



Global Environment Facility

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August 17, 2009

Dear Council Member,

I am writing to notify you that we have today posted on the GEF's website at www.TheGEF.org, a medium-sized project proposal from UNDP entitled ***Madagascar: SIP-Stabilizing Rural Populations through Improved Systems for SLM and Local Governance of Lands in Southern Madagascar under the Regional: SIP PROGRAM: Strategic Investment Program for SLM in Sub-Saharan Africa (SIP)***, to be funded under the GEF Trust Fund (GEFTF).

The project is to enhance capability of resource users to mainstream SLM in development practice and policy at local and national levels for the mutual benefits of local livelihoods and global environment.

The project proposal is being posted for your review. We would welcome any comments you may wish to provide by August 31, 2009, in accordance with the new procedures approved by the Council. You may send your comments to gcoordination@TheGEF.org.

If you do not have access to the Web, you may request the local field office of the World Bank or UNDP to download the document for you. Alternatively, you may request a copy of the document from the Secretariat. If you make such a request, please confirm for us your current mailing address.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Barbut", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Copy to: Country Operational Focal Point, GEF Agencies, STAP, Trustee



CEO ENDORSEMENT REQUEST
PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project
THE GEF TRUST FUND

Submission Date: 1 July 2009
Re-submission Date: 29 July 2009
Re-submission Date: 13 August 2009

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

GEFSEC ID: 3374. GEF AGENCY ID: PIMS 3127
COUNTRY: Madagascar
PROJECT TITLE: SIP: *Stabilizing Rural Populations through improved Systems for SLM and Local Governance of Lands in Southern Madagascar*
GEF AGENCY: UNDP
OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: GoM, WWF
GEF FOCAL AREA (S): Land Degradation
GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): LD SP 1&2 (agric and forest)
NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT: SIP

INDICATIVE CALENDAR	
Milestones	Expected Dates
Work Program	N/A
CEO Endorsement/Approval	July 2009
GEF Agency Approval	Oct 2009
Implementation Start	Dec 2009
Mid-term Review (if planned)	Dec 2011
Implementation Completion	Dec 2013

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: To enhance capability of resource users to mainstream SLM in development practice and policy at local and national levels for the mutual benefits of local livelihoods and global environment.

Components	type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	GEF		Co-fin		Total
				\$	%	\$	%	
Replicable models of SLM developed and implemented in selected communes that are representative of the major agro-ecological sub-regions in southern Madagascar and promoted elsewhere in the country	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Models for sustainable agro-ecological and pastoral practices developed and applied to manage 157,000 ha of land; another 6,612,850 ha benefiting indirectly through policy changes and replication Sustainable income generating activities provide financial incentives for application of SLM model and improve economic activities at commune level: Cost-effective dune 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SLM model described using landscape functionality analysis and other cutting edge concepts to build on traditional management systems; the models will include governance, technical and technological as well as economic, socio-cultural and livelihood elements A strategy for participatory, farmer-centered SLM model implementation strategy described and its implementation tested in the four pilot communes, including participatory land use zoning for the four communes (i.e. zoning of common lands for appropriate forms of sustainable use, protection, or restoration objectives and identify key areas of intervention for SLM model development A local level SLM M&E system available and being used; focusing on (i) biophysical aspects such as e.g. rainfall, biomass, soil fertility, (ii) management impacts such as erosion control and soil fertility maintenance, and (iii) livelihoods/socio-cultural components Lessons from formulation, implementation and monitoring of the model synthesized and fed into the KM system to inform model replication Sustainable income generating 	407,750	17	2,042,250	83	2,450,000

		<p>stabilization techniques perfected for the white littoral sands AEZ</p>	<p>activities (IGAs) suitable in the different communes identified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants in the IGAs trained on entrepreneurship and business management and supported to set up or improve existing enterprises • Dune stabilization techniques refined to adopt most cost-effective approaches for sand dune stabilization • Participatory plans for sustainable use of stabilized dunes applied in the four pilot areas 					
<p>Policy enabling environment (SIP IR 2,3): Local regulatory and policy enhancement with national implications</p>	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Commune Development Plan (PCD) mainstream SLM concerns and have supportive legislation • Local level rules and regulations for NRM governance and management improved at all levels • Project lessons inform the country SLM investment framework (CSIF) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 PCDs reviewed to integrate principles of the SLM models • Commune-level legislation/dinas developed that encourage/direct the adoption of SLM practices while discouraging or banning unsustainable land use practices in the four pilot communes • Regional and provincial authorities assisted to draft new policies, strategies and legislation that integrate SLM models, lessons learned, best practices and guidelines • Guidelines developed for integrating SLM best practices and spatial planning into the preparation of communal development plans • Local planners assisted to integrate SLM into Communal Development Plans (PCD) outside of the pilot areas • Lessons from the project fed into the CSIF development process through the National SLM Platform 	110,000	10	1,030,000	90	1,140,000
<p>Capacity for SLM strengthened (SIP IR 1, 3):Institutions and individuals provided with capacity to support and apply SLM model</p>	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building support for local level farmers to apply SLM provided for four pilot communes and up-scaled areas with similar SLM issues • Capacity for improved local level governance provided to local leaders and land managers • Local level institutional arrangement available to cater for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programs for SLM techniques incorporating best practices (including indigenous technical knowledge) formulated and training delivered; • Commune level SLM governance capacity needs identified and capacity strengthening programme delivered for participatory approaches to problem analysis, definition of objectives, planning/program development, adaptive management, monitoring and controls and conflict management • Training programs adapted for tertiary and vocational training institutions, thereby becoming available to other regions with similar land degradation issues; • Extension package revised to include improved agriculture and livestock management practices and extension service capacity to deliver package improved; • A system of monitoring and knowledge 	300,000	16	1,635,000	84	1,935,000

		resource management and to reduce conflicts over resources	management for SLM developed and used to gather and disseminate information and experiences on SLM nation-wide; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A general land information system developed for the agro-ecological zones covered by the project; complements the data system for the SAP famine early warning system • SLM communications strategy designed and delivered including through media and schools 					
Project managed efficiently and cost-effectively with adaptive M and E systems		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project management unit established. • Project overall learning system developed and used to support adaptive management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office space set up, staff recruited, co-finance mobilized and project equipment bought • Project Steering Committee set up and facilitated to provide policy and strategic guidance to the project • Project implementation supervised and reported on • A gender and socio-economic analysis done and findings used to develop a project gender strategy that ensures better targeting of project activities and equitable participation and benefit sharing • Project M&E action plan (based on the M&E system outlined in the prodoc) designed and used to collect and use information to adapt management (and project implementation 	90,000	15	500,000	8	590,000
Total costs				907,750	15	5,207,250	8	6,115,000

TABLE B: FINANCING PLAN SUMMARY FOR THE PROJECT (\$)

	Project Preparation*	Project	Agency Fee	Total
GEF	25,000	907,750	92,250	1,025,000
Co-financing	0	5,207,250	0	5,207,250
Total	25,000	6,115,000	92,250	6,232,250

E - TABLE 1: PROJECT MANAGEMENT BUDGET/COST¹

Component	Estimated staff weeks	GEF (\$)	Other sources (\$)	Project total (\$)
Local consultants	192	60,000	100,000	160,000
International consultants	0	0	150,000	150,000
Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications		30,000	170,000	200,000
Travel		0	80,000	80,000
Total		90,000	500,000	590,000

¹ In accordance with both UNDP and GEF policies no GEF project resources will not be used to pay any government, agency, or NGO staff or personnel

B. CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS:

Component	Estimated staff weeks	GEF (\$)	Other sources (\$)	Project total (\$)
Local consultants	250	100,000	200,000	300,000
International consultants	93	70,000	95,000	165,000
Total	343	170,000	295,000	465,000

C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE and BY NAME (in parenthesis) if available

Co-financing Source	Cash	In-kind	Total
Project Government Contribution	20,000	250,000	270,000
GEF Agency	300,000		300,000
Bilateral Aid Agency - GTZ	1,000,000		1,000,000
Bilateral Aid Agency - EU		2,637,250	2,637,250
NGO (WWF)	1,000,000		1,000,000
Total co-financing	2,320,000	2,887,250	5,207,250

D. GEF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY FOCAL AREA(S), AGENCY (IES) SHARE AND COUNTRY – N/A

G. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:

1. The Project Results Framework is cross referenced to the SIP Results Monitoring Plan². M&E of this project will therefore include collection of data that can be fed into the overall SIP (and TerrAfrica) monitoring process. Where feasible, project monitoring will also report against the indicators presently being developed for the GEF Land Degradation Focal Area, and those identified by the Global GEF MSP on KM Land. The references made to Key Indicators on the title page of this project document concern the preliminary indicators that are currently available³. As currently specified, these indicators overlap across the two LD Strategic Objectives and SIP/TerrAfrica, and the most pertinent ones have been selected to represent the intended achievements of the project. Key indicators include:

- **Outcome and impact indicators** (*further detail on measuring GEB indicators is provided in annex E*):
 - At least 157,000 ha under direct SLM (project area) and another 6 million impacted by policy change and upscaling;
 - At least 50% reduction in soil erosion rates as measured by reduced soil being carried away by water during the rainy season and reduction in soil erosion rills;
 - At least 50% of dunes that were alive in 2004 in the 13 littoral communes in the project area have been stabilized;
 - At least 10% increase in soil organic carbon in pilot communes, as measured by ICRAF's spectrometer;
 - At least 25% increase in biological productivity of land in pilot areas due to improved vegetation cover combined with increased rainfall use efficiency. This will be measured by sampling seasonal vegetation growth in selected sites in both the pilot and control areas.
 - At least 40 % improvement in the social and economic conditions of communities in project area, measured through improvement in food production (change in production per unit of land), change in number of food secure days in a year and percentage change in households accessing additional incomes from the income generating activities;
 - At least 50% improvement in the score on Composite Index for the SLM Enabling Environment against the baseline; this includes local governance, policy changes and availability of financial resources to address SLM at national level.

² Annex 1 of the SIP Programme Brief, 26 September 2006.

³ FSP Project Template Version 4, 23 February 2007.

- **Output indicators:**
 - National and regional MAP policy, strategy and project documents developed;
 - Key donors and private sector development agency integrate their activities into the present project;
 - 40 of the 81 communes have revised PCD incorporating landscape functionality analysis, spatial planning/land use zoning, commune-level strategies/ policies for SLM, and adaptive management systems relative to planning and governance;
 - A monitoring program defined to monitor planning, implementation and adaptive SLM integration in place;
 - Revised extension package integrates SLM principles, is being implemented and is made available to communes with similar NRM issues outside the pilot area.

2. Key guidance and support to project M&E will be provided by the UNDP Country Office and by the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordination Unit. The detailed and rigorous monitoring, reporting and evaluation procedures specified in the M&E plan are not intended to obstruct the application of adaptive management in execution of the project. Adaptive management will be a key operational principle throughout this project. Another key principle will be full participation of project beneficiaries and stakeholders in all M&E activities. The project Steering Committee will symbolize this participation and will ensure that it also takes place at other levels of project structure and operations.
3. Without detracting from the required rigor, an adaptive approach will also be applied to project monitoring in order to optimize linkages to the still emerging M&E frameworks for the SIP and the GEF Land Degradation Focal Area. Additional indicators may be adopted for the project from these frameworks during implementation.
4. The implementing agency will ensure that project execution complies with UNDP’s monitoring, evaluation, auditing and reporting requirements, as specified in the UNDP Programming Manual. Progress and other reports will be submitted through MEFT (Ministry of Environment, Forests and Tourism) to the UNDP CO. They will provide brief summaries of the status of activities and output delivery, explaining any variance from the work plan and presenting a new work plan for the subsequent reporting period. The implementing agency will also work with MEFT and the UNDP CO to produce the required Annual Project Reports, Project Implementation Reviews and Project Terminal Report, as explained in outlined in the table below.

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$ ⁴	Time frame
Inception Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Coordinator • UNDP CO • UNDP GEF 	1000	Within first two months of project start up
Inception Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Team • UNDP CO 	None	Immediately following IW
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Purpose Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Coordinator will oversee the hiring of specific studies and institutions, and delegate responsibilities to relevant team members 	To be finalized in Inception Phase and Workshop. Indicative cost 5000	Start, mid and end of project
Measurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversight by Project GEF Technical 	To be determined as	Annually prior to APR/PIR and to the

⁴ Excluding project team Staff time

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$ ⁴	Time frame
of Means of Verification for Project Progress and Performance (measured on an annual basis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advisor and Project Coordinator Measurements by regional field officers and local IAs 	part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation. Indicative cost 5,000	definition of annual work plans
APR and PIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Team UNDP-CO UNDP-GEF 	None	Annually
TPR and TPR report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government Counterparts UNDP CO Project team UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit 	None	Every year, upon receipt of APR
Steering Committee Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Coordinator UNDP CO 	None	Following Project IW and subsequently at least once a year
Periodic status reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team 	None	To be determined by Project team and UNDP CO
Technical reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team Hired consultants as needed 	5,600	To be determined by Project Team and UNDP-CO
Mid-term External Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team UNDP- CO UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team) 	20,000	At the mid-point of project implementation.
Final External Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team, UNDP-CO UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team) 	10,000	At the end of project implementation
Terminal Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team UNDP-CO External Consultant 	None	At least one month before the end of the project
Lessons learned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating 	4,000 (average 1,000 per year and	Annual reviews SLM model development

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$ ⁴	Time frame
	Unit (suggested formats for documenting best practices, etc)	covered under capacity (Knowledge Management)	
Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP-CO • Project team 	4,000	Yearly
Visits to field sites (UNDP staff travel costs to be charged to IA fees)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP Country Office • UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit (as appropriate) • Government representatives 	4,000 (average one visit per year)	Yearly
TOTAL indicative COST (<i>Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff and travel expenses</i>)		US\$ 58,600⁵	

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. ISSUE, PROPOSED SOLUTIONS AND EXPECTED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED:

1. The Southwest and Androy Regions cover the southern-most part of Madagascar and form one of the most unique and biologically rich drylands areas on Earth, with a large number of plants and animals that are found nowhere else in the world. The natural habitat constitutes of spiny forest and harbors the highest level of plant endemism both at the generic (48%) and species (95%) in all of Madagascar. These habitats have evolved on extremely fragile soils with infrequent and irregular rain patterns and high winds. The vast natural area on rocky calcareous soils and the coastal plains habitats are the most ecologically vulnerable. The area is characterized by three distinct zones with distinct soil types and set of land degradation problems.
2. The littoral zone on white sands reaches upwards of 25 kilometers into the interior from the Indian Ocean. The zone was originally vegetated with a variety of shrubs and trees (notably *Didiereaceae trollii* and *D. madagascarensis*). Though there are many coastal villages dependent on fishing, most of the Tandroy and Mahafaly populations living in the littoral zone practice a combination of agriculture and animal husbandry. Most of the original vegetation has therefore been cleared to make room for cultivation and/or overgrazed. These soils are inherently poor and require high levels of input and careful management to sustain productivity over long periods. Unfortunately, the current methods of agriculture are not adapted to the fragility of the soils. Most farmers are poor and use little external inputs; cultivation is rarely supported by any form of appropriate soil management practices such as conservation agriculture, mulching, etc. Soils are easily exhausted and fields abandoned. Abandoned fields are easily invaded by increaser species. The remaining natural vegetation is heavily fragmented and what remains is under severe threat from further agricultural clearing and overgrazing by goats. The impacts of the inappropriate unsustainable agro-pastoral practices, invasive plants, and sand dunes have considerably reduced lands available for agricultural and lowered the already poor agricultural production, leading to poorer and poorer standards of living in this littoral zone. Due to the high winds associated with the southern Cape, degraded lands are extremely susceptible to wind erosion and dune formation. Indeed this zone experiences frequent famines and has the most severe water access difficulties
3. Over the past ten years, this littoral zone has experienced an exponential growth in the number of live sand dunes and wind born soil erosion. The development of live dunes seems to be strongly associated with the

⁵ Some of this cost is covered under outcome budgets

introduction of the plow in the 1960s and the elimination of field trees. *Opuntia stricta*, (a prickly cactus) introduced into this region 40 years ago, has become a devastating invasive plant. The cactus has little value to the local population and is a major impediment to livestock. Controlling the spread of this plant has been problematic as it grows both from ruminant and bird-dispersed seeds and root sprouting.

