



GEF/GBFF.02/03

May 9, 2024

2nd GBFF Council Meeting
June 19, 2024
Washington, DC

Agenda Item 03

**WORK PROGRAM
FOR GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK FUND (GBFF)**

Recommended Council Decision

The Council, having considered document GEF/GBFF.02/03, *Work Program for Global Biodiversity Framework Fund*, approves the Work Program comprising three projects, subject to comments made, prior and during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by July 3, 2024.

Total GBFF resources approved in this Work Program amounted to \$37.82 million, including GEF project financing and Agency fees. The Work Program is comprised of the following Projects: [See Annex A]

With respect to the Projects approved as part of the Work Program, the Council finds that each of these Projects (i) is, or would be, consistent with the Instrument and GEF or GBFF policies and procedures, and (ii) may be endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the GEF Agency, provided that the final project documents fully address comments provided the CBD Secretariat, Council Members, and STAP on the Work Program, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF or GBFF policies and procedures.

All final Project documents approved in this Work Program will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement.

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INTRODUCTION

1. This Work Program is the first in the history of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) and requests \$34.70 million of GEF project financing and \$3.12 million in associated Agency fees for a total Work Program of \$37.82 million. The Work Program leverages an indicative \$133.45 million in co-financing.
2. The proposed Work Program contains three projects at the CEO endorsement stage, consistent with the GBFF Programming Directions framework.¹ These projects represent the first set of GBFF investments to advance many of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) Targets and in particular, targets 1, 2, 3, 9, 18, 19, 22, and 23.
3. The Work Program consists of the CEO endorsement requests from two countries that will benefit from support from the GBFF. An average of 62 percent of total GEF project financing will be directed to support Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), ranging from 8 percent to 95 percent among the three projects.
4. This cover note outlines key aspects of the proposed Work Program, including alignment with the GBFF action areas and KMGBF targets, programming analysis, outcome targets, and IPLC considerations. The Council is requested to review and approve the Work Program for the total resources requested (see Annex A for the financial details of the Projects).

WORK PROGRAM PREPARATION AND STREAMLINED PROJECT CYCLE POLICY

5. The first GBFF Council, which convened on February 8 and 9, 2024, enabled the start of programming under the GBFF, with the approval of the GEF Resource Allocation Policy and GBFF Project Cycle policy.^{2, 3}
6. The GBFF Council decided to allocate resources through discrete programming tranches to improve predictability for recipient countries, while accommodating financial contributions on a rolling basis. The adoption of the GBFF Resource Allocation Policy triggered the opening of the first GBFF programming tranche on February 21, 2024, which has made available \$211 million for programming. This amount corresponds to all pledges confirmed by the GBFF Trustee at the date of Policy approval, minus corporate budget needs.
7. The GBFF Project Cycle Policy is streamlined from the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy (applicable to all other GEF family of funds including the GEF Trust Fund). Selection rounds are organized to approve PPG requests, as summarized in Annex B.

¹ GEF, 2023, [Programming Directions of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](#), Council document GEF/C.64/06/Rev.02.

² GEF, 2024, [Policy on Allocation of Resources for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund \(GBFF\)](#), Council document GEF/GBFF.01/03/Rev.03.

³ GEF, 2024, [Global Biodiversity Framework Fund \(GBFF\) Project Cycle Policy](#), Council document GEF/GBFF.01/04/Rev.02.

8. Within programming tranches, all GBFF resources are allocated in a country-driven manner to projects through consecutive selection rounds open to all eligible countries. Eligible countries were therefore invited, through a notification dated February 21, 2024 from the GEF Secretariat to all GEF Operational Focal Points, to participate in the first two selection rounds.

9. The special first selection round was opened on February 21, 2024 and closed on March 1, 2024 for those ready to submit the endorsement request in time for approval by the June 2024 GBFF Council. This first round was organized in light of views expressed during the first GBFF Council to explore the possibility to have the first Work Program at the June 2024 Council. Applicants were notified of the selection by March 15, 2024.

10. Four PPG requests were submitted for the special first selection round. As agreed in the GBFF Programming Directions, submissions were evaluated on the seven selection criteria as follows:

- Potential to generate Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs);
- Alignment with the GBFF Programming Directions and advancing the KMGBF implementation;
- Alignment with the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and National Finance Plans or similar instruments to identify national and/or regional priorities;
- Level of policy coherence and coordination across multiple ministries, agencies, the private sector and civil society;
- Balance amongst regions;
- Mobilization of private sector and philanthropies' resources;
- Engagement with and support to Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs).

11. All four PPG request submissions for the first selection round were evaluated to meet the selection criteria. Three PPG requests were above \$5 million, while one was below \$5 million. This Work Program includes the three fully prepared projects above \$5 million, in line with the Council-approved GBFF Project Cycle Policy. Annex C of this document lists the four PPG requests that were approved in the first selection round.

12. The second selection round for PPG requests were opened on March 4, 2024 and closed on April 1, 2024. Decisions were to be notified on May 9, 2024. Annex D of this document presents the list of PPG requests that were approved in the second selection round.

GBFF RESOURCES REQUESTED FOR THE WORK PROGRAM

13. The total \$37.82 million of GEF project financing and Agency fees is requested for three projects in the first GBFF Work Program, as presented in Table 1. These three projects also requested \$436,000 in PPGs and associated PPG fees.

