indicative Project end date :	31/Dec/21								
Total Project Amount (USD) :	15,632,367			Duration (in years):	4 Years								
Component 1 description : Establishment of a national protected area system													
Component 2 description: Improvement of community-based natural resource management systems in priority catchments corridors													
Component 3 description: Improvement of forest management and reforestation of degraded lands in priority catchment corridors													
GEF FUNDED BUDGET				Project budget by component (in USD)					Project budget per year (in USD)				
EXPENSES TYPE	DESCRIPTION	DETAILED DESCRIPTION	OUTPUTS	Component 1	Component 2	Component 3	Project Manager at Cntry	Total	TR1	TR2	TR3	TR4	TOTAL
Salaries and benefits	Country Director	Technical and overall Country		83,692	125,381	104,380		313,452	71,653	75,952	80,509	85,339	313,452
Salaries and benefits	Operations Manager	Overall operations Management		65,337	97,883	81,487		244,707	55,938	59,294	62,852	66,623	244,707
Salaries and benefits	Technical Manager (TMD)	Technical Leadership/Project Implementation/Salvage		75,273	112,768	33,880		281,921	64,445	68,311	72,410	76,755	281,921
Salaries and benefits	SVP APFD	Conducting Terrestrial Surveys			15,497			15,497	15,497.4				15,497
Salaries and benefits	Senior Program Manager	Overall Program Management and GIS consumption 50% of his time		14,822	22,205	18,486		55,513	12,690	13,451	14,258	15,114	55,513
Salaries and benefits	GEF Deputy Project Manager	Overall Project implementation consuming 100% of the time		30,902			84,836	115,738	26,457	28,044	29,727	31,511	115,738
Salaries and benefits	Finance Coordinator	Finance Oversight of the Project at 100% time		21,813		32,679	27,205	81,698	18,675	19,796	20,984	22,243	81,698

APPENDIX XI: Co-financing Commitment Letters



MINISTÉRIO DA
AGRICULTURA
E PISCAS



GABINETE
SECRETARIO GERAL

No. 523/ GSG-MAP / VI /2017

Dili, 21st, June 2017

Mr. Miguel A. Morales
Vice-President,
CI-GEF Project Agency
Conservation International (CI)
2011 Crystal Drive, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22202
USA.

Subject – Co-financing support for *“Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste’s biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area Network and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridor”*

Dear Mr. Morales,

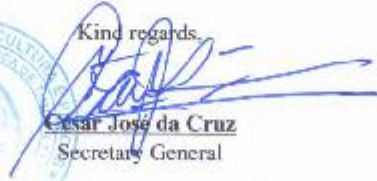
On behalf of Directorate General of Forestry, Coffee and Industrial Crops/DGFCIC, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishery (MAF) of Timor Leste, I am pleased to commit \$ 4,000,000 In kind co-financing for the GEF project, *“Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste’s biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area Network and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridor”*.

This co- financing from DGFCIC will support component 1, 2 and 3 of this project during the period of February 2018 – January 2021. This co-financing letter will provide support to overall management of the project, engagement of staff in project activities, principally participate in management team, project steering committee, participate on stakeholder meeting, and other consultation.

This contribution as described above is intended to qualify as co-financing should the project proposal be successful.

Kind regards,




Cesar Jose da Cruz
Secretary General

- Cc : 1. Excellency Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries
2. Excellency Vice Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries
3. Director General of Forestry Coffee and Industrial Plantation
4. Country Director Conservation International

Escritório Ministério da Agricultura e Pescas, Rua Cornara, Dili, Timor-Leste



REPÚBLICA DEMOCRÁTICA DE TIMOR-LESTE
Ministério de Comércio, Indústria e Ambiente
Direcção Geral do Meio Ambiente



Fomento Building, Rua D. Boa-Ventura, Mandarim, Díli. Mobile: 77 327062

No. Ref: 2/7/VI/DGA-MCIA/2017

Dili, 21 June 2017

Mr. Miguel A. Morales
Vice-President, CI-GEF Project Agency
Conservation International (CI)
2011 Crystal Drive, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22202
USA.