4. As inappropriate intensive agricultural and grazing practices continue to degrade transformed agricultural areas and the natural landscapes, people are migrating out of the region. It is estimated that over 50% of the male population between the ages of 16 and 40 have migrated out of the communes, most of them settling in other forested (and therefore biodiverse) areas within the region. Here they continue to practice slash and burn farming of cash crops or convert forest products for urban consumption (cooking fuel and construction). Thus the land degradation in this southern zone has increasingly adverse social and ecological consequences both within and beyond the region.
5. The Limestone Plateau or calcareous agro-ecological region, found within the Mahafaly and Karimbola plateau regions, have calcareous soils on the plateau surface, intermixed with the red silty-sand region. These soil patches support relatively thick vegetation cover dominated by several species of *Didiereaceae*, *Euphorbia*, *Adansonia za*; and a host of locally endemic succulent plants that have evolved under extremely hot, arid, and poor soil conditions. This area was inhabited principally by pastoralists until the latter half of the past century. However, since the early fifties, seasonal migrants have been settling in forest pockets where soils were slightly deeper and agriculture could be practiced. Originating from the littoral zone, the number of settlers has increased from 200 families in the early 1990s, to about three thousand families today. Markets for both maize and, more recently, tobacco are fuelling slash-and-burn farming in this zone. Given the already low soil fertility, the farmers produce only one crop before clearing more land, hence fuelling further encroachment into natural habitats. The agriculture practiced in this zone is one of the most extreme forms of unsustainable agriculture that is found anywhere. Given the nature of the soil substrate, restoration of natural habitats or spent agricultural areas use is limited, particularly under current practices. Abandoned areas are most often devoid of any vegetation. A recent study completed by Conservation International (2002) on forest cover loss during the 1990s decade show that the communes of Ampanihy and Androka, for example, have experienced one of the most marked over-all loss of natural habitats in all of Madagascar.
6. It is within this zone that there is also the greatest social conflict relative to land use practices. The original inhabitants who were pastoralists resent the clearing of forest areas they consider as secure pasture zones. Several sacred forest areas on calcareous soils are also being reduced in size, and respect for traditional taboos that protect certain sacred natural areas and species is eroding. As markets for cash crops develop, especially corn and tobacco, the livelihoods of the original pastoralist population is changing. Local people are now adopting the livelihood strategies of the migrant populations by increasingly practicing slash and burn farming. The original settlers are beginning to harass the migrant communities, and thus encourage their departure, in order to monopolize forest areas within their ancestral lands for agriculture. The migrants are forced to move on, either moving deeper into the Mikea Forest or seeking alternative forest areas.
7. The third agro-ecological region is located in the interior and is comprised of slightly richer red sands and clay soils that support a much taller forest structure. The forest consists of both spiny forest dominated by the larger species of *Didiereaceae* (*D. procera* and *D. dumosa*) and a small band of tropical dry forest on the northern edge. This is the agricultural breadbasket of the region in years with plentiful rainfall. Traditionally coastal people cultivated these soils for part of the year, but like in the other two zones, permanent settlement has increasingly become the norm particularly by people with fewer options in the increasingly degraded, low precipitation littoral sands. The soils are being farmed intensively, and fallow periods are rare. Soil fertility maintenance has become a major constraint, as nutrient recycling from crop residues is lost due to burning and subsequent water-borne or wind erosion. The introduction of the plow, the removal of field trees, and the lack of natural vegetation cover over large swaths of land has also facilitated rapid oxidation of soil organic matter and accentuated wind erosion, thus further decreasing the production. Well over 60% of the red soils areas are no longer capable of producing crops due to lack of soil fertility and water retention capacity. Increasingly, it is only in the lowlands areas, where soil moisture is retained and topsoil from uplands settle, that crops can be produced.
8. The southern people practice what is called “vole an-katrae” or seeding into dry ground awaiting any fortuitous rain to sprout the seed. When seed supplies are exhausted, the cultivator will search northward often bringing

back varieties not adapted to the harsh winds and drought common to the area. Crops cultivated in the Littoral Sands include yams, maize, kidney beans, cape peas, konoke, (a large sized pea in a round pod); sorghum (soafohy var.), manioc, voheme (a bean), ricine (castor), melons and squash. The Crystalline soils support cape peas, manioc, peanuts, voheme, sorghum (soafohy var.), yams, maize, lentils, and castor beans. The Alluvial soils support all the above as well as leafy garden vegetables and tomatoes. Rice is also being planted in the rich alluvial loam of Marolinta, Maniry, and Andranomivory. There is practically no investment in soil conservation or soil enrichment. Cattle manure is used only to amend gardens of the alluvial loam soils. It is never considered for field crops. Some use crop rotation, but most have never been appraised of its benefits, but rather plant corn season after season until the degradation of the soil forces the field to be turned into manioc. To stave off this rapid transition however various beans are commonly planted among the corn even as they have traditionally been used among sorghum. In general the crops of the Antandroy/Mahafaly have lost vitality, having suffered much in recent drought. The yam is down to a few varieties, where many of the preferred varieties have been lost. This is the same with bean and grain varieties.

9. Unsustainable land use in the South of Madagascar has damaged ecosystem functions and services, thereby risking livelihoods and the economy⁶. It has led to high level of forest fragmentation, soil erosion and sedimentation in river valleys, provoking flooding and destruction of estuaries, mangroves, and coral reefs. The long term ideal situation sought by the government and the land managers is one where the sustainable management of lands and resources provide a resilient base for ecosystem integrity, stability, functions and services that support the socio-economic livelihoods of present and future generations. There are however several barriers to achieving this goal. Although Madagascar has national progressive and recent policies to support SLM, enabling environment at the local level is poor, especially in the South. There is limited application of appropriate land and livestock management practices because people have low levels of skills, hence low ability to adapt management techniques to different conditions and changing circumstances. The immigrants therefore apply the agricultural and livestock practices wherever they go, regardless of the unsuitability of these methods in the new areas.
10. The situation is exacerbated by the high levels of poverty prevalent in south madagascar and the institutional arrangement for natural resources management. There are no proven system-wide approaches for improving productivity of the land under the current set of circumstances and institutions have limited capacity to handle cross-sectoral SLM issues. Natural resource management issues involving land use are currently dealt with piecemeal; sectoral policies and regulatory frameworks are not harmonised, and there is no clarity in overarching goals and no secure financing for SLM. Local development has so far institutionalized emergency food relief, instead of promoting coherent investments in adapting farming practices to the ecological potential of the land, rural development, infrastructure, human and institutional capacity. This has led to a vicious cycle of over-exploitation of land followed by abandonment.
11. While land-use planning is progressively developing in some of the regions, notably Anosy in the southeast, SLM has yet to be promoted as an overarching strategy. Capacity to develop such approaches has yet to be built as Communes have very little capacity for planning. This includes the inability to analyze the causes of land degradation and to identify and test appropriate measures for sustainable uses of land and resources. The communes also have had no support in developing “land functionality analysis” that facilitates more informed planning by considering all of the relevant functions, including social and economic functions that a land can provide. At the community level, one of the key barriers to SLM is the lack of governance capacity for SLM – especially the ability to develop and to enforce rules and limits governing the use of common land and resources. The absence of good governance systems for range/pasture management is one of the greatest barriers to SLM. The formation or federation of inter-communal associations, or the strengthening of the Association Intercommunale pour la Conservation du Plateau Mahafaly, or AICPM, around SLM themes could help to promote good governance relative to SLM. Certain land use actions, functions, and social norms will require agreement and collaboration on governance between communes that share a common landscape and where ethnic groups and transhumance activities do not recognize administrative divisions. Inter-communal associations will need even greater authority in order to leverage cooperation among communes and assist with promotion and application of SLM “best practices” in communes that have weak local authorities or traditional

⁶ Annex 1 provides a detailed Matrix of Land Degradation Threats and Root Causes

leaders. Insufficient economic incentives for SLM are a barrier to the adoption of SLM practices. SLM practices will only be adopted if there are adequate economic incentives to do so.

12. The project will develop and promote sustainable land management practices in agriculture, rangelands and drylands forestry techniques suited to the potential of the land and are in line with sound ecosystem principles in order to increase productivity while reducing the need for further encroachment into new fields, thereby reducing degradation and conflicts over resources. It will then support the application of the techniques to control the increasing severity and extent of land degradation in the south, where the drivers of land degradation are potent, and the people most affected are poor and vulnerable. It will work with government decision-makers, technical agents from ministries and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and donors to support existing and new community-based stakeholder groups to adopt and disseminate appropriate cultivation and livestock management practices. It will have synergies with other focal area objectives especially adaptation to climate change, biodiversity conservation in production landscapes, and reductions in pollution and sedimentation of international water bodies.
13. The objective of the MSP therefore is to enhance capability of resource users so as to place SLM in the main stream of development practice and policy at local and national levels. In line with the Strategic Investment Program (SIP) for Sustainable Land Management in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), the MSP will promote the development of coherence and complementarities within SLM programs supported by GoM and major donors in Madagascar. A core element of the project will be to identify methodologies to stabilise sand dunes and arrest the further spread of alien species. It will continue working with five focal communes that cover three agro-ecological zones, collaborating with government administrators, commune leaders, ministry extension personnel and other partners to create and support local stakeholder groups spanning all gender, age and vocational interests.

Expected Outcomes and outputs

14. **Outcome 1: Models for sustainable agriculture and pastoral practices developed and applied to manage 157,000 ha of land with another 6,612,850 ha benefiting indirectly through policy changes and replication:** Under this outcome sustainable agriculture, rangeland and woodland management models will be described based on the results of landscape functionality analysis and other cutting edge concepts to build on traditional management systems and knowledge⁷. Results of the assessments will be used to guide participatory land use zoning in the four pilot communes⁸ i.e. zoning of common lands for appropriate forms of sustainable use, protection, or restoration objectives and identifying key areas of intervention for improved techniques. Techniques for improving soil fertility, productivity and quality of range resources will form the core of the SLM models and will include conservation agriculture, water harvesting, inter-cropping with right mixes such as agro-forestry trees and legumes, rotational grazing, etc. In particular, dune stabilization techniques will be refined to adopt the most cost-effective approaches for sand dune stabilization. Model description will include a description of conditions necessary for its successful implementation such as governance⁹, technical and technological, economic, socio-cultural and livelihood elements. A strategy for the participatory, farmer-centered SLM model implementation will be developed and its implementation tested in the four pilot communes. Participatory plans for sustainable use of stabilized dunes will also be applied in the four pilot areas.
15. Adoption of SLM techniques will require local level investment in labor and perhaps finances. It is important that the local economy provide an opportunity for financial incentives for the application of SLM model through returns on such investments. Sustainable income generating activities could re-energize local economies if the right products are identified and matched to markets and local capacity for market participation. The project will therefore identify potential IGAs and investigate the conditions necessary for effective local level adoption and sustainability. It will then facilitate the provision of the required enabling environment such as training on entrepreneurship and business management, business administration and

⁷ Annex 2 provides a description of the current land use types and related issues in each pilot commune

⁸ Annex 3 contains justification for commune selection

⁹ Annex 4 provides a description of current commune resource governance systems

improved harvesting and processing. In addition, selected entrepreneurs will be supported to set up or improve existing enterprises

16. To support upscaling of successful initiatives, a local level M&E system will be set up to monitor project implementation process and impacts focusing on (i) biophysical aspects such as changes in soil fertility and land productivity; (ii) management impacts such as erosion control and soil fertility maintenance, and (iii) livelihoods/socio-cultural components. Lessons from formulation, implementation and monitoring of the project initiatives will be synthesized and fed into the Knowledge Management system to inform model replication.

17. Outcome 2: Commune Development Plan (PCD) mainstream SLM concerns and have supportive legislation: Sustainability of the improvements in SLM demonstrated by the project will be embedded in resource governance systems. Local level rules and regulations for NRM governance and management will therefore be reviewed for effectiveness in supporting improved practices. Gaps will be identified and commune-level legislation/dinas developed to encourage/direct the adoption of SLM practices while discouraging or banning unsustainable land use practices in the four pilot communes recommendations for improvement formulated and mainstreamed in the Commune Development Plans for the four pilot communes. The regional and provincial authorities will then be assisted to draft new policies, strategies and legislation that support adoption of SLM techniques. In addition, guidelines for integrating SLM best practices and spatial planning into the preparation of communal development plans will be developed and local planners assisted to integrate SLM into Communal Development Plans (PCD) in the communes outside the pilot areas. Finally, data, experience and lessons from the project will be fed into the Madagascar SLM Investment Framework¹⁰ through the National SLM Platform.

18. Outcome 3: Capacity building support for local level farmers to apply SLM provided for four pilot communes and up-scaled areas with similar SLM issues: Capacity is critical to the successful implementation of the SLM model, capacity constraint is a key barrier to SLM adoption in Madagascar. The project will therefore improve capacity for all aspects of SLM (spatial planning, modeling, implementation and governance) largely at local level but with some key aspects of regional and national level capacity¹¹. In particular, local level institutional arrangement for effective adoption of improved practices will be examined and gaps in both institutions and capacity identified. In particular, commune level SLM governance capacity to cater for resource management and to reduce conflicts over resources will be examined, needs identified and capacity strengthening programme delivered. Emphasis will be on capacity for participatory approaches to problem analysis, definition of objectives, planning/program development, adaptive management, monitoring and controls and conflict management. Training programs for SLM techniques incorporating best practices (including indigenous technical knowledge) will be formulated and training delivered. These training programs will be adapted for tertiary and vocational training institutions, thereby made available to other regions with similar land degradation issues. The extension package will be revised to include improved agriculture and livestock management practices and extension service capacity to deliver package will be improved. In conjunction with outcome 1, a system of monitoring and knowledge management for SLM will be developed and used to gather and disseminate information and experiences on SLM nation-wide. Finally, a general land information system will be developed for the agro-ecological zones covered by the project to complement the data system for the SAP famine early warning system. An SLM communications strategy will then be designed and delivered through media and schools.

¹⁰ Development of the Madagascar SLM Investment Framework is led by the country's government, facilitated by the World Bank through a SIP SLM project.

¹¹ Another SIP project (through the World Bank) has a large component on National level capacity building. Any national level capacity building work under this project will therefore be closely coordinated with the Bank project, through the national SLM platform.

B. CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES/PLANS:

19. Natural resources management in Madagascar is guided by several policies including the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification (PAN-LCD, 2003); the Madagascar Action Plan (MAP), the country's national strategy based on global Millennium Development Objectives; the National Environmental Action Plan (PNAE), a major instrument for the National Strategy for Sustainable Management of Biodiversity in relation to the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD); the National Strategy for the Management of Risks and Catastrophes, the country's action plan for coping/adapting to climatic change. The proposed project clearly conforms to the National Environmental Action Plan (PNAE), a major instrument for the National Strategy for Sustainable Management of Biodiversity in relation to the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD). Similarly, it conforms to the objectives of the Convention on Climate Change, the National Strategy for the Management of Risks and Catastrophes, and the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification (PAN-LCD, 2003). The latter action plan identifies the strategies and actions for meeting the Madagascar's obligations under the UN Convention on Combating Desertification UNCCD. The MSP is also a key tool to implement the Madagascar Action Plan (MAP), the country's national strategy based on global Millennium Development Objectives. The MSP has a focused effort on developing SLM in southern Madagascar that will contribute significantly to the specific objectives of the PAN-LCD, as the South is one of its priority intervention zones. It is also the zone where land degradation and desertification are presently resulting in the most adverse social and ecological impacts. Developing SLM will also contribute to tangible linkages between the PAN-LCD and the CBD. To this end, the UNCCD Focal Point for Madagascar played an active consultative role in the development of this MSP

C. CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH GEF STRATEGY AND STRATEGY PROGRAMS

20. The project satisfies the requirements under the Strategic Priorities for SLM I. It is part of the GEF Strategic Investment Program for SLM in Sub-Saharan Africa (SIP) and will contribute to the SIP's Goal, by contributing to reduce land degradation in Madagascar - thus supporting the country in improving its natural resource based livelihoods. In addition it will contribute to the SIP's Development Objective of phases I and II in two major aspects: one, support Madagascar to design, implement and manage suitable SLM policies, strategies, and pilots on the community levels; two, support development of a programmatic approach to SLM scale-up. More specifically, the project will foster system-wide change through the removal of policy, institutional, technical, capacity and financial barriers to SLM, in line with the LD SO 1, 2 and 3. It will build capacity for achievement of SIP Intermediate Result 1: SLM applications on the ground are scaled up in country-defined priority agro-ecological zones. It will work directly towards Intermediate Result 2: effective and inclusive dialogue and advocacy on SLM strategic priorities, enabling conditions, and delivery mechanisms established and ongoing. Its objectives also coincide with Intermediate Result 4: targeted knowledge generated and disseminated; monitoring and evaluation systems established and strengthened at all levels.

D. COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES

21. The project is part of TerrAfrica/SIP, a NEPAD initiative aimed at building regional partnerships for SLM, knowledge generation and dissemination, as well as investment development and donor alignment. GEF-SIP support is channeled through two partner agencies in the country, UNDP and the WB, together promoting a strategic package of investment designed to catalyze SLM scale up, build operational alliances, and improve enabling environments. UNDP will focus its activities in the South, where one of the most unique and biologically rich drylands areas on Earth is facing serious land degradation (sand dunes, invasives). The WB will focus on the upland watersheds linked to priority production zones. Both interventions address local institutions to improve the enabling conditions for SLM up-scaling. UNDP and the Bank are exploring modalities to collaborate via their GEF-SIP investments to build a Country SLM Investment Framework as a common output of the two operations. The UNDP and the WB projects will be coordinated through an Interministerial committee on SLM that will operate at the national level.

22. The project will also coordinate closely with other projects in the country (and region) with relevance to SLM. They include the WB's agricultural intensification and the Protected Areas project of the National Association for the Management of Protected Areas (PNM-ANGAP), funded by the EU. In particular, the project will collaborate with the World Bank SIP project in the North in assisting the government to adopt a more programmatic approach to SLM. Formation of an interministerial SLM committee will be facilitated. This committee will coordinate a national level dialogue that will bring all SLM stakeholders to a round table discussion on adoption of a programmatic approach to SLM. This dialogue may lead to the formulation of a Madagascar Country Strategic Investment Framework for SLM that will further identify opportunities for upscaling SLM and mobilise resources to actualise the upscale. The two SIP projects will be closely coordinated by this committee.
23. There are other projects financed by European donors and the American government, building the capacity of the NGOs to provide technical advice to land managers on appropriate land management techniques. The World Wide Fund for Nature and Conservation International, in particular have projects providing support to landscape conservation initiatives in southern Madagascar. These initiatives seek to include the representative biodiversity in conservation areas that are ecologically viable and resilient in the long-term. These conservation areas are seen as vital to maintaining ecological functions of both natural and transformed areas (agriculture and pasture). WWF and Conservation International (CI) both support and collaborate with a host of regional institutions (Parcs Nationaux Madagascar – National Association for Management of Protected Areas PNM-ANGAP, Regional Water and Forests Direction (DREF), Support Service for Environmental Management (SAGE) and NGOs (notably Sokake (Malagasy for Radiated tortoise), ALT (Andrew Lees Trust and their sorghum program) ASOS (Action Santé Organisation Secours), AVSF (agronomes et Veterinaires sans frontières), and the Libanona Ecological Center (CEL)) on the planning and implementation of the Ala Maiky Ecoregion program.

E. RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE AND RISK MEASURES THAT WILL BE TAKEN:

24. Stakeholder groups are generally favorable to improved SLM approaches, and the political climate to promote improved land-use practices and biodiversity conservation is perhaps at the highest level possible. The principal risk is the continued immigration to otherwise little-used or unoccupied areas. The project will address this issue through SLM policy development and adoption, and by working with inter-communal, communal and stakeholder groups to determine appropriate land-use zoning and user rights, backed by legally recognized agreements. There is a risk that climate change may make the SLM innovations obsolete. This risk will be mitigated by incorporating climate change considerations into SLM practices and linking the communities to systems of weather monitoring and drought/floods/unusual weather early warning systems.
25. There is also a medium to high risk that forest protection will continue to be sabotaged by bad governance in the Waters and Forest Service – i.e., effective reforms for restructuring, internal governance, removal of dysfunctional agents are not undertaken. This will be mitigated by the inclusion of plans for a major restructuring of the Waters and Forest Service. Project managers will maintain close contact with those in charge of restructuring the service and will advise on the restructuring process based on experiences in the South.
26. There is also a medium risk that a naturally occurring period of severe drought or the accelerating effects of global warming may derail the effective development of an SLM model and project impacts. Project implementation will integrate climate risk assessment of all activities to ensure that project initiatives strengthen ecosystem resilience. In addition, the project will create dry season pasture reserves to minimize livestock losses and to build confidence in herders that they can improve the health of their animals and their monetary returns through controlled grazing. Soil conservation techniques will also conserve water, decreasing susceptibility to drought.
27. There is also a medium to low risk that regional programs will not integrate SLM criteria/recommendations developed by the project and its partners. This risk will be mitigated by the inclusion of representatives of central headquarters and of donors of the regional programs in the oversight committee. Finally there is a medium to low risk that the institutionalized use of food aid has destroyed people's confidence in their ability to reverse present tendencies of land degradation. This risk will be mitigated by working at the highest level

with those responsible for the food aid to ensure that it is used only when necessary, in the most strategic fashion and in harmony with SLM.

F. COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:

28. Land management practices that take little or no cognizance of sustainability in relevant or cross-sectoral plans, program and policies pose a risk to the ecological integrity of the Drylands ecosystem of South Madagascar. This is likely to impose high economic costs by undermining productivity of the land and its ability to support economic development and ecosystem services provisioning capacities. In contrast, the costs of preventing ecological degradation from occurring in the first place are more modest. At the community level, one of the key barriers to SLM is the lack of governance capacity for SLM – especially the ability to develop and to enforce rules and limits governing the use of common land and resources. At the national level, the barriers are related to inadequate capacity to develop a knowledge based SLM model that can guide increased land productivity within the complexity of South Madagascar without exacerbating land degradation. Investing in these capacities is cheaper and more sustainable than physical restoration of damaged lands and ecosystems.

29. The 1 million GEF investment will put 157,000 ha of land under improved management practices with another 6.6 million hectares benefiting indirectly from policy changes and updated training materials and extension package. Specifically, the project will develop and promote sustainable land management practices in agriculture, rangelands and drylands forestry techniques suited to the potential of the land and are in line with sound ecosystem principles in order to increase productivity while reducing the need for further encroachment into new fields, thereby reducing degradation and conflicts over resources. In doing so, the project will spearhead the precautionary principle in advancing interventions. Economic assessments will help inform the appropriate level of tradeoffs needed to secure environmental well being, while allowing for the pursuit of development objectives. This is expected to result in a more optimum employment of resources, and improve the chances that SLM initiatives are sustainable.

30. This project seeks to engage directly with resource users to build on their knowledge and capacities to change attitudes and instill an appreciation of the inter-dependence of the different production systems and ecosystem services. This is in recognition of the fact that command-and-control systems for SLM both costly and inefficient at a large scale, and that where highly prescriptive, they can also impose high financial costs on local economic development. The project has been designed to allow local economic development interests to weigh the costs and benefits of different mitigation options in assuring compliance with SLM modeling. This approach is expected to be cost effective in the long run because it avoids the costs of ecosystem restoration by ensuring better management today.

31. At the operational level, project implementation arrangements will minimize bureaucracy, administrative and managerial wastage, and follow UNDP standard rules and procedures for procurement and recruitment. A cost effectiveness appraisal will be made prior to final approval by the executing agency. One of the main challenge of the project is one of capacity building. The strategy of the project is to build local capacity for replicating and adapting the new participatory management models, the most cost-effective approach for ensuring the sustainability and replicability of the project.

G. COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE OF GEF AGENCY:

32. The proposed project is a national level capacity building project; an area GEF recognizes as UNDP's key Comparative Advantage

PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):
(Please attach the [country endorsement letter\(s\)](#) or [regional endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

<i>Rakotobe Tovondriaka; Director, Department of Environment</i>	Date: April 11 2007
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D. GEF AGENCY CERTIFICATION


This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation.	
 John Hough UNDP-GEF Deputy Executive Coordinator	Project Contact Persons UNDP - Veronica Muthui, RTA - SLM Pretoria. Tel: +27 12 354 8124 Email:veronica.muthui@undp.org
Date: 13 August 2009	

Table 3: Project Logical Framework – Stabilizing Rural Populations through the Identification of Systems for Sustainable Management and Local Governance of Lands in Southern Madagascar

Goal/Objective/Outcomes	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/Risks
<p>Long-Term Goal: The sustainable management of lands and resources in southern Madagascar provides a resilient base for the livelihoods and the economy of the arid South. Impact Indicators as per TerrAfrica/SIP indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Land degradation rate reduced by at least 40% in project area; ➤ At least 10% increase in soil organic carbon in pilot area ➤ At least 25% increase in biological productivity of land (vegetation cover enhanced with rainfall use efficiency) increased in pilot areas ➤ At least 40 % improvement in the social and economic conditions of communities in project area ➤ At least 50% improvement in the score on Composite Index for the SLM Enabling Environment against the baseline; this includes local governance, policy changes and availability of financial resources to address SLM at national level 			
<p>Project Objective: To enhance capability of resource users mainstream SLM in development practice and policy at local and national levels for the mutual benefits of local livelihoods and global environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of Project: 40 of the 81 communes have revised PCD incorporating landscape functionality analysis, spatial planning/land use zoning, commune-level strategies/ policies for SLM, and adaptive management systems, and adaptive management systems relative to planning and governance. This puts approx 157,000 ha under direct SLM (project area) and another 6 million impacted by policy change and upscaling • Baseline: None of the communes have PCD with spatial planning/land use zoning and SLM strategies/policies. • MT: 15 of the communes have PCD with spatial planning/land use zoning, SLM strategies/policies, adaptive management strategies. • EOP: 50% of dunes that were live in 2004 in the other 13 littoral communes in the project area have been stabilized, covering over 75 km². • Baseline: Three (03) of the 13 communes have undertaken dune stabilization (and have stabilized 75% of their most problematic dunes), covering over 15 km². • Mid-term(MT): 20% of dunes in the three contiguous littoral communes (Itampolo, Tranovaho & Marovato) have been stabilized, roughly 5 km². 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published guidelines for integration of SLM in PCD preparation. • Completed landscape functionality analyses • EU-funded support units to regions. • Mid-term evaluation and final evaluation with KM program partners (plus any actors not participating in KM) • PAM reports • KM Partners • Satellite imagery • European Union Famine Early Warning Program Reports on migration • Commune monitoring system data on migrations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donors, donor programs, NGOs and other rural development/environmental organizations are willing and motivated to integrate SLM into their field programs. • World Food Program will continue to make further modifications and realignments of their criteria and policies for food distribution is support of SLM. • Key provincial and regional authorities remain supportive of project objectives. • Migration and influential household socio-economic indicators fueling it can be quantifiably

Goal/Objective/Outcomes	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/Risks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOP: Existence of a monitoring program for out-migration and reduction of rates by a minimum of 30% in each of the pilot communes • Baseline: There exist no monitoring or census data on current migration rates but informal research shows that rates are increasing. • MT: A monitoring relative to migration patterns, rates, and influential household socio-economic indicators is operational as well as a communications program to discourage out migration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rates and influential socio-economic indicators • Mid-term evaluation and final evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • measured • SLM program activities and targeted investments in rural communes will be able to reduce out-migration rates
<p>Outcome 1: Replicable models of SLM are developed for selected communes that are representative of the major agro-ecological sub-regions in southern Madagascar, and these are promoted elsewhere in the region.</p> <p>Output 1: Models for sustainable agro-ecological and pastoral practices developed, applied in pilot areas and adapted to conditions in the South.</p> <p>Output 2: Cost-effective dune stabilization techniques perfected for the white littoral sands AEZ</p> <p>Output 3: PCD developed/ revised to integrate best specific techniques, practices, principles and lessons learned from the SLM model development (see also Output 4</p> <p>Income generating activities introduced/ supported to increase economic activities at commune level:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOP: Viable models of sustainable agriculture are developed for the white littoral sands AEZ, the Red Soils AEZ and the Crystalline AEZ. • Baseline: No work has been done in area of the pilot communes on the development of sustainable agriculture, range and fire management or sand on dune stabilization • MT: Models are actively being tested with farmers and herders in each of the AEZ in the pilot communes in both the Mahafaly and the Tandroy areas. • EOP: 30% of farmers in target communes have adopted key SLM practices. • Baseline: Testing and extension of SLM practices has not yet begun. • MT: 10% of farmers in pilot communes are testing key SLM practices. • EOP: Long-distance transhumance and short-distance rotation range management models, norms, and supportive measures are formally developed and applied in targeted communities of the pilot communes in relation to the functionality of the land. • Baseline: Formal regulation of open access and recognition and organization of recognized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written description of each model • Final project evaluation. • Mid-term evaluation • Independent surveys done under contract. • International range management consultant's assessment and report • Internal project monitoring and reporting to be spot-checked by mid-term and final evaluations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project does not coincide with an exceptional period of extended drought. • Institutionalized use of food aid will not destroy rural population ambitions and willingness to attempt to reverse tendencies of land degradation. • Transhumant populations will have a direct interest in participating in model development and will adhere to locally legitimate social norms relative to range management • Short-distance herders will adhere to pasture rotation schedules

Goal/Objective/Outcomes	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/Risks
	<p>transhumance patterns has yet to be initiated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MT: Norms are developed and applied for open access in priority conservation and restoration zones and transhumance patterns and organization strategies are identified • EOP: Natural regeneration of preferred forage species is 50% greater on range management pilot sites compared to unmanaged areas. • Baseline: Range management pilot sites not yet established. • MT: Range management trials just becoming operational • EOP: At least 80% of active littoral dunes that were active at project startup in the two pilot communes of the White Littoral Sands AEZ will have been stabilized by EOP. • Baseline: 0% stabilized. • Mid-term: 25% stabilized. • At least 10% of population in pilot areas engaged in income generating activities 		
<p><i>Outcome 2:</i> Policy enabling environment: Local regulatory and policy enhancement with national implications Output 3.1: Initial development/revision of the Commune Development Plan (PCD) for each pilot commune, mainstreaming SLM concerns and development of supportive legislation Output 3.2: Direct linkages established between SLM governance in communes and PCD program funding and/or credit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOP: SLM firmly established in GoM rural development policies, and extended to the regions and, in turn, their key communes. The South is considered as a priority case given the serious challenges to SLM posed by aridity and the associated impacts of climate change. • Baseline: SLM practices currently exist in only a small number of localities where improved grain production and livestock forage technologies have been developed. No such initiative exists for the South, although a project to improve practices in the Upper Mandrare River Basin has produced some positive results. • MT: The three regions promote SLM and targeted communities develop at least three new initiatives. • EOP: NRM structures are legally empowered, are 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDM report. • Presidency and Ministry reports. • Regional MAPs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key supporters are retained during a government shake-up (ministerial changes). • Current commitments to mainstreaming SLM into new and existing PCDs is maintained •

Goal/Objective/Outcomes	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/Risks
<p>Output 3.3: Local level rules and regulations for NRM governance and management improved at all levels</p> <p>Output 3.4: Formulation of CSIF that promotes up-scaling of SLM practices supported (led by WB); Lessons from this project integrated into the CSIF through National SLM Platform</p>	<p>implementing their NR management plans and maintain records on the enforcement of rules.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline: There are some traditional rules governing access to common forests, grazing lands and water points, but there are no explicit rules for sustainable management of common natural resources nor are there controls on practices resulting in land degradation. • MT: Recently established community structures are beginning to enforce agreed upon rules for sustainable use of common resources and for controlling practices contributing to land degradation. 		
<p>Outcome 3: Institutions and individuals have the capacity to support and apply SLM at local, regional and national levels</p> <p>Output 1: Capacity building programs are developed for (i) improved commune governance for SLM, (ii) regional level stakeholders, and (iii) for tertiary and vocational training institutions</p> <p>Output 2: Knowledge generation, knowledge sharing and promotion of SLM mainstreaming (closely linked to M& system developed under outcome 1)</p> <p>Output 3: Extension package revised to include improved agriculture and livestock management practices and extension service capacity to deliver package improved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOP: PCDs that integrate SLM and land functionality analyses are being actively implemented on over 30% of the landscape within the pilot communes; PCDs are living documents (adaptive management). • Baseline: PCDs are weak, do not integrate SLM and are not being used. • MT: PCDs have been revised through a participatory process that includes zoning for SLM and completed land functionality analyses. • EOP: Existence of a monitoring program for out-migration and reduction of rates by a minimum of 30% in targeted communities each of the pilot communes. • Baseline: There exist no monitoring or census data on current migration rates but informal research shows that rates are increasing. • MT: A monitoring relative to migration patterns, rates, and influential household socio-economic indicators is operational as well as a communications program to discourage out migration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • - Existences of periodic newsletters and workshop reports • - mid-term and final project evaluations • PCD documents with landscape functionality analysis • MT and EOP evaluations • International range management consultant's assessments as presented in his technical reports. • Contracted independent evaluation using focus groups to assess • Legitimacy and efficiency of structures and rules. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donors, donor programs, NGOs and other rural development/environmental organizations continue current levels of willingness and motivation to participate in an adaptive management program for sharing SLM experiences • Political changes at the commune level will not prevent effective PCD implementation • Competent Forest Service field agents are retained at key sites. • Wealthy and politically powerful large herd owners are prepared to respect locally established grazing

Goal/Objective/Outcomes	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/Risks
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-term and EOP evaluations. • Informal assessments by Malagasy field partners (VSF, TAFA, SOKAKE, FAFAFI, MDP) 	codes/rules.
<p>Outcome 4: Project effectively implemented and achieves results within budget and timeframe</p> <p>Output 1: Project implementation support structures set up</p> <p>Output 2: Project M&E plan and action plan developed, applied and information used to adapt management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOP: Project final review reports that all project outcomes and impacts have been achieved and can be sustained • MT: MTR reports implementation progress on track 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports and evaluation reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All partners maintain their current levels of support and dedication to project objectives; • All co-finance promised can be mobilized

ANNEX C: CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE PROJECT

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$/ person week</i>	<i>Estimated person weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be performed</i>
For Project Management			
Local			
1) Project Manager 2) Project Assistant 3) Driver/messenger	300	200	This item constitutes the cost of a Project Management Unit (PMU) for 4 years at USD 300 per week. Three full time staff will be employed for the implementation of this FSP; a project manager, a secretary/administrator and a driver. The Project Manager will be responsible for overall co-ordination, implementation, administration and reporting of the project in consultation with the Steering Committee, UNDP-GEF and WWF. The Secretary/Administrator and the driver will provide the required support services in the project office, taking particular responsibility for document management, procurement and project accounts as well as general administration such as management of project vehicles. The driver will act as a messenger and manage project vehicles (purchased b co-finance)
For Technical Assistance			
Local			
Chief Technical Advisor SLM Modeling	1800 ¹²	140	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The CTA will provide technical assistance and coordinate the work of the development of the SLM models. This will include conducting assessments, identifying best practices, implementing activities to formulate and test an SLM model. 2. The success of the SLM model will depend on a strong extension service, which integrates SLM and cutting edge knowledge in its extension package. Current extension services are sector-based and weak. The CTA will lead the process of aligning the current extension package with the SLM model formulated under outcome 1. S/he will also lead the development of training material for various levels of SLM stakeholders (farmers, pastoralists, extension officers, policy makers, etc.); and the communication strategy for raising awareness on the importance of SLM to national development and MDGs. In addition, s/he will develop M&E systems to monitor the adoption of SLM, and link to the SIP/TerrAfrica monitoring system. 3. The CTA will also lead the development the knowledge management network and link the project to the national dialogue process led by the WB and ensure that project experience benefits the CSIF (Country Strategic Investment Framework). In doing so, the CTA will review the current knowledge management systems and upgrade them and establish an SLM network. The CTA will assist the PM to disseminate the communication strategy and support the revision of Local development plans to mainstream SLM practices.
International			
Consultant – SLM Modeling	1934	6	Review of SLM Modeling best practices in the Sub-Saharan Africa region;
Consultant – Environmental Economics Specialist	1934	6	Undertake study on Environmental economics (EE) and its effects on SLM modeling; use findings to incorporate EE in SLM training material and be part of the training teams.

¹² The real cost for this technical advise will be US\$ 3943 per week. The difference will be paid for by co-finance.

Consultant – Land tenure and NRM governance specialist	1934	5	Undertake a study on land tenure in Madagascar and its effect on NRM governance and SLM modeling; use findings to incorporate land tenure issues in SLM training material and be part of the training teams.
Consultant – Adaptation specialist	1934	3	Undertake review of effect of climate change on SLM techniques being proposed under the SLM model and provide options for “climate proofing” the SLM model; link the project to adaptation and carbon finance networks;
Consultant – Carbon finance specialist	1934	4	Assess the potential of adding a carbon finance layer on the current project, provide a list of options and link the project to the carbon finance networks;
Consultant – Resource mobilization in NRM specialist	1934	6	Mobilise financing for the Regional part of CSIF priority projects – provide training on resource mobilization for strategic plans (CSIF) and identify sources of likely funding, make linkages between the regional government and the sources of funding and facilitate the negotiations and transfer of funds.
Total expenditure on local and international consultants	310,000	170 weeks	

ANNEX D: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS

PROVIDE DETAILED FUNDING AMOUNT OF THE PPG ACTIVITIES AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION STATUS IN THE TABLE BELOW:

A. EXPLAIN IF THE PPG OBJECTIVE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED THROUGH THE PPG ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN.
All the planned activities were successfully implemented within time and budget. The project brief of excellent quality was prepared and submitted.

B. DESCRIBE IF ANY FINDINGS THAT MIGHT AFFECT THE PROJECT DESIGN OR ANY CONCERNS ON PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.