14. Brazil and Mexico have requested their respective country maximum dollar value of funding requests for the first programming tranche of the GBFF, which was made available on February 16, 2024.⁴

Table 1. GBFF Resources Requested in June 2024 Work Program

Project Title	Country	Agency	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Agency Fee (\$)	% IPLC of GEF Grant
Mex30x30: Conserving Mexican biodiversity through communities and their protected areas	Mexico	CI	16,672,477	1,500,523	73%
Caatinga Protected Areas Program – ARCA	Brazil	WWF-US	8,964,220	806,780	8%
Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands	Brazil	Funbio	9,064,221	815,779	95%
TOTAL			34,700,918	3,123,082	62%

15. Each GBFF project tracks the amount of resource allocated to support actions by IPLCs for the conservation, restoration, sustainable use and management of biodiversity at various stages of the project cycle. The three projects included in this Work Program are allocating significant resources for IPLC action, at \$21.51 million, or 62 percent of the total GEF project financing requested. For the Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands Project in Mexico, \$8.63 million out of the \$9.06 million of total GEF project financing, or 95 percent, supports IPLC actions. For the Mex30x30 project, \$12.15 million out of the \$16.67 million of total GEF project financing, or 73 percent, supports IPLC actions. The Caatinga Protected Areas Program in Brazil, \$0.73 million out of \$8.96 million of total GEF project financing, or 8 percent, goes to support IPLC action.

ALIGNMENT WITH GBFF ACTION AREAS AND KMGBF TARGET

16. The GBFF Programming Directions include seven GBFF Action Areas that are aligned with 23 KMGBF targets, as shown in Table 2. The three projects presented in this Work Program address Action Areas 1, 2, 4, and 5. Together, they support achievements of Targets 1, 2, 3, 9, 18, 19, 22, and 23 of KMGBF, which are summarized by the CBD Secretariat as follows:

- [Target 1: Plan and manage all areas to reduce biodiversity loss;](#)
- [Target 2: Restore 30 percent of all degraded ecosystems;](#)
- [Target 3: Conserve 30 percent of land, waters and seas;](#)

⁴ GEF, 2024, [Country Maximum Dollar Value of Funding Request\(s\) for the First Programming Tranche of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](#), Council document GEF/GBFF.02/Inf.01.

- [Target 9: Manage wild species sustainably to benefit people;](#)
- [Target 18: Reduce harmful incentives by at least \\$500 billion per year, and scale up positive incentives for biodiversity;](#)
- [Target 19: Mobilize \\$200 billion per year for biodiversity from all sources, including \\$30 Billion through international finance;](#)
- [Target 22: Ensure participation in decision-making and access to justice and information related to biodiversity for all;](#)
- [Target 23: Ensure gender equality and a gender-responsive approach for biodiversity action.](#)

17. For example, the project on Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands in Brazil addresses GBFF Action Area 2 to support IPLC-led biodiversity conservation stewardship, by strengthening the capacity of indigenous lands to conserve biodiversity to work as barriers to deforestation and to support biodiversity corridors linking other indigenous lands and protected areas. The project is also aligned with GBFF Action Area 5 on sustainable use of biodiversity, with a focus in the indigenous lands. The project thus supports targets 3, 9, and 22 of the KMGBF.

18. The Caatinga Protected Areas Program (ARCA) addresses GBFF Action Area 1 on biodiversity conservation, restoration, land/sea-use and spatial planning by expanding and enhancing the effectiveness of the National System for Protected Areas through the creation of new protected areas and investment in effective management practices and activities to help existing protected areas to increase biodiversity and climate resilience. Institutional and human capacities of protected areas personnel and Indigenous Peoples, Traditional Peoples and Local Communities (IP/TP&LCs) are enhanced through training for improved governance, management, and natural resource use. The project also addresses GBFF Action Area 2, by supporting capacity building of IP/TP&LC groups within or in surrounding areas of protected areas in the governance of protected areas, and through sub-grants to support capacities, operational support, and technical assistance for natural resource use and management, and to address climate change challenges. The project seeks to address KMGBF targets 1, 2, 3, 18, 22, and 23.

19. The Mex30x30 project to conserve Mexican biodiversity through communities and their protected areas addresses GBFF Action Areas 1, 2, and 4. Specifically, the project supports Action Area 1 by supporting conservation and restoration actions in protected areas and Areas Voluntarily Designated for Conservation (ADVCs), implemented jointly with IPLCs. Action Area 2 is addressed with training and support for IPLCs to enable them to undertake sustainable management of protected areas and ADVCs, with learning exchanges to enhance governance capacity of IPLCs. GBFF Action Area 4 on resource mobilization is addressed by developing and deploying new revenue streams to address the protected area system budget shortfall, and by designing and launching a Project Finance for Permanence initiative to address the finance gap while revenue streams are being developed. The project seeks to address KMGBF targets 1, 2, 3, 18, 19, 22, and 23.