Subject: Co-financing support for "Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste's biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area Network and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridor"

Dear Mr. Morales,

On behalf of Directorate General of Environment (DGE) through the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Environment (MCIE) of Timor-Leste, we are pleased to commit \$ 4,000,000 as in kind co-financing for the GEF project on "Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste's biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area Network and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridor".

This co-financing from DGFCIC will support component 1, 2 and 3 of this project during the period of February 2018 – January 2021. This co-financing letter will provide support to overall management of the project, engagement of staff in project activities, principally participate in management team, project steering committee, participate on stakeholder meeting, and other consultation.

This contribution as described above is intended to qualify as co-financing for the project.

Kind regards


João Carlos Soares, L.A.P., M.Sc.
Director General
GEF-OPP Timor-Leste



Japan International Cooperation Agency
Timor-Leste Office
Rua Praia dos Conquistados, No 3 Comoro,
Dili, Timor-Leste
TEL: +670 331 2423 FAX: +670 331 2505

No. TM/IN/LE:

20 June 2017

Mr. Miguel A. Morales
Vice-President,
CI-GEF Project Agency
Conservation International (CI)
2011 Crystal drive, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22202
USA

Subject: Co-financing support for “Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste’s biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of functioning National Protected Area Network and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridor”

Dear Mr. Morales,

On behalf of the JICA, I am pleased to commit JPY 440,000,000 (approximately US\$ 3,942,000 as of June 20 of 2017) co-financing for the GEF project, “Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste’s biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of functioning National Protected Area Network and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridor”.

This co-financing from JICA will support component 2 and 3 of the project during the period of the project which is from August 2016 to July 2020. This co-financing will provide support for sustainable natural resources management, especially watershed management through “The Project for Community-Based Sustainable Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) Phase II”, whose target areas are Comoro watershed and Laelo watershed. JICA and MAF developed CB-NRM (Community Based Natural Resources Management) Mechanism during the CBNRM Phase I. The CBNRM Phase II support to formulate a road map to expand use of the CB-NRM Mechanism, develop the enabling environment to enhance relevant institution to expand the CB-NRM Mechanism, and improve capacity of key operational actors to implement the CB-NRM Mechanism.

This contribution as described above is intended to qualify as co-financing should the project proposal be successful.

Sincerely Yours,

Masafumi Nagaishi
Chief Representative
JICA Timor-Leste

611 Crystal Drive, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22202, USA
Tel: +1 703 341.2400
Fax: +1 703 553.1817
www.conservation.org



December 1, 2017

Mr. Miguel Morales
Vice President, CI GEF Project
Agency 2011 Crystal Drive
Suite 500
Arlington, Virginia 22202 USA

Subject: Co-financing support for the project "Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste's biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area Network and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridor".

Dear Mr. Morales,

On behalf of Conservation International Foundation (CI), Timor-Leste Program, I am pleased to inform you that CI plans to contribute \$350,000 in co-financing in support of the GEF "Securing the long-term conservation of Timor-Leste's biodiversity and ecosystem services through the establishment of a functioning National Protected Area Network and the improvement of natural resource management in priority catchment corridor" project.

This co-financing is from the "Building Capacity for Management and Monitoring of Timor-Leste's Protected Areas" project, funded by the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (CEPF), and regional funding to be allocated during the project period. The co-financing will support Components 1,2 and 3 of this project during the predicted period of February 2018 until January 2022.

This contribution as described above is intended to qualify as co-financing should the project proposal be successful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Morris".

Jennifer Morris
President

Appendix XII: Calculations for tons of CO_{2e} mitigated

Calculations at PF Stage (2016):

It is assumed 500Ha of land will be rehabilitation to conduct afforestation and reforestation and support community forestry, agroforestry and riparian buffers.

“Typical sequestration rates for afforestation/reforestation, in tonnes of carbon per hectare per year, are: 0.8 to 2.4 tonnes in boreal forests, 0.7 to 7.5 tonnes in temperate regions and 3.2 to 10 tonnes in the tropics (Brown *et al.*, 1996). The sequestration potential for agroforestry practices is even more variable, depending on the planting density and production objectives of the system.”

If we assume a sequestration rate of 5 tons of carbon per hectare per year, then the total carbon sequestration potential over a project period of 4 years can be calculated as:

= 4Years x 500Ha x 5 tons/Ha/Year = **10,000** tons of Carbon over a 4-year period.