None significant enough to be cause for concern

C. PROVIDE DETAILED FUNDING AMOUNT OF THE PPG ACTIVITIES AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION STATUS IN THE TABLE BELOW:

<i>Project Preparation Activities Approved</i>	<i>Implementation Status</i>	<i>GEF Amount (\$)</i>				<i>Co-financing (\$)</i>
		<i>Amount Approved</i>	<i>Spent To-date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>	<i>Uncommitted</i>	
A1 Analytical overview of direct and indirect causes of unsustainable practices and land degradation in identified communes	Completed	1,400	1,400	-	-	2300 (UNDP & WWF)
A2. Selection of communes of intervention	Completed	2,400	2,400	-	-	1800 (WWF)
A3. Initial economic and ecological viability analysis of traditional agro-pastoral systems	Completed	2,200	2,200	-	-	1500 (WWF)
A4. Assessment of capacity building needs of selected communes for future promotion and governance of SLM best practices	Completed	2,200	2,200	-	-	3200 (WWF)
A5 Workshop of regional development actors to seek synergy	Completed	6,000	6,000	-	-	1500 (UNDP & WWF)

and consensus on the development of SLM program						
A6. Preparation of MSP	Completed	6,550	6,550	-	-	1300 (GOV, UNDP, WWF)
A7. Elaboration of institutional roles and partnerships	Completed	2,010	2,010	-	-	1400 (GOV, WWF)
A8. WWF Management fees	Completed	1,740	1,740	-	-	-
Total		25,000	25,000			13,000

UNDP Responses to GEFSEC Review

Stabilizing Rural Populations through improved Systems for SLM and Local Governance of Lands in Southern Madagascar: GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID - 3372; PIMS - 3044

Item	GEFSEC Comment	Response
2	No endorsement letter was attached to the PIF. Please provide the endorsement letter using the latest template.	LoE attached
3	The linkage with the Strategic Objectives and the SIP Intermediate Results are noted, however without any description on the link. Please provide brief information on how the project links to the Sos and IRs.	Done – see para 9
8	This project will focus its initiative in Southern Madagascar where land degradation is a key concern. Another SIP project managed by WB will focus on watershed management issue. Both interventions address local institutions to improve the enabling conditions for SLM upscaling and build a Country SLM investment framework. Please provide specific information on how this project, together with the WB project, would coordinate and feed into the Country level initiative.	Each of the projects will support a national level output, implemented through the ministry of agriculture or environment. The selected ministry will constitute a national SLM committee which will coordinate the national level dialogue on SLM which will lead to the development of the Country Strategic Investment Framework (CSIF) for SLM. This committee will facilitate the input of all the other development partners contribution to SLM and link it to the M&E systems of both TerrAfrica and SIP - see para 10
10	The two SIP projects managed by UNDP and WB are noted which would both feed into the national programmatic approach on SLM. However, the coordination between the two projects are unclear. Please provide further information on the coordination mechanism and approach. Moreover, please provide further information on the ongoing initiatives on SLM in Southern Madagascar and the project linkages.	Coordination - The coordination between the two projects is explained above (9) and in para 10. Other SLM programs: While there are several projects addressing biodiversity, protected areas management and food security in southern Madagascar, there are no projects addressing SLM. In order to address national biodiversity conservation goals several NGOs, notably the World Wide Fund for Nature and Conservation International, have begun providing support to landscape conservation initiatives in southern Madagascar. These initiatives seek to include the representative biodiversity in conservation areas that are

		<p>ecologically viable and resilient in the long-term. These conservation areas are seen as vital to maintaining ecological functions of both natural and transformed areas (agriculture and pasture). The WWF and CI both support and collaborate with a host of regional institutions (ANGAP, DEF, SAGE) and NGOs (SOKAKE, TCT, CEL) on the planning and implementation of the Ala Maiky Ecoregion program. An important observation is that none of the above mentioned institutions are specifically addressing questions of sustainable land use.</p>
11	<p>General information is provided. It is noted that the cost effective appraisal will be made prior to final approval by the executing agency. It is unclear of the timing of this exercise within the GEF project cycle. Please clarify.</p>	<p>Project development is on-going. Cost effectiveness will be assessed and information provided at CEO endorsement stage expected to be in January 2008</p>

UNDP Responses to GEFSEC Prodoc Round Review

Stabilizing Rural Populations through improved Systems for SLM and Local Governance of Lands in Southern Madagascar: GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID - 3372; PIMS - 3044

Item	GEFSEC Comment	Response
1	<p>07-10-09</p> <p>The cost-effectiveness at CEO Endorsement is a cut-and-paste the cost-effectiveness at PIF Approval. In the response to GEFSEC Review, UNDP has agreed on assessing and providing the information on cost effectiveness at CEO Endorsement</p>	<p>Cost effectiveness text modified to include the following (also marked in green paras 28-31). Land management practices that take little or no cognizance of sustainability in relevant or cross-sectoral plans, program and policies pose a risk to the ecological integrity of the Drylands ecosystem of South Madagascar. This is likely to impose high economic costs by undermining productivity of the land and its ability to support economic development and ecosystem services provisioning capacities. In contrast, the costs of preventing ecological degradation from occurring in the first place are more modest. At the community level, one of the key barriers to SLM is the lack of governance capacity for SLM – especially the ability to develop and to enforce rules and limits governing the use of common land and resources. At the national level, the barriers are related to inadequate capacity to develop a knowledge based SLM model that can guide increased land productivity within the complexity of South Madagascar without exacerbating land degradation. Investing in these capacities is cheaper and more sustainable than physical restoration of damaged lands and ecosystems.</p> <p>The 1 million GEF investment will put 157,000 ha of land under improved management practices with another 6.6 million hectares benefiting indirectly from policy changes and updated training materials and extension package. Specifically, the project will develop and promote sustainable land management practices in agriculture, rangelands and drylands forestry techniques suited to the potential of the land and are in line with sound ecosystem principles in order to increase productivity while reducing the need for further encroachment into new fields, thereby reducing degradation and conflicts over resources. In doing so, the project will spearhead the precautionary principle in advancing interventions. Economic assessments will help inform the appropriate level of tradeoffs needed to secure environmental well being, while allowing for the pursuit of development objectives. This is expected to result in a more optimum employment of resources, and improve the chances that SLM initiatives are sustainable.</p> <p>This project seeks to engage directly with resource users to build on their knowledge and capacities to change attitudes and instill an appreciation of the inter-dependence of the different production systems and ecosystem services. This is in recognition of the fact that command-and-control systems for SLM both costly and inefficient at a large scale, and that where highly prescriptive, they can also impose high financial costs on local economic development. The project has been designed to allow local economic development interests to weigh the costs and benefits of different mitigation options in assuring compliance with SLM modeling. This approach is expected to be cost effective in the long run because it avoids the costs of ecosystem restoration by ensuring better management today.</p> <p>At the operational level, project implementation arrangements will minimize bureaucracy, administrative and managerial wastage, and follow UNDP standard rules and procedures for procurement and recruitment. A cost effectiveness appraisal will be made prior to final approval by the executing agency. One of the main challenge of the project is one of capacity building. The strategy of the project is to build local capacity for replicating and adapting the new participatory management models, the most cost-effective approach for ensuring the sustainability and replicability of the project.</p>

2	<p>The risk assessment at CEO Endorsement is a cut-and-paste from the Risk Assessment at PIF approval. Please address this matter</p>	<p>Risk assessment modified to include the following text (also in green paras 24-27: Stakeholder groups are generally favorable to improved SLM approaches, and the political climate to promote improved land-use practices and biodiversity conservation is perhaps at the highest level possible. The principal risk is the continued immigration to otherwise little-used or unoccupied areas. The project will address this issue through SLM policy development and adoption, and by working with inter-communal, communal and stakeholder groups to determine appropriate land-use zoning and user rights, backed by legally recognized agreements. There is a risk that climate change may make the SLM innovations obsolete. This risk will be mitigated by incorporating climate change considerations into SLM practices and linking the communities to systems of weather monitoring and drought/floods/unusual weather early warning systems.</p> <p>There is also a medium to high risk that forest protection will continue to be sabotaged by bad governance in the Waters and Forest Service – i.e., effective reforms for restructuring, internal governance, removal of dysfunctional agents are not undertaken. This will be mitigated by the inclusion of plans for a major restructuring of the Waters and Forest Service. Project managers will maintain close contact with those in charge of restructuring the service and will advise on the restructuring process based on experiences in the South.</p> <p>There is also a medium risk that a naturally occurring period of severe drought or the accelerating effects of global warming may derail the effective development of an SLM model and project impacts. Project implementation will integrate climate risk assessment of all activities to ensure that project initiatives strengthen ecosystem resilience. In addition, the project will create dry season pasture reserves to minimize livestock losses and to build confidence in herders that they can improve the health of their animals and their monetary returns through controlled grazing. Soil conservation techniques will also conserve water, decreasing susceptibility to drought.</p> <p>There is also a medium to low risk that regional programs will not integrate SLM criteria/recommendations developed by the project and its partners. This risk will be mitigated by the inclusion of representatives of central headquarters and of donors of the regional programs in the oversight committee. Finally there is a medium to low risk that the institutionalized use of food aid has destroyed people’s confidence in their ability to reverse present tendencies of land degradation. This risk will be mitigated by working at the highest level with those responsible for the food aid to ensure that it is used only when necessary, in the most strategic fashion and in harmony with SLM.</p>
3	<p>07-10-09 Local consultants are being paid at a rate of \$3,900/week and International Consultants at a rate of \$6900/week. These rates are very high. Please explain to overall cost of consultancy (Of these costs, GEF is providing 1800/week for locals and \$1900/week for international).</p>	<p>Figures changed and marked in Green text. The local consultant charges are now US\$ 1,200 per week, of which GEF is 400 per week. The international consultant charges are now US\$ 1,774 per week, of which GEF is 752 per week</p>
4	<p>The number in Table B (Project management Cost) do not add-up,</p>	<p>All figures harmonized and marked in green</p>

	and figures for both total for GEF and Other Sources are different. Same for Total Costs of Project Management (\$590K in Table A and \$340K in Table B).	
5	Please provide the letter of co-financing for: Project Government Contribution (\$270,000), GEF Agency (\$300,000), GTZ (\$4,245,000), EU (\$10,500,000) and WWF (\$1,000,000). Please see Table D of "CEO Endorsement Request" document.	Provided. It is noted that the letters of co-finance quote higher figures than the prodoc co-finance.



UNDP Project Document

UNDP-GEF Medium-Size Project (MSP)

**Government of Madagascar
United Nations Development Programme**

**World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Madagascar and West Indian Ocean Program Office
(MWIOP)**

PIMS 3127

Stabilizing Rural Populations through Improved Systems for SLM and Local Governance of Lands in Southern Madagascar

1. With more than two-thirds of the population (68.7%) living below the poverty line, Madagascar is one of the poorest countries in the world, facing severe development challenges and a declining natural resource productivity. The per capita income declined from US\$473 in 1970 to US\$290 in 2005, fuelled by economic mismanagement and high population growth. The arid south is particularly poorly developed. Here, heavy reliance on natural resources for livelihoods and economic development is compounded by recurrent droughts, low education, limited options outside the natural resources and low levels of development to fuel the vicious circle of “poverty-environmental degradation-poverty” that sees a shockingly high 95% of the population living below the poverty line.
2. The area nevertheless forms one of the most unique and biologically rich drylands areas on Earth, with a large number of plants and animals that are found nowhere else in the world. The natural habitat constitutes of spiny forest and harbors the highest level of plant endemism both at the generic (48%) and species (95%) in all of Madagascar. These habitats have evolved on extremely fragile soils with infrequent and irregular rain patterns and high winds. The vast natural area on rocky calcareous soils and the coastal plains habitats are the most ecologically vulnerable. The area is characterized by three distinct zones with distinct soil types and set of land degradation problems.
3. The littoral coastal zone where most vegetation has been cleared and where sand dunes have become a major problem; the Limestone Plateau, which is relatively in good condition with considerable vegetation cover, but where resource use conflict rages between farmers and pastoralists; and, the interior, richer “bread basket” of the region where recent influx in immigrants with maladjusted cultivation techniques is causing serious decline in productivity. The soils are being farmed intensively, and fallow periods and soil fertility maintenance rare, as nutrient recycling from crop residues is lost due to burning and subsequent water-borne or wind erosion. The introduction of the plow, the removal of field trees, and the lack of natural vegetation cover over large swaths of land has also facilitated rapid oxidation of soil organic matter and accentuated

wind erosion. Unsustainable land use in the South has led to high levels of forest fragmentation, soil erosion and sedimentation in river valleys, provoking flooding and destruction of estuaries, mangroves, and coral reefs, thereby risking livelihoods and the economy.

4. The government and the land managers are increasing aware of the importance of ensuring that sustainable management of lands and resources provide a resilient base for ecosystem integrity, stability, functions and services that support the socio-economic livelihoods of present and future generations. They are however faced by capacity, policy and technical know-how barriers. There are no proven system-wide approaches for improving productivity of the land under the current set of circumstances and institutions have limited capacity to handle cross-sectoral SLM issues. Integration of SLM is not adequately supported by policies especially in the south
5. The objective of the MSP therefore is to enhance capability of resource users so as to place SLM in the main stream of development practice and policy at local and national levels. Working with government decision-makers, technical agents from ministries and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and donors, it will support existing and new community-based stakeholder groups to adopt and disseminate appropriate cultivationa and livestock management practices that will help to alleviate poverty and reduce threats to critically important natural habitats and their biodiversity; achieved via 3 outcomes: SLM model development, Capacity building and establishing policy enabling environment. The 4 year project has a total budget is US\$ 5,910,000 with a GEF contribution of US\$ 910,000
6. The MSP meets the Madagascar Vision which affirms that the Malagasy environment will be cherished and protected and used in a wise and responsible way to enhance development. And as précised in the MAP: “Natural capital is the arable land, healthy soils, biodiversity and well-functioning ecosystem that provide the environmental inputs needed for the country to flourish”.

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Acronyms

AEZ	Agro ecological zone	MWIOPO	Madagascar & West Indian Ocean Programme Office (WWF)
AIS	Alien Invasive Species	NEX	National Execution
AICPM	Association Intercommunale Pour La Conservation du Plateau Mahafaly	NRM	Natural Resource Management
ALT	Andrew Lee Trust	PA	Protected Areas
APR	Annual Project Report	PDC	Commune Development Plans
ASOS	Action Santé Organisation Secours	PM	Project Manager
AVSF	Agronomes et Vétérinaires Sans Frontière	PMU	Project Management Unit
AWP	Annual Work Plan	PNAE	National Environment Action Plan
CBO	Community Based Organisation	ex-PNM – ANGAP	Ex- Parcs Nationaux de Madagascar– Association Nationale pour la Gestion des Aires Protégées
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	RC	Regional Coordinator
CPAP	Country Programme Action Plan	RCU	Regional Coordinating Unit
CC	Commune coordinators	ROAR	Regional Office for Africa
CEL	Libanona Ecological Center	SAGE	Support Service for Environmental Management
CEO	Chief Executive Officer	SC	Steering Committee
CSIF	Country Strategic Investment Framework	SIP	Strategic Investment Programme
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor	SO	Strategic Objective
DDR	Directorate of Rural Development, Regional Administration	SP	Strategic Programme
DRDR	Regional Agricultural Offices	SRF	Strategic Result Framework
DREEFT	Regional Directorate of Environment, Forestry and Tourism	SLM	Sustainable Land Management
EP III	Environnemental Programme Phase III	TAG	Technical Advisory Group
EU	European Union	TOR	Terms of Reference
FA	Field Agents	TPR	Tripartite Review
GEF	Global Environmental Facility	TTR	Terminal Tripartite Review
GoM	Government of Madagascar	UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
GTDR	<i>Groupe de Travail pour le</i>	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
		WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

	<i>Développement Rural</i> (Rural Development Working Group)
IA	Implementation Agency
IR	Intermediate Result
IW	Inception Workshop
KM	Knowledge Management
LD	Land Degradation
MAEP	Ministry of Agriculture, Farming and Fisheries
MAP	Madagascar Action Plan
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MNP	Madagascar National Parks
MSP	Medium Size Project

1. SECTION I: Elaboration of the Narrative

1.1. PART I: Situation Analysis

7. The Southwest and Androy Regions cover the southern-most part of Madagascar and form one of the most unique and biologically rich drylands areas on Earth, with a large number of plants and animals that are found nowhere else in the world. The natural habitat constitutes of spiny forest and harbors the highest level of plant endemism both at the generic (48%) and species (95%) in all of Madagascar. These habitats have evolved on extremely fragile soils with infrequent and irregular rain patterns and high winds. The vast natural area on rocky calcareous soils and the coastal plains habitats are the most ecologically vulnerable. The area is characterized by three distinct zones with distinct soil types and set of land degradation problems.
8. The littoral zone on white sands reaches upwards of 25 kilometers into the interior from the Indian Ocean. The zone was originally vegetated with a variety of shrubs and trees (notably *Didiereaceae trollii* and *D. madagascarensis*). Though there are many coastal villages dependent on fishing, most of the Antandroy and Mahafaly populations living in this zone practice a combination of agriculture and animal husbandry. Most of the original vegetation has therefore been cleared to make room for cultivation and/or overgrazed. These soils are inherently poor and require high levels of input and careful management to sustain productivity over long periods. Unfortunately, the current methods of agriculture are not adapted to the fragility of the soils. Most farmers are poor and use little external inputs; cultivation is rarely supported by any form of appropriate soil management practices such as conservation agriculture, mulching, etc. Soils are easily exhausted and fields abandoned. Abandoned fields are easily invaded by increaser species. The remaining natural vegetation is heavily fragmented and what remains is under severe threat from further agricultural clearing and overgrazing by goats. The impacts of the inappropriate unsustainable agro-pastoral practices, invasive plants, and sand dunes have considerably reduced lands available for agricultural and lowered the already poor agricultural production, leading to poorer standards of living for the people. Indeed this zone experiences frequent famines and has the most severe water access difficulties
9. Due to the high winds associated with the southern Cape, degraded lands are extremely susceptible to wind erosion and dune formation. Indeed, over the last ten years, the zone has experienced an exponential growth in the number of live sand dunes and wind born soil erosion. The development of live dunes seems to be strongly associated with the introduction of the plow in the 1960s and the elimination of field trees. *Opuntia stricta*, (a prickly cactus) introduced to the region 40 years ago, has become a devastating invasive plant. The cactus has little value to the local population and is a major impediment to livestock. Controlling its spread has been problematic as it grows both from ruminant and bird-dispersed seeds as well as root sprouting.
10. As inappropriate intensive agricultural and grazing practices continue to degrade transformed agricultural areas and the natural landscapes, people are migrating out of the region. It is estimated that over 50% of the male population between the ages of 16 and 40 have migrated out of the communes, most of them settling in other forested (and therefore biodiverse) areas within the region. Here they continue to practice slash and burn farming of cash crops or convert forest products for urban consumption (cooking fuel and construction). Thus the land degradation in this southern zone has increasingly adverse social and ecological consequences both within and beyond the region.
11. The Limestone Plateau or calcareous agro-ecological region, found within the Mahafaly and Karimbola plateau regions, have calcareous soils on the plateau surface, intermixed with the red silty-sand region. These soil patches support relatively thick vegetation cover dominated by several species of *Didiereaceae*, *Euphorbia*, *Adansonia za*; and a host of locally endemic succulent plants that have evolved under

extremely hot, arid, and poor soil conditions. This area was inhabited principally by pastoralists until the latter half of the past century. However, since the early fifties, seasonal migrants have been settling in forest pockets where soils were slightly deeper and agriculture could be practiced. Originating from the littoral zone, the number of settlers has increased from 200 families in the early 1990s, to about three thousand families today. Markets for both maize and, more recently, tobacco are fuelling slash-and-burn farming in this zone. Given the already low soil fertility, the farmers produce only one crop before clearing more land, hence fuelling further encroachment into natural habitats. The agriculture practiced in this zone is one of the most extreme forms of unsustainable agriculture that is found anywhere. Abandoned areas are most often devoid of any vegetation. A recent study completed by Conservation International (2002) on forest cover loss during the 1990s decade show that the communes of Ampanihy and Androka, for example, have experienced one of the most marked over-all loss of natural habitats in all of Madagascar.