Table 2. GBFF Action Areas and Alignment with KMGBF Targets

Action Areas	Description	Alignment with KMGBF Targets⁵
1	Biodiversity conservation, restoration, land/sea-use and spatial planning	Targets 1, 2, 3
2	Support to IPLC stewardship and governance of lands, territories, and waters	Targets 1, 2, 3, 22
3	Policy alignment and development	Targets 14, 15, 18
4	Resource mobilization	Targets 18, 19
5	Sustainable use of biodiversity	Targets 5, 9
6	Biodiversity mainstreaming in production sectors	Targets 7, 10
7	Invasive alien species (IAS) management and control	Target 6

STATUS ON THE USE OF GBFF RESOURCES

20. The Work Program, plus one additional PPG request under \$5 million, approved as part of the first selection round provides initial programming of resources relative to GBFF’s first tranche of available funding (Table 3).

Table 3. GBFF Resources for First Selection Round, First Tranche

	First Selection Round of First Tranche (\$ million)	Total Resources Available in first Tranche (\$ million)	Remaining Resources for Projects in First Tranche (\$ million)	Percent of First Tranche Resources programmed by First Round
PPG requests approved (GEF project financing, Agency fees, PPGs and associated PPG fees)	39.78	211.00	171.22	18.9%

DISTRIBUTION OF GEF PROJECT FINANCING BY REGION

21. Two recipient countries will benefit from this Work Program. Latin America is receiving the entirety of the Work Program resources. Only two countries submitted PPG requests above \$5 million, which are both included in the Work Program. One country, Gabon, also has a PPG request approved as part of the first round, with a proposal under \$5 million, as listed in Annex C.

⁵ The 23 KMGBF targets are presented in Annex E.

DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES BY AGENCY

22. Three of the 18 GEF Agencies are represented in the June 2024 Work Program (Table 4). Conservation International (CI) has the highest amount requested with \$18.50 million including PPG and associated PPG fee, while Funbio and WWF-US have each requested \$9.88 million including PPG and associated PPG fee, for the three projects included in the Work Program.

23. The first selection round also approved a PPG request from Gabon. Including this project, the WWF-US have requested a total of \$11.40 million, including PPGs and associated PPG fees.

Table 4. GBFF Resources Requested by Agency in June 2024 Work Program and Total GBFF Resources Requested for First Selection Round

Agency	Resources Requested in June 2024 Work Program including PPGs and PPG Fees		Resources Requested for First Selection Round including PPGs and PPG Fees	
	\$ millions	% of resources	\$ millions	% of resources
ADB	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
AfDB	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
BOAD	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
CAF	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
CI	18.50	48.4%	18.50	46.5%
DBSA	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
EBRD	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
FAO	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
FECO	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Funbio	9.88	25.8%	9.88	24.8%
IADB	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
IFAD	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
IUCN	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
UNDP	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
UNEP	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
UNIDO	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
World Bank	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
WWF-US	9.88	25.8%	11.40	28.7%
Totals	\$38.26	100.0%	39.78	100.0%

OUTCOME TARGETS FOR THE WORK PROGRAM

24. This proposed Work Program identifies high outcome targets for enhancing biodiversity, aiming to support 30.5 million hectares of terrestrial and marine protected areas. Financing to the Caatinga biome in Brazil will contribute the most to improving management practices in terrestrial protected areas, covering nearly 4.6 million hectares alone. Meanwhile, Mexico expects to support up to 22.2 million hectares of marine protected areas as part of its efforts to conserve 30 percent of its territory by 2030 with implementation support from Conservation

International. In addition, another 6.4 million hectares of landscapes will be placed under improved management for biodiversity conservation in Brazil’s indigenous lands.

25. Support to improving nature also yields climate benefits, with an anticipated 54.5 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions avoided through this Work Program. Notably, the largest contribution to this endeavor is expected from the conservation of protected areas in the Caatinga region, with 48.8 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) avoided. This will take place through the expansion and improved management effectiveness of Brazil’s national system of protected areas with WWF implementation support.

26. Each project in this Work Program recognized local communities and indigenous peoples as catalysts to achieving environmental benefits, with 229,000 people identified as benefiting directly from these investments, 51 percent of which are women. A special focus on reversing deforestation and environmental degradation in Brazil’s indigenous lands translates into supporting 61,000 indigenous people through the implementation of territorial and environmental management plans, with implementation support from Funbio.

27. Table 5 presents the contribution of the three projects in the Work Program to the Core Indicators.

Table 5. Contribution of June 2024 GBFF Work Program to Core Indicators

Core Indicator	Value
Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management (million ha)	8.2
Marine protected areas created or under improved management (million ha)	22.2
Area of landscapes under improved practices (million ha) *	6.4
People benefitting from the conservation, sustainable use or restoration of biodiversity (thousand)	228.7
- of whom women	116.3
Greenhouse Gas emissions mitigated (million metric tons of CO ₂ e)	54.5

PORTFOLIO-LEVEL TARGETS

28. The GBFF has three portfolio-level targets, included in the Council-approved GBFF Programming Directions. As this Work Program presents three projects from the first selection round of the first tranche, it is too early to discuss portfolio trends. Nevertheless, the contributions of the three projects included in this Work Program for the portfolio-level targets are summarized below.