Or CO₂ emissions equivalent = **10,000 x 44 / 12 = 36,666 tons CO_{2e}**

In reality, this number could be lower, given that in the first few years of growth, the sequestration potential will be much less.

If we consider timber extraction as part of a community forestry operation, then this number could be much lower.

If we extrapolate this projection for a project time period of **10 years**, then we would have sequestered around **91666.66 tons of CO_{2e}**

Similarly, for **20 years**, we would have **183333.33 tons of CO_{2e}** sequestered.

FAO website – <http://www.fao.org/docrep/003/y0900e/y0900e06.htm>

MITIGATION MEASURES

Table 1: Forest cover and deforestation statistics since from 2000 to 2014

Landscape	Total Land	Forest with > 30% tree cover (Ha)			Deforestation
Location	Area (Ha)	In 2000	In 2005	In 2015	Annual (%)
Comoro Catchment	21,200	13,677.17	13,605.63	13,311.16	0.0022
Irabere Catchment	37,480	22,178.95	22,127.82	21,731.54	0.0018
Mount Matebian	10,340	4,221.06	4,208.17	4,127.63	0.0019
Mount Fatumasin	1,412	986.53	980.87	967.68	0.0013
Mount Burabo	3,927	3,381.87	3,373.49	3,331.82	0.0012
Mount Legumau	10,035	6,998.93	6,986.52	6,899.30	0.0012

Predicted Business as usual scenario:

Parameters used to calculate emissions:

Project Period (e.g 2016 to 2020) (years)	4
National Deforestation Rate (%)	1.50%
Pre-Clearing C stock (Mg/Ha) (Uryu et al 2008)[1]	224.83
Post-Clearing C stock (Mg/Ha) (plantations Uryu et al 2008)	109
Emission Factor (MgCO₂/Ha)	424.72
CO₂ Reduced (26% or 41%) (Based on Indonesia Numbers)	40

[1] Uryu, Y. et al. 2008. Deforestation, Forest Degradation, Biodiversity Loss and CO₂ Emissions in Riau, Sumatra, Indonesia. WWF Indonesia Technical Report, Jakarta, Indonesia.

Baseline/BAU Emissions and emission reductions based on above parameters:

Landscape	Area (Ha)	Existing Forest 2016 (Ha)	Annual Deforestation Rate (%)	Forest loss BAU (Ha)*	Baseline/BAU Emissions CO ₂ Tons	Emissions Reduced CO ₂ Tons
Comoro Catchment	21,200	13282.35	0.0022	797	338478.47	135391.39
Irabere Catchment	37,480	21692.62	0.0018	1,302	552800.34	221120.14
Mount Matebian	10,340	4119.73	0.0019	247	104984.49	41993.8
Mount Fatumasin	1,412	966.38	0.0013	58	24626.53	9850.61
Mount Burabo	3,927	3327.71	0.0012	200	84801.11	33920.44
Mount Legumau	10,035	6890.69	0.0012	413	175597.73	70239.09
				Catchments	891,278.81	356,511.52
				PAs	390,009.86	156,003.95

*based on 1.5% forest loss over 4 years.

Updated calculations, J. Lenoci 25 Jun 2017:

MITIGATION MEASURES

Landscape	Area (Ha)	Existing Forest 2016 (Ha)	Annual Deforestation Rate (%)	Forest loss BAU (Ha)*	Baseline/BAU Emissions CO2 Tons**	Emissions Reduced CO2 Tons***
Comoro Catchment	21,200	13282.35	0.0022	584.4234	248,216	99,287
Irabere Catchment	37,480	21692.62	0.0018	954.47528	38,179	15,272
				Catchments	286,395	114,558

*National deforestation rate is 1.1% (FAO 2015). These figures are based on 1.1% loss over 4 years.

**Uses the emission factor of 424.72 Mg/CO2/ha) - see above table

***Based on CO2 reduced factor of 0.40 (see above table)

Extrapolated out 20 years

	BAU Emissions CO2 T	CO2 Reduced CO2 T
Catchments	1,431,977	572,791

ADAPTATION MEASURES, 20 years 183,333

TOTAL, Mitigation + Adaptation: 756,124