12. It is within this zone that there is also the greatest social conflict relative to land use practices. The original inhabitants who were pastoralists resent the clearing of forest areas they consider as secure pasture zones. Several sacred forest areas on calcareous soils are also being reduced in size, and respect for traditional taboos that protect certain sacred natural areas and species is eroding. As markets for cash crops develop, especially corn and tobacco, the livelihoods of the original pastoralist population is changing. Local people are now adopting the livelihood strategies of the migrant populations by increasingly practicing slash and burn farming. The original settlers are beginning to harass the migrant communities, and thus encourage their departure, in order to monopolize forest areas within their ancestral lands for agriculture. The migrants are forced to move on, either moving deeper into the Mikea Forest or seeking alternative forest areas.
13. The third agro-ecological region is located in the interior and is comprised of slightly richer red sands and clay soils that support a much taller forest structure. The forest consists of both spiny forest dominated by the larger species of *Didiereaceae* (*D. procera* and *D. dumosa*) and a small band of tropical dry forest on the northern edge. This is the agricultural breadbasket of the region in years with plentiful rainfall. Traditionally coastal people cultivated these soils for part of the year, but like in the other two zones, permanent settlement has increasingly become the norm particularly by people with fewer options in the increasingly degraded, low precipitation littoral sands. The soils are being farmed intensively, and fallow periods are rare. Soil fertility maintenance has become a major constraint, as nutrient recycling from crop residues is lost due to burning and subsequent water-borne or wind erosion. The introduction of the plow, the removal of field trees, and the lack of natural vegetation cover over large swaths of land has also facilitated rapid oxidation of soil organic matter and accentuated wind erosion, thus further decreasing the production. Well over 60% of the red soils areas are no longer capable of producing crops due to lack of soil fertility and water retention capacity. Increasingly, it is only in the lowlands areas, where soil moisture is retained and topsoil from uplands settle, that crops can be produced.
14. Unsustainable land use in the South of Madagascar has damaged ecosystem functions and services, thereby risking livelihoods and the economy. It has led to high level of forest fragmentation, soil erosion and sedimentation in river valleys, provoking flooding and destruction of estuaries, mangroves, and coral reefs.
15. The long term ideal situation sought by the government and the land managers is one where the sustainable management of lands and resources provide a resilient base for ecosystem integrity, stability, functions and services that support the socio-economic livelihoods of present and future generations. To achieve this, farmers and land managers need to shift land use practices to more sustainable methods better aligned with the ecological potential of the land. There are however several barriers preventing this shift; mainly technology, policy, financial, markets and information barriers.

16. Although Madagascar has national progressive and recent policies to support SLM, enabling environment at the local level is poor, especially in the South, there is limited application of appropriate land and livestock management practices because people have low levels of skills, hence low ability to adapt management techniques to different conditions and changing circumstances. The immigrants therefore apply the agricultural and livestock technologies and practices wherever they go, regardless of the unsuitability of these methods in the new areas. This situation is exacerbated by the high levels of poverty prevalent in south Madagascar and the institutional arrangement for natural resources management.

17. There are no proven system-wide approaches for improving productivity of the land under the current set of circumstances and institutions have limited capacity to handle cross-sectoral SLM issues. Natural resource management issues involving land use are currently dealt with piecemeal; sectoral policies and regulatory frameworks are not harmonised, and there is no clarity in over-arching goals and no secure financing for SLM. Local development has so far institutionalized emergency food relief, instead of promoting coherent investments in adapting farming practices to the ecological potential of the land, rural development, infrastructure, human and institutional capacity. This has led to a vicious cycle of over-exploitation of land followed by abandonment.

18. While land-use planning is progressively developing in some of the regions, notably Anosy in the southeast, SLM has yet to be promoted as an overarching strategy. Capacity to develop such approaches has yet to be built as Communes have very little capacity for planning. This includes the inability to analyze the causes of land degradation and to identify and test appropriate measures for sustainable uses of land and resources. The communes also have had no support in developing “land functionality analysis” that facilitates more informed planning by considering all of the relevant functions, including social and economic functions that a land can provide. At the community level, one of the key barriers to SLM is the lack of governance capacity for SLM – especially the ability to develop and to enforce rules and limits governing the use of common land and resources. The absence of good governance systems for range/pasture management is one of the greatest barriers to SLM. The formation or federation of inter-communal associations, or the strengthening of the Association Intercommunale pour la Conservation du Plateau Mahafaly, or AICPM, around SLM themes could help to promote good governance relative to SLM. Certain land use actions, functions, and social norms will require agreement and collaboration on governance between communes that share a common landscape and where ethnic groups and transhumance activities do not recognize administrative divisions. Inter-communal associations will need even greater authority in order to leverage cooperation among communes and assist with promotion and application of SLM “best practices” in communes that have weak local authorities or traditional leaders. Insufficient economic incentives for SLM are a barrier to the adoption of SLM practices. SLM practices will only be adopted if there are adequate economic incentives to do so.

19. The UNDP CPAP for its quinquennial programme within the period 2008- 2011 has mentioned among its goals “ Natural resources and biodiversity conservation mainstreamed into land and space management”. It is aligned to the national priority as mentioned in the Commitment 7/ 2nd Challenge “Reduce the natural resource degradation process” of the MAP.

1.2. PART II: Strategy

20. The project will develop a sustainable land management model that will use sound ecosystem principles and appropriate agriculture and livestock management techniques suited to the potential of the land in order to increase productivity while reducing the need for further encroachment into new fields, thereby reducing degradation and conflicts over resources. It will then support the application of the SLM model to control the increasing severity and extent of land degradation in the south, where the drivers of land

degradation are potent, and the people most affected are poor and vulnerable. It will develop training manuals and update the extension service materials to reflect the appropriate methods. Improved practices are likely to include conservation agriculture, growing fodder combined with mobile livestock herds, adaptation to climate change, water harvesting combined with appropriate crops, etc. It will also strengthen the ability of the extension service to deliver the updated package. In addition, it will develop a monitoring and evaluation system and apply it to monitor implementation and capture lessons that will be used to promote policy changes to support system wide adoption of the improved management principles constituting the model. In particular, incentives for matching production system to potential of the land (e.g. appropriate crops and livestock mixes) are necessary. Such incentives will have both push and pull factors and might include laws and regulations combined with tax breaks and subsidies, access to markets etc. It is important that these incentives are mainstreamed into national policies and development programmes.

21. The project will work with government decision-makers, technical agents from ministries and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and donors to support existing and new community-based stakeholder groups to adopt and disseminate appropriate cultivation and livestock management practices that will help to alleviate poverty and reduce threats to critically important natural habitats and their biodiversity. It will have synergies with other focal area objectives especially adaptation to climate change, biodiversity conservation in production landscapes, and reductions in pollution and sedimentation of international water bodies.
22. The objective of the MSP therefore is to enhance capability of resource users so as to place SLM in the main stream of development practice and policy at local and national levels. In line with the Strategic Investment Program (SIP) for Sustainable Land Management in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), the MSP will promote the development of coherence and complementarities within SLM programs supported by GoM and major donors in Madagascar. A core element of the project will be to identify methodologies to stabilise sand dunes and arrest the further spread of alien species. It will continue working with five focal communes that cover three agro-ecological zones, collaborating with government administrators, commune leaders, ministry extension personnel and other partners to create and support local stakeholder groups spanning all gender, age and vocational interests.
23. The project strategy is coherent with MAP Strategy that promotes the development and implementation of sustainable use plans for land. (MAP/Commitment 7/Challenge 2- Strategies).

1.3. Project Outcomes/ Outputs.

How about Communication activities e.g Workshop kickoff? Regular communication activities at all levels in order to disseminate /share project's progress and approaches? (leaflets, TV emission, manuals, films, map, etc.)?

24. **Outcome 1: Replicable models of SLM are developed for selected communes that are representative of the major agro-ecological sub-regions in southern Madagascar, and are promoted elsewhere in the region.**
25. Under this outcome, knowledge will be generated and used to formulate land and livestock management systems that increase productivity while simultaneously reducing land degradation and conflict over resources. Best practices, the effect of land tenure and natural resource ownership systems and associated economic benefits will be assessed to provide a basis for formulating incentives for the adoption of improved land management practices. Incentives (both push and pull) will be identified and provided to promote the adoption of the improved management practices. It is expected that approximately 157,000

ha will be put under improved management in the pilot area of Ampanihy and the associated four pilot communes. Another 6,612,850 ha of land will benefit indirectly through policy changes and replication of the developed systems and models. Sustainable income generating options will be identified and optimum conditions for their adoption put in place, including links to markets and market transformation. Specific activities are outlined below:

26. Output 1.1: Models for sustainable agro-ecological and pastoral practices developed and applied, adapted to conditions in the South.

Activity 1.1.1 Identify key techniques (modern & traditional) for testing/integration into sustainable agro-ecological and pastoral models, based on best practices from the area, elsewhere in Madagascar, and on lessons learnt from other dry lands areas in the world.

Activity 1.1.2 Complete an in-depth assessment of the agricultural systems and techniques (modern & traditional) in each pilot commune (including former abandoned systems) that best represent the major agro-ecological regions and their key threats and causes of land degradation, including

- in-depth of analysis of root causes (bio-physical, economic and politico-cultural)
- identification of practices to be banned, best practices ready for replication
- identification of practices that need to be tested/improved upon for integration into SLM models
- identification of linkages between agriculture/pasture use and fire

Activity 1.1.3 Conduct expert studies on key issues stemming from the in-depth threats, root cause and barrier analysis, including on land tenure, natural resources ownership, cultural factors, transhumance/migration, incentive measures, sustainable alternative livelihoods opportunities, markets (situation analysis, proposals for improvement, policy recommendations); include especially

- Assessment of gender issues relative to SLM best practices and identification of appropriate strategies for inclusion of gender aspects in communal development plans in order to promote SLM and control unsustainable practices
- Analyses of the economic viability and financial profitability of the land use systems and techniques that are the most ecologically sustainable/promising.

Activity 1.1.4 Collect baseline data on land use systems and develop a landscape functionality analysis for each commune; including participatory mapping of bio-physical units, soils, landscape units, land use and land cover, natural areas, ecologically sensitive areas, conservation priorities

Activity 1.1.5 Based on the various assessments and expert studies develop SLM models applicable to the region; such models will include governance, technical and technological as well as economic, socio-cultural and livelihood elements

Activity 1.1.6 Develop a strategy for participatory, farmer-centered SLM, and test the approach with farmers in the four pilot communes, including participatory land use zoning for the four communes (i.e. zoning of common lands for appropriate forms of sustainable use, protection, or restoration objectives and identify key areas of intervention for SLM model development);

Activity 1.1.7 Test and apply the SLM models in the four pilot communes, working through a network of farmers/collaborators (e.g. through community-based organizations (CBOs) (e.g. farmers associations) and existing governance structures)

Activity 1.1.8 Develop and implement a local level SLM monitoring system, focusing on (i) biophysical aspects such as e.g. rainfall, biomass, soil fertility, (ii) management impacts such as erosion control and soil fertility maintenance, and (iii) livelihoods/socio-cultural components (e.g. increase of income from production), and integrate into SLM model to promote SLM tracking for adaptive decision making

Activity 1.1.9 Conduct periodic (at least annual) adaptive management reviews with all stakeholders resulting in modifications of techniques/models under development

Activity 1.1.10 Complete a synthesis of best practices/lessons learned/description of sustainable agricultural models and feed into KM element of component 2

27. **Output 1.2** Income generating activities introduced/supported to increase economic activities at commune level:

Activity 1.2.1: Identify sustainable income generating activities suitable in the different communes, and investigate optimum conditions to make them a success and to increase economic activity at local levels

Activity 1.2.2: Assess capacity needs for the effective adoption of income generating activities and design and deliver a programme to meet identified needs (including a monitoring system);

Activity 1.2.3: Undertake a gender assessment and use the findings to ensure that participation in and benefits from the income generating activities and other project outcomes are equitably distributed amongst social groups (youth, women, men, poor, well off, etc.).

28. **Output 1.3:** Cost-effective dune stabilization techniques perfected for the white littoral sands AEZ

Activity 1.3.1 Conduct testing and refinement of techniques for the purpose of finding the most cost-effective approaches for sand dune stabilization

Activity 1.3.2 Develop participatory plans for sustainable use of stabilized dunes

Activity 1.3.3 Undertake operational stabilization of dunes throughout the pilot commune (using e.g. food-for-work, other local labor mobilizing approaches)

29. **Output 1.4:** PCD developed/revised to integrate best specific techniques, practices, principles and lessons learned from the SLM model development (see also Outcome 3)

Activity 1.4.1 Review and modify the PCD land use zoning and integrate SLM models into PCD

30. **Outcome 2: Policy enabling environment (SIP IR 2,3: Local regulatory and policy enhancement with national implications)**

31. Under this outcome, the effect of local and national level policies on local adoption of good SLM practices will be assessed and recommendations for improvement will be formulated in a participatory process. Specifically, integration of SLM principles into Community Development Plans (PCD) will be facilitated thereby mainstreaming SLM into the local level development plans. Overall, NRM governance will be improved at all levels. Formulation of the Country Strategic Investment Framework (CSIF) led by the World Bank will be supported to up-scaling of SLM practices country-wide. Specific outputs and activities are outlined below.

32. **Output 2.1:** Initial development/ revision of the Commune Development Plan (PCD) for each pilot commune, mainstreaming SLM concerns and development of supportive legislation

Activity 2.1.1 Complete the integration of agreed SLM models to be tested and promoted into the PCD

Activity 2.1.2 Develop commune-level legislation/dinas that encourage/direct the adoption of SLM practices while discouraging or banning unsustainable land use practices in the four pilot communes

Activity 2.1.3 Assist regional and provincial authorities to draft new policies, strategies and legislation that integrate SLM models, lessons learned, best practices and guidelines

Activity 2.1.4 Integration of SLM into Communal Development Plans (PCD) throughout the region; including the development of guidelines for integration of SLM best practices and spatial planning into the preparation of quality communal development plans

Activity 2.1.5 Conduct training workshops for the integration of SLM and gender issues into the preparation of PCD

33. Output 2.2: Direct linkages established between SLM governance in communes and PCD program funding and/or credit

Activity 2.2.1 In the three pilot communes, test the strategy of linking the availability of program funding for PCD implementation (PSDR, EU...) to the achievement of negotiated/agreed benchmarks for SLM governance (e.g. control of wildfires, adoption of sustainable agriculture and grazing systems, forest management)

Activity 2.2.2 Preparation of training modules within regional training institutions and programs that provide capacity support on the above governance issues (modules that could be adapted for other agro-ecological regions of Madagascar).

Activity 2.2.3: Establish guidelines for linking achievement of SLM governance benchmarks to PCD program funding or credit availability and taking into consideration gender component.

34. Output 2.3: Local level rules and regulations for NRM governance and management improved at all levels

Activity 2.3.1 Formalize the status and empowerment of community land management structures, including women associations, using appropriate legal tools

35. Output 2.4: Formulation of CSIF that promotes up-scaling of SLM practices supported (led by WB); experiences and lessons from the project integrated into the CSIF through the National SLM platform

Activity 2.4.1 Together with WB and other SIP-SSA partners in Madagascar develop a collaboration strategy at national level; link to internal project reporting and structures of this specific GEF/MSP

Activity 2.4.2 Link MSP to MAP Commitments 4 (Rural Development) and 7 (Environment) and feed MSP experiences into the revision and updating of the MAP, mainstreaming priority SLM issues

Activity 2.4.3 Update/modify regional MAPs, mainstreaming SLM principles

36. **Outcome 3: Capacity for SLM strengthened (SIP IR 1, 3):Institutions and individuals (considering all groups of active people, in particular women) and all have the capacity to support and apply SLM at local, regional and national levels**

37. Under this outcome, local level institutional arrangement to cater for resource management and to reduce conflicts over resources will be identified and strengthened. This will build on traditional knowledge and resource governance systems for conflict resolution, which will be incorporated into the SLM models developed under outcome 1. Training programs incorporating best practices (including indigenous technical knowledge) will be formulated and training undertaken. The training programs will also be made available to other areas with similar land degradation issues. A system of monitoring and knowledge management for SLM will be developed and used to gather and disseminate information and experiences on SLM in the pilot region of Atsimo-Andrefana and nation-wide. Existing extension packages will be revised to include improved agriculture and livestock management practice, based on the SLM models developed. The ability of the extension service to deliver extension will be improved. Specific activities are outlined below:

38. Output 3.1: Capacity building support for local level farmers to apply SLM provided for four pilot communes and relevant training modules up-scaled to other relevant areas in Madagascar

Activity 3.1.1 Identify and strengthen local level institutional arrangements to cater for resource management and reduce conflicts over resources, considering traditional knowledge and resource

governance systems to formulate conflict resolutions strategies; incorporate institutional best practice approach into SLM models

Activity 3.1.2 Based on identified capacity needs, formulate training programs incorporating best practices (including indigenous technical knowledge) and deliver training

Activity 3.1.3 Make training programs available to other regions with similar land degradation issues

39. Output 3.2: Capacity building programs are developed for (i) improved commune governance for SLM, (ii) regional level stakeholders, and (iii) for tertiary and vocational training institutions

Activity 3.2.1 Identify commune level governance capacity needs for SLM – including participatory approaches to problem analysis, definition of objectives, planning/program development, adaptive management, monitoring and controls and conflict management)

Activity 3.2.2 Based on the needs assessment develop targeted capacity building programme, and implement it over pilot period of four years, incl. training/working sessions/hands on experience to build commune-level capacities for good governance amongst commune authorities

Activity 3.2.3 Develop a strategy for mainstreaming SLM principles into regional programs through knowledge management (KM); including¹:

- conducting a collaborative review of regional development programs related to SLM to identify their strengths, lessons learned and concerns in relation to SLM and to identify opportunities for integration of SLM lessons learned, best practices and guidelines
- working with regional program managers to develop SLM criteria for eligibility of fundable activities
- conducting targeted SLM training workshops for regional program staff, technical services, and NGOs; including training on the development of quality project proposals for SLM projects

Activity 3.2.4 Develop SLM training modules (15-20 hrs) that could be used at the university level and regional vocational technical training programs such as the new Bacc +2 program in Fort Dauphin.