- i. **36 percent + 3 percent allocated to small island developing States (SIDS)/least developed countries (LDCs):**⁶ The first selection round did not have any submissions from SIDS and LDCs.
- ii. **25 percent to be programmed through international financing institutions (IFIs)**⁷: The first selection round did not have any submissions from IFIs.
- iii. **Aspirational share of 20 percent by 2030 to support actions by IPLCs:** The first selection round had four projects, of which three are presented in this Work Program. The three projects are proposing to allocate \$21.51 million of GEF project financing, or 62 percent of the total GEF project financing requested for the Work Program, to support actions by IPLCs.

IPLC CONSIDERATIONS

29. Regarding the IPLC support, two projects in particular are emphasizing the engagement of IPLCs as decisionmakers, implementers of action, as well as beneficiaries, with significant share of the GEF project financing allocated to support IPLC action, as described earlier. Notable approaches and engagements with IPLCs in each project are summarized below:

- i. ***Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands*** (GEFID 11508, Funbio): The project's strategy and innovation is the role played by Indigenous communities as primary project executors in the field. This will be achieved through direct assistance to Indigenous-led organizations, where they are present and demonstrate willingness and capability, as well as local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) specializing in Indigenous issues. By adopting this approach, Indigenous Peoples serve as both executors of project activities and the primary beneficiaries of the project outcomes.

Aligning with the National Policy of Territorial and Environmental Management of Indigenous Lands (PNGATI), the project uses the Territorial and Environmental Management Plans (PGTAs) as its primary planning tool. These plans are not just developed but co-created in a participatory process that respects the culture of each group, with the important assistance of civil society organizations (CSOs) and government institutions. The project will also directly answer to the PNGATI Steering Committee, ensuring the project will be known to all Indigenous organizations in Brazil, but also guaranteeing the broad dissemination of lessons learned. At the local level, the project will empower territorial management committees to have a consulting role in project execution throughout the project duration. This design not only involves

⁶ As stated in the Council-approved Programming Directions, the 3 percent portion to SIDS and LDCs will be reviewed after 3 years of the date of the Fund ratification at the Assembly. If unused, the 3 percent will be reprogrammed to other countries.

⁷ As stated in the Council-approved Programming Directions, a report to the GBFF Council will be presented at the GBFF council 2 years after the date of ratification of the GBFF at the GEF Assembly. This report will include the distribution of GBFF resources by agencies. The GBFF Council can, at that time, discuss new measures as needed to ensure that the target for IFIs is achieved.

Indigenous Peoples in all levels of project coordination but also recognizes their expertise and contributions.

This approach is innovative for the GEF or GBFF and provides an excellent example of a project aligned with GBFF Action Area 2. By supporting the implementation of existing plans which were the result of extensive and organized consultation processes as the core of the project, the overall project design could be relatively simple. The overall execution will be managed by an NGO that has established partnerships with many Indigenous groups.

- ii. ***Caatinga Protected Areas Program (ARCA)*** (GEFID 11509; Agency: WWF-US): This project includes a grant program for protected area management and IPLC territorial management as well as tailored capacity building activities. The protected areas included in the project have already undergone a process of community engagement and consent which is serving as the foundation of the approach to expanding and improving the management of protected areas in the Caatinga.
- iii. ***Mex 30x30 Conserving Mexican Biodiversity through Communities and Their Protected Areas*** (GEFID: 11510; Agency: CI) This project will support the implementation and good management of new protected areas in Mexico as well as support a long term revenue stream for protected areas across Mexico. Some of these protected areas were created specifically at the request of IPLCs who manage the territory and will support those groups and their activities for good biodiversity management as well as supporting the development and implementation of sustainable livelihood options for these communities.

GENDER CONSIDERATIONS

30. All the three projects in this first GBFF work program incorporated gender equality considerations in a very substantive way, complying with GEF's requirements and GBFF's Programming Directions to ensure gender-responsive implementation of the KMGBF. All the projects are contributing to realizing targets 22 and 23 of the KMGBF by, among others, addressing issues of rights and access to land and natural resources, ensuring women's full and meaningful participation and leadership at all levels of action. Some highlights of good practice gender-responsive actions of the three projects are presented below:

- i. ***Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands:*** This project will engage with women's associations from various indigenous communities in land consolidation efforts to help ensure comprehensiveness and sustainability of land management strategies to be put in place. To track progress and ensure that its gender-related activities and targets are met, the project will develop a gender-responsive monitoring framework, with specific budget allocation for tracking and reporting on Targets 22 and 23 of the KMGBF.

- ii. **Caatinga Protected Areas Program (ARCA):** This project has as one of its key objectives ensuring women’s leadership roles in environmental governance (e.g., in Protected Area councils), and empowering women through supporting their formal education and specialized training in areas such as self-organization and entrepreneurship. Acknowledging the risk of gender-based violence (GBV) that the project may engender, the project team will proactively identify potential GBV/SEAH risks during community consultations, ensuring the protection of vulnerable groups such as young women and girls.
- iii. **Mex 30x30 Conserving Mexican Biodiversity through Communities and Their Protected Areas:** This project will address gender inequalities by increasing women's participation in land-use planning and community decision-making processes, engaging them as key players in restoration activities, and improving their livelihoods. The project will consider women’s childcare needs and their time and mobility constraints in designing the project activities and interventions. The project will also collaborate with local women's groups, community leaders, and relevant stakeholders to make the most of existing networks and local resources.

