



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

United Nations Development Program

Project Document template for Nationally Implemented Projects Financed by the GEF/LDCF/SCCF Trust Funds

Project title: Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management and Biodiversity Conservation in the Republic of Mauritius	
Country:	Implementing Partner: Forestry Service of the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security
Management Arrangements: National Implementation Modality (NIM)	
Country Program Outcome¹ 2 (2017-2020): Growth and development are inclusive and sustainable, incorporating productive capacities that create employment and livelihoods for the poor and excluded.	
Outcome indicator: Hectares of land managed sustainably through protected area management, biodiversity and ecosystem conservation	
UNDP Strategic Plan Output: IRRF 4: Sustainable Planet Output 1.4.1. Solutions scaled up for sustainable management of natural resources including sustainable commodities and green and inclusive value chains	
UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Category: <i>Moderate</i>	UNDP Gender Marker: 2
Atlas Project ID (formerly Award ID): 00115368	Atlas Output ID (formerly Project ID): 00118628
UNDP-GEF PIMS ID number: 6005	GEF ID number: 9836
Planned start date: July 2020	Planned end date: June 2024
PAC meeting date: TBD	
Brief project description: Land degradation in Mauritius is caused by several factors: rapid urbanization with urban sprawl, land cover change (land conversion from agriculture to other land uses), deforestation in unprotected private forest areas, unsustainable agriculture (heavy mechanization), recurring wildfires on grass-covered mountain slopes, and coastal land erosion. In Rodrigues, land degradation is driven by conversion of forests to unsustainable subsistence agriculture and overgrazing. Climate change driven droughts, frequent fires, flash floods, landslides, saline water intrusion and sea level rise have exacerbated land degradation in both Mauritius and Rodrigues. Impacts of land degradation are manifested in lost ecosystems services (loss of fertile topsoil, decrease in pasture quality and productivity, increased run-off	

¹ Mauritius is a Category C Country – has no UNDAF



and sedimentation of dams and lagoons), with an estimated cost to the national economy of US\$16 million annually². Several barriers hamper the country's effort to adopt integrated landscape management planning and the mainstreaming of sustainable land management as the long-term basis for achieving land degradation neutrality. The first barrier relates to the weak enabling environment for the adoption of integrated landscape management planning and sustainable land management mainstreaming, driven by an incomplete National Action Plan for the UNCCD, no comprehensive policy on land degradation, incomplete Land Degradation Neutrality process, weak inter-sectorial collaboration, absence of a coordinating mechanism on land degradation and mainstreaming of sustainable land management, and inadequate information and absence of open-access spatial planning system. The second barrier relates to sub-optimal on the ground demonstration of sustainable and land degradation neutral land management practices driven by inadequate capacities in all segments of society, inadequate understanding (and knowledge) of ecosystems services, costs and benefits of degradation, low levels of awareness of importance of integrated landscape management and mainstreaming of sustainable land management into sustainable development, combined with inadequate incentives for uptake of improved and land degradation neutral practices by land managers. These have led to limited geographical focus of projects tackling land degradation on the ground. The third barrier relates to weak monitoring and evaluation, inadequate knowledge management and partial gender mainstreaming.

The goal of the project is to put the Republic of Mauritius on a path to land degradation neutrality by catalyzing the transformation of land use planning and management, while building a governance and sustainable production framework based on a landscape approach and optimizing ecosystem services and livelihoods. This will be achieved through three interrelated outcomes: Outcome 1: Strengthened policy and institutional framework for the promotion of integrated landscape management planning and mainstreaming sustainable land management; Outcome 2: Skills, tools and incentives provided to pilot test land degradation neutral practices and technologies on 2,063 ha, lessons generated to inform further policy and tools development; Outcome 3: Monitoring, evaluation, knowledge management and gender mainstreaming support adaptive management and up-scaling of sustainable land management and application of integrated landscape management planning systems in the country and beyond.

FINANCING PLAN

GEF Trust Fund	USD 1,699,204.00
(1) Total Budget administered by UNDP	USD 1,699,204.00

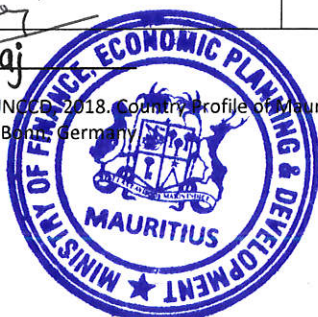
PARALLEL CO-FINANCING

UNDP	USD 15,000
Government	USD 7,970,000
Private sector	USD 720,520
(2) Total co-financing	USD 8,705,520
(3) Grand-Total Project Financing (1)+(2)	USD 10,404,724

SIGNATURES

Signature: print name below <i>Mr D. D. Manraj</i>	Agreed by	Date/Month/Year: 17/11/2020
---	-----------	--------------------------------

Mr D. D. Manraj



² Global Mechanism of the UNCCD, 2018. Country Profile of Mauritius. Investing in Land Degradation Neutrality: Making the Case. An Overview of Indicators and Assessments. Bonn, Germany.

	Government	
Signature: print name below <i>B. Boyrambali</i> B. BOYRAMBALI	Agreed by Implementing Partner	Date/Month/Year: 05 October 2020
Signature: print name below <i>Amrita Sircumar</i> Amrita Sircumar	Agreed by UNDP	Date/Month/Year: 7 December 2020

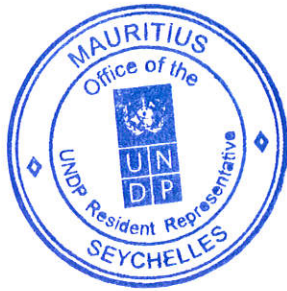


Table of Contents

1	Development Challenge	8
1.1	Background and global importance	8
1.2	Baseline	16
1.3	Barriers	18
2	Strategy	27
2.1	Key Assumptions	29
2.2	Lessons that Informed the Design of the Proposed Project	30
3	Results and Partnerships	33
3.1	Expected Results	33
3.2	Global Environmental Benefits	45
3.3	Partnerships	47
3.4	Risks and Mitigation Measures	53
3.4.1	Social and environmental risks and safeguards	55
3.5	Stakeholder engagement plan:	59
3.6	Gender equality and empowering women:	64
3.7	South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTrC):.....	68
3.8	Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.....	69
4	Project Management.....	71
4.1	Cost efficiency and effectiveness	71
4.2	Project management:.....	73
5	Project Results Framework.....	74
6	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan	79
6.1.1	Mandatory GEF M&E Requirements and M&E Budget:	81
7	Governance and Management Arrangements.....	83
8	Financial Planning and Management	88
9	Total Budget and Work Plan.....	92
10	Legal Context.....	99
11	Risk Management.....	99
12	Mandatory Annexes	103

List of Tables

Table 1: Key Assumptions Underlying the Theory of Change	29
Table 2: Details of the Sites for SLM Technologies under Output 2.3	39
Table 3: Global environmental benefits.....	46
Table 4: Summary of risks and mitigation measures	56
Table 5: Stakeholder Engagement Plan	60
Table 6: Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan	65