Activity 3.2.5: Specifically train entire project team throughout project implementation on relevant technical and managerial themes; establish capacity and skills development plan for each member; integrate into performance management contracts

40. Output 3.3: Knowledge generation, knowledge sharing and promotion of SLM mainstreaming (closely linked to M& system developed under outcome 1)

Activity 3.3.1 Conceptualize SLM KM concept, including the clear definition of key information needs for SLM development and of the roles and contributions of each KM partner. Prepare summary of key knowledge gaps and applied research needs for effective SLM model development and integrate into KM strategy; link to SNRM KM of UNDP/GEF EP 3² support project, as relevant

Activity 3.3.2: Develop a system of monitoring and knowledge management for SLM; use to gather and disseminate information and experiences on SLM nation-wide, including:

- A general land information system for the three/four agro-ecological zones covered by the project and that complements the data system for the SAP famine early warning system
- A set of synthesis documents on lessons learned, best practices and guidelines for SLM by agro-

¹ Linked closely to monitoring system developed under outcome 1

² The GEF/UNDP EP 3 support project has two key project outcomes focusing on KM (funded by UNDP TRAC resources); amongst other a nation-wide communication and knowledge exchange platform is being created, which this project could utilise; potential linkages should be explored and made use of. The recently carried out Mid-term Evaluation of the project has recommended a no-cost extension of the EP 3 support project, consequently project implementation would be congruent.

ecological region and by land use system (include practices to be avoided)

Activity 3.3.3 Mobilize a network of field-based practitioners concerned with SLM in the South; conduct annual reviews of SLM model development with regional programs and institutions

Activity 3.3.4 Develop SLM communications strategy, including the following elements/ steps

- identify key target groups, key messages for each target group and media appropriate for each group /message
- develop and disseminate SLM rural radio communications programs targeting farmers and herders throughout the south
- develop and disseminate SLM Policy briefs per year targeting regional and provincial decision makers
- publish and disseminate SLM newsletter (based on bi-annual SLM reviews) targeting regional programs, NGOs, and communal, regional and provincial authorities and technical services

41. Output 3.4: Extension package revised to include improved agriculture and livestock management practices and extension service capacity to deliver package improved

Activity 3.4.1 Review existing extension packages and delivery mechanisms capacity for mainstreaming SLM principles as per the SLM model developed in outcome 1; develop and implement a programme to address capacity deficits identified in the capacity assessment proposals for improvement and

Activity 3.4.2 Make revised extension packages available to other areas and regions with similar land degradation issues

42. Outcome 4. Project managed efficiently and cost-effectively with adaptive M and E systems. Two outputs:

43. Output 4.1: Project management unit established.

Activity 4.1.1: Set up office space, recruit staff, mobilise co-finance and buy project equipment.

Activity 4.1.2: Establish Project Steering Committee and facilitate its operations

Activity 4.1.3: supervise implementation of office project activities and report on findings

44. Output 4.2: Project overall learning system developed and used to support adaptive management

Activity 4.2.1: Determine project learning strategy

Activity 4.2.2: Undertake a gender and socio-economic analysis and use the findings to develop a project gender strategy that ensures better targeting of project activities and equitable participation and benefit sharing

Activity 4.2.3: Establish a project monitoring and evaluation action plan (based on the M&E system outlined in the prodoc), collect and use information to adapt management (and project implementation).

1.4. PART III: Management Arrangements

45. The project will be implemented over a period of four years beginning in 2009. The GEF implementation agency for the project will be the UNDP Madagascar Country Office. The UNDP will co-supervise and monitor the project with the MEFT and selected authorities from the regional administrations and GTDRs. The project will be executed under NGO Execution procedure, and so using the existing WWF-UNDP MOUs at global and country levels. The lead executing agency for the project will be WWF's Madagascar & West Indian Ocean Program Office based in Antananarivo (WWF-MWIOPO). WWF-

MWIOPO will delegate administrative and financial oversight of the project to their regional office in Tolagnaro (Fort Dauphin). At the field level, a Project Management Unit (PMU) will be located in Ampanihy as this commune is centrally located with two pilot communes to the south and two to the north. The project will receive high-level guidance and oversight from the existing Ala Maiky Program Steering Committee. This Steering Committee normally meets once per year but may meet exceptionally as needed. This Steering Committee will be enlarged to include a representative from both UNDP and MEFT responsible for monitoring the SLM project. A technical advisory group (TAG) will provide technical support to the project at the regional level. It will be composed of individuals from government, GTDRs, and civil society, selected on the basis of their competence in their respective fields. The TAG will meet quarterly during the first year of the project and every six months thereafter.

46. A Project Management Unit (PMU) will play the key role in project execution. The PMU will be based half-time in the WWF regional office in Tolagnaro and half-time in Ampanihy, and will be constituted by a Project Manager (PM), a secretary/accountant assistant, a driver and a guard. The PM will also manage three sub-regional/commune coordinators who in turn will manage a maximum six extension agencies). The PM will be a national professional recruited for the four-year duration of the project and will report to DREFT Toliara and the WWF Ala Maiky Leader based in Toliara. S/he will be directly responsible for the timely delivery of inputs and outputs and for coordination with all other executing agencies. The PMU will be supported by a part time GEF-funded technical advisor (TA) in Yrs 1-3 and for a final evaluation, and a KFW-funded TA who will provide 15% of time for matters relating to protected area and land-use management during Yrs 1-4.
47. Whereas the PMU will have responsibility for project management regionally, the overall responsibility for the administrative, technical and financial reporting will be with WWF-MWIOPO. The PMU, WWF/Tolagnaro Office and WWF-MWIOPO Office will divide responsibilities for the selection process for all local contracts and recruitment of local consultants. This will be done in close consultation with all project partners. This will include preparation of TOR, call for bids and organization of the selection process. The PMU will manage and coordinate the execution of all local contracts.

1.5. PART IV: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget

48. This project is under TerrAfrica/SIP portfolio which has selected a set of programmatic indicators. The project will adopt SIP recommended impact indicators and will contribute monitoring information to the TerrAfrica Regional M&E plan. Project monitoring and evaluation will however be conducted in accordance with established UNDP and GEF procedures and will be provided by the project team and the UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO) with support from UNDP/GEF. The Resource Framework Matrix in Annex xxx provides performance and impact indicators for project implementation along with their corresponding means of verification. These will form the basis on which the project's Monitoring and Evaluation system will be built.
49. **Outcome and impact indicators:**
 - At least 157,000 ha under direct SLM (project area) and another 6 million impacted by policy change and upscaling;
 - Land degradation rate reduced by at least 40% in project area;
 - 50% of dunes that were live in 2004 in the other 13 littoral communes in the project area have been stabilized
 - At least 10% increase in soil organic carbon in pilot
 - At least 25% increase in biological productivity of land (vegetation cover enhanced with rainfall use efficiency) increased in pilot areas
 - At least 40 % improvement in the social and economic conditions of communities in project area

- at least 50% improvement in the score on Composite Index for the SLM Enabling Environment against the baseline; this includes local governance, policy changes and availability of financial resources to address SLM at national level

50. Output indicators:

- National and regional MAP policy, strategy and project documents developed.
- Key donors and private sector development agency integrate their activities into the present project.
- 40 of the 81 communes have revised PCD incorporating landscape functionality analysis, spatial planning/land use zoning, commune-level strategies/ policies for SLM, and adaptive management systems relative to planning and governance;
- A monitoring program defined to monitor planning, implementation and adaptive SLM integration in place;
- Revised extension package integrates SLM principles, is being implemented and is made available to communes with similar NRM issues outside the pilot area;

MONITORING AND EVALUATION WORK PLAN AND CORRESPONDING BUDGET

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$ ³	Time frame
Inception Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Coordinator • UNDP CO • UNDP GEF 	1000	Within first two months of project start up
Inception Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Team • UNDP CO 	None	Immediately following IW
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Purpose Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Coordinator will oversee the hiring of specific studies and institutions, and delegate responsibilities to relevant team members 	To be finalized in Inception Phase and Workshop. Indicative cost 5000	Start, mid and end of project
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Progress and Performance (measured on an annual basis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversight by Project GEF Technical Advisor and Project Coordinator • Measurements by regional field officers and local IAs 	To be determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation. Indicative cost 5,000	Annually prior to APR/PIR and to the definition of annual work plans
APR and PIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Team • UNDP-CO • UNDP-GEF 	None	Annually
TPR and TPR report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government Counterparts • UNDP CO 	None	Every year, upon receipt of APR

³ Excluding project team Staff time

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$ ³	Time frame
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit 		
Steering Committee Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Coordinator UNDP CO 	None	Following Project IW and subsequently at least once a year
Periodic status reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team 	None	To be determined by Project team and UNDP CO
Technical reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team Hired consultants as needed 	5,600	To be determined by Project Team and UNDP-CO
Mid-term External Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team UNDP- CO UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team) 	20,000	At the mid-point of project implementation.
Final External Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team, UNDP-CO UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team) 	10,000	At the end of project implementation
Terminal Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team UNDP-CO External Consultant 	None	At least one month before the end of the project
Lessons learned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit (suggested formats for documenting best practices, etc) 	4,000 (average 1,000 per year and covered under capacity (Knowledge Management))	Annual reviews SLM model development
Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP-CO Project team 	4,000	Yearly
Visits to field sites (UNDP staff travel costs to be charged to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP Country Office UNDP-GEF Regional 	4,000 (average one visit per year)	Yearly

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$ ³	Time frame
IA fees)	Coordinating Unit (as appropriate) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government representatives 		
TOTAL indicative COST (<i>Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff and travel expenses</i>)		US\$ 58,600⁴	

1.6. PART V: Legal Context

51. This Project Document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article I of the Standard basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Madagascar and the United Nations Development Programme, signed by the parties on 16 October 1992. The host country implementing agency shall, for the purpose of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement, refer to the government co-operating agency described in that Agreement.
52. The UNDP Resident Representative in Madagascar is authorized to effect in writing the following types of revision to this Project Document, provided that he/she has verified the agreement thereto by the UNDP-GEF Unit and is assured that the other signatories to the Project Document have no objection to the proposed changes:
- a) Revision of, or addition to, any of the annexes to the Project Document;
 - b) Revisions which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of the project, but are caused by the rearrangement of the inputs already agreed to or by cost increases due to inflation;
 - c) Mandatory annual revisions which re-phase the delivery of agreed project inputs or increased expert or other costs due to inflation or take into account agency expenditure flexibility; and
 - d) Inclusion of additional annexes and attachments only as set out here in this Project Document

⁴ Some of this cost is covered under outcome budgets

2. SECTION II: STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Table 3: Project Logical Framework – *Stabilizing Rural Populations through the Identification of Systems for Sustainable Management and Local Governance of Lands in Southern Madagascar*

Goal/Objective/Outcomes	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/Risks
<p>Long-Term Goal: The sustainable management of lands and resources in southern Madagascar provides a resilient base for the livelihoods and the economy of the arid South. Impact Indicators as per TerrAfrica/SIP indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Land degradation rate reduced by at least 40% in project area; ▪ At least 10% increase in soil organic carbon in pilot area ▪ At least 25% increase in biological productivity of land (vegetation cover enhanced with rainfall use efficiency) increased in pilot areas ▪ At least 40 % improvement in the social and economic conditions of communities in project area ▪ at least 50% improvement in the score on Composite Index for the SLM Enabling Environment against the baseline; this includes local governance, policy changes and availability of financial resources to address SLM at national level 			
<p>Project Objective: To enhance capability of resource users mainstream SLM in development practice and policy at local and national levels for the mutual benefits of local livelihoods and global environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of Project: 40 of the 81 communes have revised PCD incorporating landscape functionality analysis, spatial planning/land use zoning, commune-level strategies/ policies for SLM, and adaptive management systems, and adaptive management systems relative to planning and governance. This puts approx 157,000 ha under direct SLM (project area) and another 6 million impacted by policy change and upscaling • Baseline: None of the communes have PCD with spatial planning/land use zoning and SLM strategies/policies. • MT: 15 of the communes have PCD with spatial planning/land use zoning. SLM strategies/policies, adaptive management strategies. • EOP: 50% of dunes that were live in 2004 in the other 13 littoral communes in the project area have been stabilized, covering over 75 km². • Baseline: Three (03) of the 13 communes have undertaken dune stabilization (and have stabilized 75% of their most problematic dunes), covering over 15 km². 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published guidelines for integration of SLM in PCD preparation. • Completed landscape functionality analyses • EU-funded support units to regions. • Mid-term evaluation and final evaluation with KM program partners (plus any actors not participating in KM) • PAM reports • KM Partners • Satellite imagery • European Union Famine Early Warning Program Reports on migration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donors, donor programs, NGOs and other rural development/environmental organizations are willing and motivated to integrate SLM into their field programs. • World Food Program will continue to make further modifications and realignments of their criteria and policies for food distribution is support of SLM. • Key provincial and regional authorities remain supportive of project objectives. • Migration and influential household

Goal/Objective/Outcomes	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/Risks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-term(MT): 20% of dunes in the three contiguous littoral communes (Itampolo, Tranovaho & Marovato) have been stabilized, roughly 5 km². • EOP: Existence of a monitoring program for out-migration and reduction of rates by a minimum of 30% in each of the pilot communes • Baseline: There exist no monitoring or census data on current migration rates but informal research shows that rates are increasing. • MT: A monitoring relative to migration patterns, rates, and influential household socio-economic indicators is operational as well as a communications program to discourage out migration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commune monitoring system data on migrations rates and influential socio-economic indicators • Mid-term evaluation and final evaluation 	<p>socio-economic indicators fueling it can be quantifiably measured</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLM program activities and targeted investments in rural communes will be able to reduce out-migration rates
<p>Outcome 1: Replicable models of SLM are developed for selected communes that are representative of the major agro-ecological sub-regions in southern Madagascar, and these are promoted elsewhere in the region.</p> <p>Output 1: Models for sustainable agro-ecological and pastoral practices developed, applied in pilot areas and adapted to conditions in the South.</p> <p>Output 2: Cost-effective dune stabilization techniques perfected for the white littoral sands AEZ</p> <p>Output 3: PCD developed/revised to integrate best specific techniques, practices, principles and lessons learned from the SLM model development (see also Output 4 Income generating</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOP: Viable models of sustainable agriculture are developed for the white littoral sands AEZ, the Red Soils AEZ and the Crystalline AEZ. • Baseline: No work has been done in area of the pilot communes on the development of sustainable agriculture, range and fire management or sand on dune stabilization • MT: Models are actively being tested with farmers and herders in each of the AEZ in the pilot communes in both the Mahafaly and the Tandroy areas. • EOP: 30% of farmers in target communes have adopted key SLM practices. • Baseline: Testing and extension of SLM practices has not yet begun. • MT: 10% of farmers in pilot communes are testing key SLM practices. • EOP: Long-distance transhumance and short-distance rotation range management models, norms, and supportive measures are formally developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written description of each model • Final project evaluation. • Mid-term evaluation • Independent surveys done under contract. • International range management consultant's assessment and report • Internal project monitoring and reporting to be spot-checked by mid-term and final evaluations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project does not coincide with an exceptional period of extended drought. • Institutionalized use of food aid will not destroy rural population ambitions and willingness to attempt to reverse tendencies of land degradation. • Transhumant populations will have a direct interest in participating in model development and will adhere to locally legitimate social norms relative to range management • Short-distance herders

Goal/Objective/Outcomes	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/Risks
<p>activities introduced/ supported to increase economic activities at commune level:</p>	<p>and applied in targeted communities of the pilot communes in relation to the functionality of the land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline: Formal regulation of open access and recognition and organization of recognized transhumance patterns has yet to be initiated. • MT: Norms are developed and applied for open access in priority conservation and restoration zones and transhumance patterns and organization strategies are identified • EOP: Natural regeneration of preferred forage species is 50% greater on range management pilot sites compared to unmanaged areas. • Baseline: Range management pilot sites not yet established. • MT: Range management trials just becoming operational • EOP: At least 80% of active littoral dunes that were active at project startup in the two pilot communes of the White Littoral Sands AEZ will have been stabilized by EOP. • Baseline: 0% stabilized. • Mid-term: 25% stabilized. • At least 10% of population in pilot areas engaged in income generating activities 		<p>will adhere to pasture rotation schedules</p>
<p><i>Outcome 2:</i> Policy enabling environment: Local regulatory and policy enhancement with national implications Output 3.1: Initial development/ revision of the Commune Development Plan (PCD) for each pilot commune, mainstreaming SLM concerns and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOP: SLM firmly established in GoM rural development policies, and extended to the regions and, in turn, their key communes. The South is considered as a priority case given the serious challenges to SLM posed by aridity and the associated impacts of climate change. • Baseline: SLM practices currently exist in only a small number of localities where improved grain production and livestock forage technologies have 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDM report. • Presidency and Ministry reports. • Regional MAPs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key supporters are retained during a government shake-up (ministerial changes). • Current commitments to mainstreaming SLM into new and existing PCDs is maintained •

Goal/Objective/Outcomes	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/Risks
<p>development of supportive legislation Output 3.2: Direct linkages established between SLM governance in communes and PCD program funding and/or credit Output 3.3: Local level rules and regulations for NRM governance and management improved at all levels Output 3.4: Formulation of CSIF that promotes up-scaling of SLM practices supported (led by WB); Lessons from this project integrated into the CSIF through National SLM Platform</p>	<p>been developed. No such initiative exists for the South, although a project to improve practices in the Upper Mandrare River Basin has produced some positive results.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MT: The three regions promote SLM and targeted communities develop at least three new initiatives. • EOP: NRM structures are legally empowered, are implementing their NR management plans and maintain records on the enforcement of rules. • Baseline: There are some traditional rules governing access to common forests, grazing lands and water points, but there are no explicit rules for sustainable management of common natural resources nor are there controls on practices resulting in land degradation. • MT: Recently established community structures are beginning to enforce agreed upon rules for sustainable use of common resources and for controlling practices contributing to land degradation. 		
<p>Outcome 3: Institutions and individuals have the capacity to support and apply SLM at local, regional and national levels Output 1: Capacity building programs are developed for (i) improved commune governance for SLM, (ii) regional level stakeholders, and (iii) for tertiary and vocational training institutions Output 2: Knowledge generation, knowledge sharing and promotion of SLM mainstreaming (closely</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOP: PCDs that integrate SLM and land functionality analyses are being actively implemented on over 30% of the landscape within the pilot communes; PCDs are living documents (adaptive management). • Baseline: PCDs are weak, do not integrate SLM and are not being used. • MT: PCDs have been revised through a participatory process that includes zoning for SLM and completed land functionality analyses. • EOP: Existence of a monitoring program for out-migration and reduction of rates by a minimum of 30% in targeted communities each of the pilot communes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • - Existences of periodic newsletters and workshop reports • - mid-term and final project evaluations • PCD documents with landscape functionality analysis • MT and EOP evaluations • International range management consultant's assessments as presented in his 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donors, donor programs, NGOs and other rural development/environmental organizations continue current levels of willingness and motivation to participate in an adaptive management program for sharing SLM experiences • Political changes at the commune level will not prevent effective PCD