WORK PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

31. **Brazil. Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands.** (GEFID 11508) Agency: Funbio, GBFF Project Financing \$9,064,221. The main objective of this project is to restore, protect and maintain the biodiversity of indigenous lands. The project's focus is entirely on assisting the indigenous communities and their lands. The project's strategy and innovation hinge on the role played by indigenous communities as primary project executors in the field. This will be achieved through direct assistance to indigenous-led organizations, where they are present and demonstrate willingness and capability, as well as local NGOs specializing in indigenous affairs. By adopting this approach, indigenous peoples serve as both executors of project activities and the primary beneficiaries of its outcomes. Aligning with the National Policy of Territorial and Environmental Management of Indigenous Lands (PNGATI), the project uses the Territorial and Environmental Management Plans (PGTAs) as its primary planning tool. These plans are not just developed but co-created in a participatory process that respects the culture of each ethnic group, with the important assistance of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and government institutions. The project will also directly answer to the PNGATI steering committee, ensuring the project will be known to all indigenous organizations in Brazil, but also guaranteeing the broad dissemination of lessons learned. At the local level, the project will empower territorial management committees to have a consulting role in project execution throughout the project duration. This design not only involves indigenous people in all levels of project coordination but also recognizes their expertise and contributions. Special attention was given to the participation of women and the youth in these roles and in project execution and benefits. The project will make contributions to the following Targets of the KMGBF: 1,2,3,8,9,11,21,22 and 23. The project is aligned with Action Areas 2 and 5 of the GBFF. All Project outputs and outcomes support

indigenous people; the only resources not supporting IPLCs are the Project management costs. Components 1, 2, and 3 support indigenous people in their own lands, with support from indigenous/local organizations where this is feasible and with the indigenous people's engagement throughout. The project will direct a total amount of \$8,632,592 for this support. The project will generate the following GEBs: 6,200,000 hectares under improved management to benefit biodiversity. Because of the diversity of the project areas, it wasn't possible to calculate mitigation of GHG during the preparation phase. This will be calculated in the project first year and at the fifth. The results will be reported to in the midterm review and final evaluation using EX-ACT methodology.

32. **Brazil.** *Caatinga Protected Areas Program – ARCA.* (GEFID 11509) Agency: WWF-US, GBFF Project Financing \$8,964,220. The ARCA project aims to enhance the conservation of the Caatinga biome through the expansion and improved management effectiveness of Brazil's National System of Protected Areas, endangered species conservation, and engagement of Indigenous People, Traditional Peoples and Local Communities. Through science-based and participative approaches, the project seeks to create new protected areas and improve the management effectiveness of existing ones. The project also targets the conservation of endangered species, combating wildlife poaching and trafficking, and engaging IP/TP&LC in protected area governance, management, and sustainable natural resources use. The project will make contributions to the following Targets of the KMGBF: 3, 4, 21, 22, 23. The project is aligned with Action Areas One and Two of the GBFF. The project will direct a total amount of \$732,155 to support IP/TP&LC (100 percent of Component 3) to enhance capacity and institutional strength among IP/TP&LC, and community-based organizations (CBOs). The project will generate the following GEBs: 100,000 hectares of new protected areas to be created; 4,581,821,32 hectares of protected areas under improved management effectiveness; 48,837,633.45 tCO₂e mitigated, of that, 4,186,082.87 tCO₂e is direct mitigation projected within the four-year project implementation period and 44,651,550.58 tCO₂e will be mitigated over the following 16-year period and be considered indirect.

33. **Mexico.** *Mex30x30: Conserving Mexican biodiversity through communities and their protected areas.* (GEFID 11510) Agency: CI, GBFF Project Financing \$16,672,477. MEx30x30 will advance biodiversity conservation by strengthening protected area financing in Mexico. Mexico's federal protected area system faces an estimated annual financing gap of \$87 million. In addition, the National Commission for Protected Areas (CONANP) has increasingly certified ADVCS in response to requests from IPLCs who want to conserve their lands and need support. Consequently, these areas remain vulnerable to threats rooted in pressure for economic development and exacerbated by climate change; the resultant deforestation and degradation erodes ecosystem services that are vital for biodiversity and rural livelihoods. To reinforce conservation management, Mex30x30 will strengthen the capacity of CONANP to pursue diverse financing options; use the Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) approach to secure funding from other sources while public financing flows are developed; and invest in conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of recently established protected areas and ADVCS. Supporting enhanced IPLC management of conservation areas is of particular importance as 51 percent of the land in Mexico belongs to IPLCs and harbors 83 percent of biodiversity; thus, IPLCs will be

vital for further progress towards the 30x30 target. The project will make contributions to the following Targets of the KMGBF: 1, 2, 3, 18, 19, 20, 22, and 23. The project is aligned with GBFF Action Areas 1, 2 and 4. The project will direct a total amount of \$12,146,999 to support IPLCs through Component three to engage IP&LCs and other stakeholders in an inclusive participatory process to develop Annual Operating Plans for the project's focal protected areas and ADVCS; provide training and capacity-building to IPLCs in sustainable land management, conservation and restoration practices; and support IPLCs and local organizations to implement the Annual Operating Plan. The project will generate the following GEBs: improve management effectiveness for 3,665,666 ha of terrestrial PAs and 22,241,504 ha of marine PAs; mitigate 9.43 million MtCO₂e of greenhouse gas emissions; and generate inclusive, gender-equitable socioeconomic benefits for 163,293 people (50 percent women). The project will be transformative by improving the effectiveness of all protected areas, catalyzing progress towards Mexico's 30x30 target and putting in place the financial and institutional foundation to reach this target and then ensure robust management of the 30 percent of the country under conservation.

ANNEX A: PROJECT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR GBFF COUNCIL APPROVAL

June 19, 2024

Project Title	Focal Area	Country	Agency	PPG Amount	PPG Fee	GEF Project Financing	Agency Fee	Co-financing	Total Project Cost
in US \$									
Mex30x30: Conserving Mexican biodiversity through communities and their protected areas	Biodiversity	Mexico	CI	300,000	27,000	16,672,477	1,500,523	115,549,532	134,049,532
Caatinga Protected Areas Program – ARCA	Biodiversity	Brazil	WWF-US	100,000	9,000	8,964,220	806,780	-	9,880,000
Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands	Biodiversity	Brazil	Funbio	-	-	9,064,221	815,779	17,900,000	27,780,000
Sub-Total				400,000	36,000	34,700,918	3,123,082	133,449,532	171,709,532
GRAND TOTAL				400,000	36,000	34,700,918	3,123,082	133,449,532	171,709,532

ANNEX B: SUMMARY OF GBFF PROJECT CYCLE

The GBFF Project Cycle Policy is streamlined from the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy (applicable to all other GEF family of funds including the GEF Trust Fund).⁸ All GBFF resources are allocated in a country-driven manner to projects through consecutive selection rounds open to all eligible countries.

PPG Selection Rounds: Selection rounds are organized to approve PPG requests as follows.

- i. The Secretariat invites Agencies to submit PPG requests during a set timeframe.
- ii. Agencies submit PPG requests on behalf and with the endorsement of eligible countries. The funding request embedded in a PPG request must be equal to, or smaller than, the country's maximum total dollar value of new funding request(s) at the time of submission. For the first tranche, the maximum total dollar value table document has been posted on the GEF website, and also circulated to all GEF Operational Focal Points (OFPs) and Agencies on February 16, 2024.⁹
- iii. The Secretariat reviews all eligible PPG requests submitted by the deadline based on the seven selection criteria set forth in the GBFF Programming Directions document.¹⁰ If a PPG does not meet the conditions for approval, the Secretariat may reject it or request additional information.
- iv. The CEO approves all or a subset of the submitted PPG requests, based on the reviews, availability of resources, and three portfolio-level targets on (1) allocations to the least developed countries and small island developing States, (2) share of programming to support actions by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and (3) programming through international finance institutions, as per the GBFF Programming Directions. Upon approval, the resources corresponding to full project cost are set aside and considered allocated for the purpose of the programming tranche.

Work Program constitution and CEO endorsement: After the CEO approval of selected PPGs, the Agencies will submit the fully prepared projects.

- i. Projects above \$5 million will be included in a Work Program that will be reviewed and discussed by the GBFF Council. The endorsement requests cleared by the Secretariat for inclusion in a Work Program and the Cover Note will be posted on the GEF website and

⁸ GEF, 2024, [Global Biodiversity Framework Fund \(GBFF\) Project Cycle Policy](#), Council document GEF/GBFF.01/04/Rev.02

⁹ GEF, 2024, [Country Maximum Dollar Value of Funding Request\(s\) for the First Programming Tranche of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](#), Council document GEF/GBFF.02/Inf.01.

¹⁰ GEF, 2023, [Programming Directions of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](#), Council document GEF/C.64/06/Rev.02.

circulated eight weeks in advance of a GBFF Council meeting to Council Members, STAP, and the CBD Secretariat for comments.

- ii. Fully prepared projects up to \$5 million cleared by the Secretariat can be endorsed by the CEO based on the delegated authority provided by the GBFF Council. These projects will be circulated to Council Members four weeks prior to CEO endorsement. List of approved projects up to \$5 million will be appended to the Work Program Cover Note posted for the GBFF Council. Projects ranging from \$2 million to \$5 million will be also circulated to STAP four weeks prior to CEO endorsement for comments.

ANNEX C: APPROVED PPG REQUESTS FROM FIRST SELECTION ROUND OF FIRST TRANCHE

Four PPG requests were submitted from three countries, namely Brazil, Gabon, and Mexico, for the first selection round of the first tranche. Four were approved as summarized below.

Brazil, Gabon, and Mexico have requested their respective country maximum dollar value of funding requests for the first programming tranche of the GBFF.¹¹

GEF ID	Project Title	Agency	Country	Total funding request (incl. PPG and PPG fee)	Co-financing	Status
11508	Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands	Funbio	Brazil	\$9,880,000	\$17,900,000	Presented in Work Program for consideration by 2 nd GBFF Council
11509	Caatinga Protected Areas Program – ARCA	WWF-US	Brazil	\$9,880,000	\$0	Presented in Work Program for consideration by 2 nd GBFF Council
11512	Addressing Outstanding Barriers and Leveraging Durable Financial Mechanism to Achieve Target 3 in Gabon	WWF-US	Gabon	\$1,518,910	\$0	CEO Endorsement under review
11510	Mex30x30: Conserving Mexican Biodiversity through Communities and Their Protected Areas	CI	Mexico	\$18,500,000	\$115,549,532	Presented in Work Program for consideration by 2 nd GBFF Council
			TOTAL	\$39,778,910	\$133,449,532	

¹¹ GEF, 2024, [Country Maximum Dollar Value of Funding Request\(s\) for the First Programming Tranche of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](#), Council document GEF/GBFF.02/Inf.01.