Goal/Objective/Outcomes	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/Risks
<p>linked to M& system developed under outcome 1)</p> <p>Output 3: Extension package revised to include improved agriculture and livestock management practices and extension service capacity to deliver package improved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline: There exist no monitoring or census data on current migration rates but informal research shows that rates are increasing. • MT: A monitoring relative to migration patterns, rates, and influential household socio-economic indicators is operational as well as a communications program to discourage out migration. 	<p>technical reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contracted independent evaluation using focus groups to assess • Legitimacy and efficiency of structures and rules. • Mid-term and EOP evaluations. • Informal assessments by Malagasy field partners (VSF, TAFA, SOKAKE, FAFAFI, MDP) 	<p>implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competent Forest Service field agents are retained at key sites. • Wealthy and politically powerful large herd owners are prepared to respect locally established grazing codes/rules.
<p>Outcome 4: Project effectively implemented and achieves results within budget and timeframe</p> <p>Output 1: Project implementation support structures set up</p> <p>Output 2: Project M&E plan and action plan developed, applied and information used to adapt management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOP: Project final review reports that all project outcomes and impacts have been achieved and can be sustained • MT: MTR reports implementation progress on track 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports and evaluation reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All partners maintain their current levels of support and dedication to project objectives; • All co-finance promised can be mobilized

3. SECTION III: Total Budget and Workplan

Responsible party = WWF and Implementing Agent = UNDP

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Responsible Party/ Impl. Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	ATLAS Budgetary acc code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Total (USD)	Budget Note ⁵
Outcome 1: SLM Model development	WWF/ UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International consultants	10,000	10,000	0	9,000	29,000	1
				71300	Local consultants	50,000	40,000	40,000	30,000	160,000	2
				71400	Contractual services – companies	25,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	97,000	3
				71600	Travel	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	60,000	4
				74200	Audio visual and print production costs	5,000	2000	2000	1,000	10,000	5
				72500	Supplies	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	19,000	6
				72800	Information technology equipment	15,000	10,000	5,000	5,000	35,000	7
				74100	Professional services					0	
				Subtotal Outcome 1						130,000	104,000
Outcome 2: Policy Environment	WWF/ UNDP	6200	GEF	71200	International consultants	7,000	0	0	6000	13,000	8
				71300	Local consultants	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	20,000	9
				71400	Contractual services – individuals	20,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	59,000	10

⁵ See Budget notes on next page

				71600	Travel	5,000	5,000	2,000	2,000	14,000	11
				74200	Audio visual and print production costs	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	4,000	12
				74100	Professional services					0	
				Subtotal Outcome 2		38,000	24,000	21,000	27,000	110,000	
3 – Capacity development	WWF/ UNDP	6200	GEF	71200	International consultants	10000	6000	0	0	16000	13
				71300	Local consultants	20,000	20,000	11,000	11,000	62000	14
				71400	Contractual services – companies	40,000	35,000	35,000	32,000	142000	15
				71600	Travel	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40000	16
				74200	Audio visual and print production costs	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40000	17
				Subtotal Outcome 3		90,000	81,000	66,000	63,000	300,000	
4 – Project Management	WWF/ UNDP	6,200	GEF	71,200	International consultants					0	
				71,300	Local consultants	15000	15000	15000	15000	60,000	18
				71,400	Contractual services – individuals					0	
				72,800	Information technology equipment	4000	2,000	2,000	2000	10,000	19
				74,100	Professional services		10,000		10,000	20,000	20
				Subtotal Outcome 4		19000	27000	17000	27000	90,000	
				Project Total		277,000	236,000	193,000	204,000	910,000	

Budget notes

1. Outcome 1 will develop the SLM model for Madagascar; Local consultants (budget note 2) will be contracted to lead the development of the model incorporating pastoralism and agriculture. International consultants will provide ten working days of support per year in the first two years and nine days in the last year to both the local consultants leading the development of the model and the local company leading the income generating work (budget note 3). International consultants are budgeted at USD 1000 per day. This includes costs of recruitment, fees and air tickets.
2. Local consultants will be identified and contracted to coordinate the work of the development of the SLM models. This will include conducting assessments, identifying best practices, implementing activities to formulate and test an SLM model and its replication in other areas. They will be assisted by international consultants (budget note 1). They will also assist the local company in designing and testing a monitoring and evaluation plan to assess outcome 1 (a part of the general M&E plan). Budgeted at an average of 300 dollars per day, which includes recruitment, travel and fees.
3. The success of the SLM model will depend to a great extent on generating financial returns and a strong extension service, which integrates SLM and cutting edge knowledge in its extension package. Current extension services are sector-based and weak. Local and/or international contractors will be identified and contracted to lead these two components: a) Under income generating activities, the company will assess potential income generating activities and facilitate their adoption; including investigating market links and developing capacity of the local entrepreneurs to engage (part of this will be financed through co-finance). Under the extension service, the company will review and update job descriptions to accommodate integrated package of extension services to facilitate implementation of the SLM model and other SLM best practice; design and deliver training programme; and facilitate the formulation for the M&E systems to monitor the adoption of SLM.
4. The development of appropriate SLM model will involve stakeholder meetings and familiarization visits by resource users in project areas to other areas where user groups are already operating. The implementation of the model will also involve considerable travel by extension agents and farmers (study tours, etc.). This budget line will support in-country travel and includes costs of hiring vehicles, accommodation and subsistence allowance (DSA). In addition, Project implementation will require extensive field travel by the Project Manager.
5. The project will develop a communication strategy to disseminate information on the importance of SLM model in the management of resources, poverty eradication and the maintenance of ecosystem services. This budget line will finance the development of the strategy as well as its dissemination through various means – radio, television, printing fliers, booklets etc.
6. This budget line will support provision of office supplies and the maintenance of vehicles.
7. The government and WWF will provide the project with office facilities and most of the running costs. The project will however procure two desk top computers, two laptops and one printer; to facilitate project management and information management. This budget line will also meet the cost of telephones, internet connections etc.
8. The success of the SLM model will depend on the support of a supportive policy environment. The project will facilitate the review of local and national policy to identify strengths, weaknesses, contradictions and opportunities for introducing more supportive instruments. Local companies will be hired (budget note 10) to lead the task of consultative policy review to generate recommendations for improvement, as well as the revision of the local development plans to mainstream SLM best practices.

The company will be supported by local consultants (budget note 9) and international consultants (budget note 8) who will bring international experience and lessons in policy reviews and revisions.

9. See budget note 8 above.
10. See budget note 8 above.
11. This budget line will support travel related to participatory policy reviews
12. This budget line will support printing and dissemination of documents necessary for the participatory policy reviews
13. Capacity constraint is a key barrier to adoption of SLM today and will need to be addressed for the successful adoption of the SLM model. The project will facilitate the review of local and national capacity constraints to identify opportunities for effective enhancement. A local company will be hired (budget note 15) to lead the task of institutional and individual capacity development (needs assessment, designing and delivering a programme of capacity enhancement which may include training, institutional arrangement and strengthening). The company will be supported by local consultants (budget note 14) and international consultants (budget note 13) who will bring international experience and lessons in capacity development.
14. See budget note 13 above.
15. See budget note 13 above.
16. This budget line will support the travel related to capacity development (training workshops, etc.);
17. This budget line will support production of material related to capacity development (publication of training manuals etc.);
18. This item constitutes the cost of a Project Management Unit (PMU) for 4 years at USD 1,250 per month. This will cover the cost of a full time project manager, a secretary/administrator and a driver. The PMU will be responsible for overall co-ordination, implementation, administration and reporting of the project in consultation with the Steering Committee, UNDP-GEF and the implementing agency. The **Secretary/Administrator** and the **driver** will provide the required support services in the project office, taking particular responsibility for document management, procurement and project accounts as well as general administration such as management of project vehicles
19. The budget line will support telecommunication for the PMU
20. Cost of auditing, Mid-term and final project evaluation.

4. SECTION IV: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4.1. PART I: (Annex 1) Approved PIF



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)
PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project
THE GEF TRUST FUND

Submission Date: 4th Sept 2007
Re-submission Date: 4th April 2008

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

GEFSEC PROJECT ID: 3374
GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID: PIMS 3127
COUNTRY: Madagascar
PROJECT TITLE: SIP: Stabilizing Rural Populations through improved Systems for SLM and Local Governance of Lands in Southern Madagascar
GEF AGENCY: UNDP
OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: GoM, WWF
GEF FOCAL AREA (S): LD
GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): LD SP 1 and 2 (agric and forest)
NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT: SIP

INDICATIVE CALENDAR	
Milestones	Expected Dates
Work Program	N/A
CEO Endorsement/Approval	April 2009
GEF Agency Approval	July 2009
Implementation Start	August 2009
Mid-term Review (if planned)	Sept 2011
Implementation Completion	August 2013

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: To enhance capability of resource users so as to place SLM in the main stream of development practice and policy at local and national levels for the mutual benefits of local livelihoods and global environment.

Components	type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	GEF		Co-fin		Total
				\$	%	\$	%	
Systematic application of community-based SLM systems SIP IR1:	TA	Replicable models of SLM developed and implemented in selected communes that are representative of the major agro-ecological sub-regions in southern Madagascar and promoted elsewhere in the country; <i>SIP indicators – 157,000 ha under direct SLM (project area) and another 6 million impacted by policy change and upscaling;</i>	Knowledge generated and used to formulate land and livestock management systems that increase productivity while simultaneously reducing land degradation and conflict over resources; best practices, effect of land tenure and natural resource ownership systems and economic benefit assessed to provide basis for formulating incentives for the adoption of improved land management practices; incentives (both push and pull) provided to promote adoption of the improved management practices, the system being used to manage 157,000 ha and another 6,612,850 ha benefiting indirectly through policy changes and replication; sustainable income generating options and optimum conditions for adoption, links to markets and market transformation to support SLM;	0.41	17	2	83	2.41

Capacity for SLM strengthened SIP IR 1,3	TA	Institutions have the capacity to support SLM at local and national levels; <i>SIP indicators - land degradation rate reduced by 60% in project area; 50% dune stabilization achieved; biological productivity of land (vegetation cover enhanced with rainfall use efficiency) increased by at least 50% in project area and by at least 25% in adjacent areas. % change in soil carbon in project area and adjacent areas; at least 40 % improvement in the social and economic conditions of communities in project area</i>	Local level institutional arrangement to cater for resource management and reduce conflicts over resources identified and strengthened; the institutions build on traditional knowledge and resource governance systems to formulate conflict resolutions strategies and incorporate it in the SLM model; training programs incorporating best practices (including indigenous technical knowledge) formulated and training delivered, training programs made available to other regions with similar land degradation issues; a system of monitoring and knowledge management for SLM developed and used to gather and disseminate information and experiences on SLM nation-wide; extension package revised to include improved agriculture and livestock management practices and extension service capacity to deliver package improved;	0.3	1 6	1.6	84	1.9
Policy enabling environment SIP IR 2,3	TA	Local regulatory and policy enhancement with national implications. <i>SIP indicators – at least 50% improvement in the score on Composite Index for the SLM Enabling Environment against the baseline; this includes local governance, policy changes and availability of financial resources to address SLM at national level</i>	Effect of local and national level policies on local adoption of good SLM practices assessed and recommendations for improvement formulated in a participatory process; NRM governance improved at all levels; formulation of CSIF that promotes upscaling of SLM practices supported (led by WB)	0.1 1	9	1	91	1.1
4. Project management				0.0 9	1 5	0.5	85	0.5 9
Total costs				0.9 1	1 5	5.1	85	6

B. INDICATIVE FINANCING PLAN SUMMARY FOR THE PROJECT (\$)

	Project Preparation*	Project	Agency Fee	Total
GEF	25,000 ⁶	910,000	90,000	1,025,000
Co-financing	0	5,000,000		5,000,000
Total	25,000	5,910,000	90,000	6,025,000

B. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE and BY NAME (in parenthesis) if available

⁶ PDF A approved in GEF 3 and used to develop MSP (draft retrofitted to SIP framework and available for submission). PDF funds not included in the GEF agency fee calculations.

Co-financing Source	Cash	In-kind	Total
Project Government Contribution	650,000	350,000	1,000,000
GEF Agency	300,000		300,000
Bilateral Aid Agency	3,700,000		3,700,000
Private Sector			
NGO			
Total co-financing	4,650,000	350,000	5,000,000

D. GEF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY FOCAL AREA(S), AGENCY (IES) SHARE AND COUNTRY – N/A

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. ISSUE, PROPOSED SOLUTIONS AND EXPECTED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED:

53. The Southwest and Androy Regions cover the southern-most part of Madagascar and form one of the most unique and biologically rich drylands areas on Earth, with a large number of plants and animals that are found nowhere else in the world. The natural habitat constitutes of spiny forest and harbors the highest level of plant endemism both at the generic (48%) and species (95%) in all of Madagascar. These habitats have evolved on extremely fragile soils with infrequent and irregular rain patterns and high winds. The vast natural area on rocky calcareous soils and the coastal plains habitats are the most ecologically vulnerable. The area is characterized by three distinct zones with distinct soil types and set of land degradation problems.
54. The littoral zone on white sands reaches upwards of 25 kilometers into the interior from the Indian Ocean. The zone was originally vegetated with a variety of shrubs and trees (notably Didiereaceae trollii and D. madagascarensis). Though there are many coastal villages dependent on fishing, most of the Tandroy and Mahafaly populations living in the littoral zone practice a combination of agriculture and animal husbandry. Most of the original vegetation has therefore been cleared to make room for cultivation and/or overgrazed. These soils are inherently poor and require high levels of input and careful management to sustain productivity over long periods. Unfortunately, the current methods of agriculture are not adapted to the fragility of the soils. Most farmers are poor and use little external inputs; cultivation is rarely supported by any form of appropriate soil management practices such as conservation agriculture, mulching, etc. Soils are easily exhausted and fields abandoned. Abandoned fields are easily invaded by increaser species. The remaining natural vegetation is heavily fragmented and what remains is under severe threat from further agricultural clearing and overgrazing by goats. The impacts of the inappropriate unsustainable agro-pastoral practices, invasive plants, and sand dunes have considerably reduced lands available for agricultural and lowered the already poor agricultural production, leading to poorer and poorer standards of living in this littoral zone. Due to the high winds associated with the southern Cape, degraded lands are extremely susceptible to wind erosion and dune formation. Indeed this zone experiences frequent famines and has the most severe water access difficulties
55. Over the past ten years, this littoral zone has experienced an exponential growth in the number of live sand dunes and wind born soil erosion. The development of live dunes seems to be strongly associated with the introduction of the plow in the 1960s and the elimination of field trees. *Opuntia stricta*, (a prickly cactus) introduced into this region 40 years ago, has become a devastating invasive plant. The cactus has little value to the local population and is a major impediment to livestock. Controlling the spread of this plant has been problematic as it grows both from ruminant and bird-dispersed seeds and root sprouting.

56. As inappropriate intensive agricultural and grazing practices continue to degrade transformed agricultural areas and the natural landscapes, people are migrating out of the region. It is estimated that over 50% of the male population between the ages of 16 and 40 have migrated out of the communes, most of them settling in other forested (and therefore biodiverse) areas within the region. Here they continue to practice slash and burn farming of cash crops or convert forest products for urban consumption (cooking fuel and construction). Thus the land degradation in this southern zone has increasingly adverse social and ecological consequences both within and beyond the region.
57. The Limestone Plateau or calcareous agro-ecological region, found within the Mahafaly and Karimbola plateau regions, have calcareous soils on the plateau surface, intermixed with the red silty-sand region. These soil patches support relatively thick vegetation cover dominated by several species of Didiereaceae, Euphorbia, Adansonia za; and a host of locally endemic succulent plants that have evolved under extremely hot, arid, and poor soil conditions. This area was inhabited principally by pastoralists until the latter half of the past century. However, since the early fifties, seasonal migrants have been settling in forest pockets where soils were slightly deeper and agriculture could be practiced. Originating from the littoral zone, the number of settlers has increased from 200 families in the early 1990s, to about three thousand families today. Markets for both maize and, more recently, tobacco are fuelling slash-and-burn farming in this zone. Given the already low soil fertility, the farmers produce only one crop before clearing more land, hence fuelling further encroachment into natural habitats. The agriculture practiced in this zone is one of the most extreme forms of unsustainable agriculture that is found anywhere. Given the nature of the soil substrate, restoration of natural habitats or spent agricultural areas use is limited, particularly under current practices. Abandoned areas are most often devoid of any vegetation. A recent study completed by Conservation International (2002) on forest cover loss during the 1990s decade show that the communes of Ampanihy and Androka, for example, have experienced one of the most marked over-all loss of natural habitats in all of Madagascar.
58. It is within this zone that there is also the greatest social conflict relative to land use practices. The original inhabitants who were pastoralists resent the clearing of forest areas they consider as secure pasture zones. Several sacred forest areas on calcareous soils are also being reduced in size, and respect for traditional taboos that protect certain sacred natural areas and species is eroding. As markets for cash crops develop, especially corn and tobacco, the livelihoods of the original pastoralist population is changing. Local people are now adopting the livelihood strategies of the migrant populations by increasingly practicing slash and burn farming. The original settlers are beginning to harass the migrant communities, and thus encourage their departure, in order to monopolize forest areas within their ancestral lands for agriculture. The migrants are forced to move on, either moving deeper into the Mikea Forest or seeking alternative forest areas.
59. The third agro-ecological region is located in the interior and is comprised of slightly richer red sands and clay soils that support a much taller forest structure. The forest consists of both spiny forest dominated by the larger species of Didiereaceae (*D. procera* and *D. dumosa*) and a small band of tropical dry forest on the northern edge. This is the agricultural breadbasket of the region in years with plentiful rainfall. Traditionally coastal people cultivated these soils for part of the year, but like in the other two zones, permanent settlement has increasingly become the norm particularly by people with fewer options in the increasingly degraded, low precipitation littoral sands. The soils are being farmed intensively, and fallow periods are rare. Soil fertility maintenance has become a major constraint, as nutrient recycling from crop residues is lost due to burning and subsequent water-borne or wind erosion. The introduction of the plow, the removal of field trees, and the lack of natural vegetation cover over large swaths of land has also facilitated rapid oxidation of soil organic matter and accentuated wind erosion, thus further