ANNEX D: APPROVED PPG REQUESTS FROM SECOND SELECTION ROUND OF FIRST TRANCHE

Sixty-six PPG requests were submitted from 63 countries for the second selection round of the first tranche, which closed on April 1, 2024. They included 32 submissions from least developed countries (LDCs) and/or small island developing States (SIDS).

In total, 18 PPG requests from 21 countries were approved for the second selection round on May 9, 2024, including 11 PPG requests from 13 LDCs/SIDS. The selected PPG requests are presented in the table below.

These PPG requests approved for the second selection round total \$70.66 million, leveraging \$77.90 million.

GEF ID	Project Title	Agency	Country	Total funding request (incl. PPG and PPG fee)	Co-Financing
11582	Advancing integrated participatory spatial planning to enhance Samoa's globally significant biodiversity at a national scale	FAO	Samoa	\$1,160,000	\$1,150,000
11583	Scaling up biodiversity-positive and culturally inclusive agrifood and agritourism systems in Palau	FAO	Palau	\$1,160,000	\$1,120,000
11588	Reimagining National Parks for People and Nature – Leveraging Durable Financing Mechanisms for Mega Living Landscapes (MLL) to achieve Target 3 in South Africa	WWF-US	South Africa	\$5,000,000	
11589	Strengthening Globally Significant Biodiversity Corridors in the Philippines through Local Community Empowerment	ADB	Philippines	\$3,000,000	\$27,000,000
11590	Community-based conservation for biodiversity and livelihoods in the context of climate change in DRC	FAO	Congo DR	\$6,560,000	\$12,000,000
11595	Delivering Target 3 at the regional scale in Peru: Applying the ecosystem approach in the Northern Transversal Economic Corridor of Peru (Northern TEC)	WWF-US	Peru	\$12,570,000	
11598	Support for the development of a national policy, institutional and monitoring framework to effectively implement the Nagoya Protocol in Belize	UNDP	Belize	\$1,160,000	
11600	Philippines Biodiversity Financing Program	UNDP	Philippines	\$4,000,000	
11604	Advancing ABS implementation in Cambodia	UNDP	Cambodia	\$1,350,000	

GEF ID	Project Title	Agency	Country	Total funding request (incl. PPG and PPG fee)	Co-Financing
11606	Responding to Pacific priorities for ecosystem management and NBSAP implementation through strengthening capacities for effective planning and monitoring of ecosystems	UNDP	Fiji, Nauru, Tonga, Regional	\$4,630,000	\$1,000,000
11609	Strengthening transboundary conserved area management of the Sangha Tri-National (TNS)	WWF-US	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Regional	\$7,259,526	
11612	Empowering Indigenous Peoples for Sustainable Development: Inclusive Biodiversity Management through a Social and Solidarity Economy Approach	UNDP	Suriname	\$1,160,000	
11616	Restoring Forest Ecosystem Functions Through Community-Based Management in the Royal Botanic Garden of Jordan	UNDP	Jordan	\$870,000	
11626	Effective protection of Mozambique's Miombo woodlands and marine hotspot conservation areas enhancing global coping mechanisms to climate change	CI	Mozambique	\$4,876,006	\$1,309,990
11636	Sustainable Management and Restoration of Threatened Ecological Corridors in Kenya	World Bank	Kenya	\$3,896,750	\$9,800,000
11638	Enhancing co-benefits of conservation/protected area management through an inclusive wildlife-based ecotourism strategy (ECOTOURISM)	UNDP	Indonesia	\$7,000,000	\$21,000,000
11640	Strengthening the protected area system in Angola through innovation and capacity development	UNDP	Angola	\$3,260,000	\$600,000
11642	Support for the development of protected areas for the conservation of biodiversity	UNDP	Senegal	\$1,749,625	\$2,920,000
			TOTAL	\$70,661,907	\$77,899,990

ANNEX E: KUNMING-MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS

1. Reducing threats to biodiversity

TARGET 1

Ensure that all areas are under participatory, integrated and biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change, to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance, including ecosystems of high ecological integrity, close to zero by 2030, while respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.

TARGET 2

Ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and marine and coastal ecosystems are under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity.

TARGET 3

Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.

TARGET 4

Ensure urgent management actions to halt human induced extinction of known threatened species and for the recovery and conservation of species, in particular threatened species, to significantly reduce extinction risk, as well as to maintain and restore the genetic diversity within and between populations of native, wild and domesticated species to maintain their adaptive potential, including through in situ and ex situ conservation and sustainable management practices, and effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to minimize human-wildlife conflict for coexistence.

TARGET 5

Ensure that the use, harvesting and trade of wild species is sustainable, safe and legal, preventing overexploitation, minimizing impacts on non-target species and ecosystems, and reducing the risk of pathogen spillover, applying the ecosystem approach, while respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.

TARGET 6

Eliminate, minimize, reduce and or mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity and ecosystem services by identifying and managing pathways of the introduction of alien species, preventing the introduction and establishment of priority invasive alien species, reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of other known or potential invasive alien species by at least 50 per cent by 2030, and eradicating or controlling invasive alien species, especially in priority sites, such as islands.

TARGET 7

Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources by 2030, to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects, including: (a) by reducing excess nutrients lost to the environment by at least half, including through more efficient nutrient cycling and use; (b) by reducing the overall risk from pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals by at least half, including through integrated pest management, based on science, taking into account food security and livelihoods; and (c) by preventing, reducing, and working towards eliminating plastic pollution.

TARGET 8

Minimize the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity and increase its resilience through mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk reduction actions, including through nature-based solution and/or ecosystem-based approaches, while minimizing negative and fostering positive impacts of climate action on biodiversity.

*2. Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing***TARGET 9**

Ensure that the management and use of wild species are sustainable, thereby providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, especially those in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity, including through sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity, and protecting and encouraging customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.

TARGET 10

Ensure that areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed sustainably, in particular through the sustainable use of biodiversity, including through a substantial increase of the application of biodiversity friendly practices, such as sustainable intensification, agroecological and other innovative approaches, contributing to the resilience and long-term efficiency and productivity of these production systems, and to food security, conserving and restoring biodiversity and maintaining nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services.

TARGET 11

Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as the regulation of air, water and climate, soil health, pollination and

reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature.

TARGET 12

Significantly increase the area and quality, and connectivity of, access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas sustainably, by mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and ensure biodiversity-inclusive urban planning, enhancing native biodiversity, ecological connectivity and integrity, and improving human health and well-being and connection to nature, and contributing to inclusive and sustainable urbanization and to the provision of ecosystem functions and services.

TARGET 13

Take effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and facilitating appropriate access to genetic resources, and by 2030, facilitating a significant increase of the benefits shared, in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.

3. Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming

TARGET 14

Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.

TARGET 15

Take legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage and enable business, and in particular to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions:

- a) Regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and financial institutions along their operations, supply and value chains, and portfolios;
- b) Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns;
- c) Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable; in order to progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks to business and financial institutions, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.

TARGET 16

Ensure that people are encouraged and enabled to make sustainable consumption choices, including by establishing supportive policy, legislative or regulatory frameworks, improving education and access to relevant and accurate information and alternatives, and by 2030, reduce the global footprint of consumption in an equitable manner, including through halving global food waste, significantly reducing overconsumption and substantially reducing waste generation, in order for all people to live well in harmony with Mother Earth.

TARGET 17

Establish, strengthen capacity for, and implement in all countries, biosafety measures as set out in Article 8(g) of the Convention on Biological Diversity and measures for the handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits as set out in Article 19 of the Convention.

TARGET 18

Identify by 2025, and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity, in a proportionate, just, fair, effective and equitable way, while substantially and progressively reducing them by at least \$500 billion per year by 2030, starting with the most harmful incentives, and scale up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

TARGET 19

Substantially and progressively increase the level of financial resources from all sources, in an effective, timely and easily accessible manner, including domestic, international, public and private resources, in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans, mobilizing at least \$200 billion per year by 2030, including by:

- a) Increasing total biodiversity related international financial resources from developed countries, including official development assistance, and from countries that voluntarily assume obligations of developed country Parties, to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to at least \$20 billion per year by 2025, and to at least \$30 billion per year by 2030;
- b) Significantly increasing domestic resource mobilization, facilitated by the preparation and implementation of national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments according to national needs, priorities and circumstances;
- c) Leveraging private finance, promoting blended finance, implementing strategies for raising new and additional resources, and encouraging the private sector to invest in biodiversity, including through impact funds and other instruments;
- d) Stimulating innovative schemes such as payment for ecosystem services, green bonds, biodiversity offsets and credits, and benefit-sharing mechanisms, with environmental and social safeguards;
- e) Optimizing co-benefits and synergies of finance targeting the biodiversity and climate crises;

- f) Enhancing the role of collective actions, including by indigenous peoples and local communities, Mother Earth centric actions⁴⁷ and non-market-based approaches including community based natural resource management and civil society cooperation and solidarity aimed at the conservation of biodiversity;
- g) Enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of resource provision and use;

TARGET 20

Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, fostering joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capacities, commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the Framework.

TARGET 21

Ensure that the best available data, information and knowledge are accessible to decision makers, practitioners and the public to guide effective and equitable governance, integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and to strengthen communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management and, also in this context, traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities should only be accessed with their free, prior and informed consent,⁴⁸ in accordance with national legislation.

TARGET 22

Ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources, and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders.

TARGET 23

Ensure gender equality in the implementation of the Framework through a gender-responsive approach, where all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by recognizing their equal rights and access to land

⁴⁷ Mother Earth Centric Actions: Ecocentric and rights-based approach enabling the implementation of actions towards harmonic and complementary relationships between peoples and nature, promoting the continuity of all living beings and their communities and ensuring the non-commodification of environmental functions of Mother Earth.

⁴⁸ Free, prior and informed consent refers to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent” or “free, prior and informed consent” or “approval and involvement.”

and natural resources and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.