- decreasing the production. Well over 60% of the red soils areas are no longer capable of producing crops due to lack of soil fertility and water retention capacity. Increasingly, it is only in the lowlands areas, where soil moisture is retained and topsoil from uplands settle, that crops can be produced.
60. Unsustainable land use in the South of Madagascar has damaged ecosystem functions and services, thereby risking livelihoods and the economy. It has led to high level of forest fragmentation, soil erosion and sedimentation in river valleys, provoking flooding and destruction of estuaries, mangroves, and coral reefs.
 61. The long term ideal situation sought by the government and the land managers is one where the sustainable management of lands and resources provide a resilient base for ecosystem integrity, stability, functions and services that support the socio-economic livelihoods of present and future generations. There are however several barriers to achieving this goal. Although Madagascar has national progressive and recent policies to support SLM, enabling environment at the local level is poor, especially in the South. There is limited application of appropriate land and livestock management practices because people have low levels of skills, hence low ability to adapt management techniques to different conditions and changing circumstances. The immigrants therefore apply the agricultural and livestock practices wherever they go, regardless of the unsuitability of these methods in the new areas. This situation is exacerbated by the high levels of poverty prevalent in south madagascar and the institutional arrangement for natural resources management. There are no proven system-wide approaches for improving productivity of the land under the current set of circumstances and institutions have limited capacity to handle cross-sectoral SLM issues. Natural resource management issues involving land use are currently dealt with piecemeal; sectoral policies and regulatory frameworks are not harmonised, and there is no clarity in over-arching goals and no secure financing for SLM. Local development has so far institutionalized emergency food relief, instead of promoting coherent investments in adapting farming practices to the ecological potential of the land, rural development, infrastructure, human and institutional capacity. This has led to a vicious cycle of over-exploitation of land followed by abandonment.
 62. While land-use planning is progressively developing in some of the regions, notably Anosy in the southeast, SLM has yet to be promoted as an overarching strategy. Capacity to develop such approaches has yet to be built as Communes have very little capacity for planning. This includes the inability to analyze the causes of land degradation and to identify and test appropriate measures for sustainable uses of land and resources. The communes also have had no support in developing “land functionality analysis” that facilitates more informed planning by considering all of the relevant functions, including social and economic functions that a land can provide. At the community level, one of the key barriers to SLM is the lack of governance capacity for SLM – especially the ability to develop and to enforce rules and limits governing the use of common land and resources. The absence of good governance systems for range/pasture management is one of the greatest barriers to SLM. The formation or federation of inter-communal associations, or the strengthening of the Association Intercommunale pour la Conservation du Plateau Mahafaly, or AICPM, around SLM themes could help to promote good governance relative to SLM. Certain land use actions, functions, and social norms will require agreement and collaboration on governance between communes that share a common landscape and where ethnic groups and transhumance activities do not recognize administrative divisions. Inter-communal associations will need even greater authority in order to leverage cooperation among communes and assist with promotion and application of SLM “best practices” in communes that have weak local authorities or traditional leaders. Insufficient economic incentives for SLM are a barrier to the adoption of SLM practices. SLM practices will only be adopted if there are adequate economic incentives to do so.

63. The project will develop a sustainable land management model that will use sound ecosystem principles and appropriate agriculture and livestock management techniques suited to the potential of the land in order to increase productivity while reducing the need for further encroachment into new fields, thereby reducing degradation and conflicts over resources. It will then support the application of the SLM model to control the increasing severity and extent of land degradation in the south, where the drivers of land degradation are potent, and the people most affected are poor and vulnerable. It will develop training manuals and update the extension service materials to reflect the appropriate methods. Improved practices are likely to include conservation agriculture, growing fodder combined with mobile livestock herds, adaptation to climate change, water harvesting combined with appropriate crops, etc. It will also strengthen the ability of the extension service to deliver the updated package. In addition, it will develop a monitoring and evaluation system and apply it to monitor implementation and capture lessons that will be used to promote policy changes to support system wide adoption of the improved management principles constituting the model. In particular, incentives for matching production system to potential of the land (e.g. appropriate crops and livestock mixes) are necessary. Such incentives will have both push and pull factors and might include laws and regulations combined with tax breaks and subsidies, access to markets etc. It is important that these incentives are mainstreamed into national policies and development programmes.
64. The project will work with government decision-makers, technical agents from ministries and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and donors to support existing and new community-based stakeholder groups to adopt and disseminate appropriate cultivation and livestock management practices that will help to alleviate poverty and reduce threats to critically important natural habitats and their biodiversity. It will have synergies with other focal area objectives especially adaptation to climate change, biodiversity conservation in production landscapes, and reductions in pollution and sedimentation of international water bodies.
65. The objective of the MSP therefore is to enhance capability of resource users so as to place SLM in the main stream of development practice and policy at local and national levels. In line with the Strategic Investment Program (SIP) for Sustainable Land Management in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), the MSP will promote the development of coherence and complementarities within SLM programs supported by GoM and major donors in Madagascar. A core element of the project will be to identify methodologies to stabilise sand dunes and arrest the further spread of alien species. It will continue working with five focal communes that cover three agro-ecological zones, collaborating with government administrators, commune leaders, ministry extension personnel and other partners to create and support local stakeholder groups spanning all gender, age and vocational interests.

B. CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES/PLANS:

66. Natural resources management in Madagascar is guided by several policies including the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification (PAN-LCD, 2003); the Madagascar Action Plan (MAP), the country's national strategy based on global Millennium Development Objectives; the National Environmental Action Plan (PNAE), a major instrument for the National Strategy for Sustainable Management of Biodiversity in relation to the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD); the National Strategy for the Management of Risks and Catastrophes, the country's action plan for coping/adapting to climatic change. The proposed project clearly conforms to the National Environmental Action Plan (PNAE), a major instrument for the National Strategy for Sustainable Management of Biodiversity in relation to the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD). Similarly, it conforms to the objectives of the Convention on Climate Change, the National Strategy for the Management of Risks and Catastrophes, and the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification (PAN-LCD, 2003). The latter action plan identifies the strategies and actions for meeting the Madagascar's obligations under the UN Convention on Combating Desertification UNCCD. The

MSP is also a key tool to implement the Madagascar Action Plan (MAP), the country's national strategy based on global Millennium Development Objectives. The MSP has a focused effort on developing SLM in southern Madagascar that will contribute significantly to the specific objectives of the PAN-LCD, as the South is one of its priority intervention zones. It is also the zone where land degradation and desertification are presently resulting in the most adverse social and ecological impacts. Developing SLM will also contribute to tangible linkages between the PAN-LCD and the CBD. To this end, the UNCCD Focal Point for Madagascar played an active consultative role in the development of this MSP

C. CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH GEF STRATEGY AND STRATEGY PROGRAMS

67. The project satisfies the requirements under the Strategic Priorities for SLM I. It is part of the GEF Strategic Investment Program for SLM in Sub-Saharan Africa (SIP) and will contribute to the SIP's Goal, by contributing to reduce land degradation in Madagascar - thus supporting the country in improving its natural resource based livelihoods. In addition it will contribute to the SIP's Development Objective of phases I and II in two major aspects: one, support Madagascar to design, implement and manage suitable SLM policies, strategies, and pilots on the community levels; two, support development of a programmatic approach to SLM scale-up. More specifically, the project will foster system-wide change through the removal of policy, institutional, technical, capacity and financial barriers to SLM, in line with the LD SO 1, 2 and 3. It will build capacity for achievement of SIP Intermediate Result 1: SLM applications on the ground are scaled up in country-defined priority agro-ecological zones. It will work directly towards Intermediate Result 2: effective and inclusive dialogue and advocacy on SLM strategic priorities, enabling conditions, and delivery mechanisms established and ongoing. Its objectives also coincide with Intermediate Result 4: targeted knowledge generated and disseminated; monitoring and evaluation systems established and strengthened at all levels

D. COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES

68. The project is part of TerrAfrica/SIP, a NEPAD initiative aimed at building regional partnerships for SLM, knowledge generation and dissemination, as well as investment development and donor alignment. GEF-SIP support is channeled through two partner agencies in the country, UNDP and the WB, together promoting a strategic package of investment designed to catalyze SLM scale up, build operational alliances, and improve enabling environments. UNDP will focus its activities in the South, where one of the most unique and biologically rich drylands areas on Earth is facing serious land degradation (sand dunes, invasives). The WB will focus on the upland watersheds linked to priority production zones. Both interventions address local institutions to improve the enabling conditions for SLM up-scaling. UNDP and the Bank are exploring modalities to collaborate via their GEF-SIP investments to build a Country SLM Investment Framework as a common output of the two operations. The UNDP and the WB projects will be coordinated through an Interministerial committee on SLM that will operate at the national level.
69. The project will also coordinate closely with other projects in the country (and region) with relevance to SLM. They include the WB's agricultural intensification and the Protected Areas project of the National Association for the Management of Protected Areas (PNM-ANGAP), funded by the EU. In particular, the project will collaborate with the World Bank SIP project in the North in assisting the government to adopt a more programmatic approach to SLM. Formation of an interministerial SLM committee will be facilitated. This committee will coordinate a national level dialogue that will bring all SLM stakeholders to a round table discussion on adoption of a programmatic approach to SLM. This dialogue may lead to the formulation of a Madagascar

Country Strategic Investment Framework for SLM that will further identify opportunities for upscaling SLM and mobilise resources to actualise the upscale. The two SIP projects will be closely coordinated by this committee.

70. There are other projects financed by European donors and the American government, building the capacity of the NGOs to provide technical advice to land managers on appropriate land management techniques. The World Wide Fund for Nature and Conservation International, in particular have projects providing support to landscape conservation initiatives in southern Madagascar. These initiatives seek to include the representative biodiversity in conservation areas that are ecologically viable and resilient in the long-term. These conservation areas are seen as vital to maintaining ecological functions of both natural and transformed areas (agriculture and pasture). WWF and Conservation International (CI) both support and collaborate with a host of regional institutions (Parcs Nationaux Madagascar – National Association for Management of Protected Areas PNM-ANGAP, Regional Water and Forests Direction (DREF), Support Service for Environmental Management (SAGE) and NGOs (notably Sokake (Malagasy for Radiated tortoise), ALT (Andrew Lees Trust and their sorghum program) ASOS (Action Santé Organisation Secours), AVSF (agronomes et Veterinaires sans frontiers), and the Libanona Ecological Center (CEL)) on the planning and implementation of the Ala Maiky Ecoregion program.

E. RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE AND RISK MEASURES THAT WILL BE TAKEN:

71. Stakeholder groups are generally favorable to improved SLM approaches, and the political climate to promote improved land-use practices and biodiversity conservation is perhaps at the highest level possible. The principal risk is the continued immigration to otherwise little-used or unoccupied areas. The project will address this issue through SLM policy development and adoption, and by working with inter-communal, communal and stakeholder groups to determine appropriate land-use zoning and user rights, backed by legally recognized agreements. There is a risk that climate change may make the SLM innovations obsolete. This risk will be mitigated by incorporating climate change considerations into SLM practices and linking the communities to systems of weather monitoring and drought/floods/unusual weather early warning systems.

F. COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:

72. The 1 million GEF investment will put 157,000 ha of land under improved management practices with another 6.6 million hectares benefiting indirectly from policy changes and updated training materials and extension package. The GEF resources present a strategic mixture of direct on-the-ground activities promoting the adoption and replication of SLM best practices, and interventions to strengthen policy enabling environment for SLM scale-up. The support will expand the area under SLM as well as the productivity of the land under SLM, in the south where land degradation is a serious threat to national development, increasing productivity and yielding considerable economic benefits as well as improvement in the functional integrity of ecosystems. This is considered cost effective, as studies from elsewhere show that such an investment will have a positive internal rate of return (IRR) as well as a positive net present value (NPV). At the operational level, project implementation arrangements will minimize bureaucracy, administrative and managerial wastage, and follow UNDP standard rules and procedures for procurement and recruitment. A cost effectiveness appraisal will be made prior to final approval by the executing agency. One of the main challenge of the project is one of capacity building. The strategy of the project is to build local capacity for replicating and adapting the new participatory management models, the most cost-effective approach for ensuring the sustainability and replicability of the project.

G. COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE OF GEF AGENCY:


73. The proposed project is a national level capacity building project; an area GEF recognizes as UNDP's key Comparative Advantage

PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the [country endorsement letter\(s\)](#) or [regional endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

<i>Rakotobe Tovondriaka; Director, Department of Environment</i>	Date: April 11 2007
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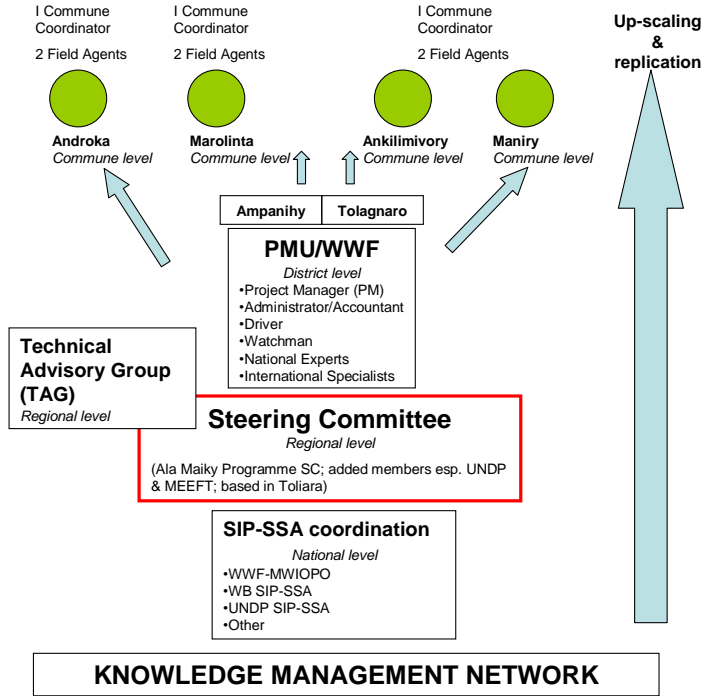
C. GEF AGENCY CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation.	
 John Hough UNDP-GEF Deputy Executive Coordinator, a.i.	Project Contact Persons UNDP - Veronica Muthui, RTA - SLM Pretoria. Tel: +27 12 354 8124 Email:veronica.muthui@undp.org
Date: 30 October 2007	

An important observation is that none of the above mentioned institutions are specifically addressing questions of sustainable land use.

4.2. Other Agreement: Endorsement Letter (to be attached once the PRODOC has been approved by CEO)

4.3. PART II: (Annex 2) Organigramme of the Project



4.4. PART III: (Annex 3): Terms of References for key project staff and main sub-contracts

74. The Project Manager will be responsible for overall co-ordination, implementation, administration and reporting of the project in consultation with the Steering Committee, UNDP-GEF and the implementing agency. She/he will take overall responsibility for liaison with WWF, Ministry of Agriculture and other line Ministries, local leadership and donor agencies and NGOs. She/he will take the lead in developing the SLM model to be generated under Outcome 1 of the project. She/he will co-ordinate and guide the policy review and training activities to be developed under Outcome 2 and 3 and will supervise the required consultancy and materials production activities. She/he will develop a clear vision and plan, in consultation with the relevant authorities, for up-scaling the SLM model after project termination. The Project Manager will also be the key link to the WB led National SLM Platform and partnership and will ensure that project is informed and feeds back into the SLM processes and CSIF (Country Strategic Investment Framework for SLM). She/he will guide the production of consultancy studies, bulletins and briefs, supervising the required consultants accordingly. She/he will take the lead in stimulating awareness and debate through the network and in generating the synthesis paper to be completed in PY 3.

75. The part time CTA will assist the PM in all the above, bringing relevant experience from outside the country.

4.5. SIGNATURE PAGE (Annex 4)

Country: MADAGASCAR

UNDAF Outcome(s)/Indicator(s):
Rural population within target zones are improved
(Link to UNDAF outcome., If no UNDAF, leave blank)

Living conditions and productivity of

Expected Outcome(s)/Indicator (s):
Targeted conservation zones is protected
(CP outcomes linked t the SRF/MYFF goal and service line)
Service Line 3.4

Environment in and surrounding
CPAP Outcome 5.1- MYFF Goal 3/

Expected Output(s)/Indicator(s):
Responsible for natural resources and biodiversity conservation
(CP outcomes linked to the SRF/MYFF goal and service line)

Community-based are better made

Implementing partner:
(designated institution/Executing agency)

UNDP

Other Partners:

WWF MWIO PO

Anosy and Androy Regions

Programme Period:	2008-2011
Programme Component:	Environment Protection and Sustainable Development
Project Title:	Stabilizing Rural Populations through Improved Systems for SLM and Local Governance of Lands in Southern Madagascar
Project ID:	_____
Project Duration:	__4 years_____
Management Arrangement:	NGO Execution

Total budget:	910.000 USD
Allocated resources:	910.000 USD
• Government	in kind_____
• Regular	_____
• Other: -	
• In kind contributions	_____

Agreed by (Government): _____
Agreed by (Implementing partner/Executing agency): _____
Agreed by (UNDP): _____

Notes:

UNDAF Outcome and Indicator(s)

The signature page details the UNDAF outcome(s) as well as the Outcome(s) and Output(s) related to the project. If the UNDAF lists outcomes, they should be included in the signature page. When UNDAF outcomes are not clearly articulated, country teams may decide to either revisit the UNDAF to clarify the outcomes or leave the field blank.

UNDAF Outcome indicators should be listed here.

Expected Outcome(s) and Indicator(s)

Expected Outcomes are Country Programme (CP) outcomes. They should reflect MYFF/SRF outcomes and ACC sector, which will be in the ERP).

Outcome indicator(s) should be listed here.

Expected Output(s) and Indicator(s)

Expected Outputs are Country Programme outputs. They should reflect MYFF/SRF outputs.

Output indicator(s) should be listed here.

Implementing partner:

Same as designated institution in the simplified project document – name of institution responsible for managing the programme or project (formerly referred to as executing agency). Implementing partners include Government, UN agencies, UNDP (see restrictions in Programming Manual Chapter 6) or NGOs.

Other partners:

Formerly referred to as implementing agencies in the simplified project document—partners that have agreed to carry out activities within a nationally executed project. This would include UNDP when it provides Country Office Support to national execution. Private sector companies and NGOs hired as contractors would generally not be included. The agency (i.e. Government, UN agency) that contracts with the private sector company and/or NGO is the responsible party. ‘Other partners’ can also apply to other execution modalities.

When an NGO contributes to an output, it can be noted along with the responsible party with which it contracts (e.g., UNDP/NGO, Govt/NGO). Consistent with current practice the rationale for selecting an NGO as a contractor, must be documented.

Programme period: Refers to the Country Programme period

Programme component: MYFF Goal

Project title, project code, project duration (self explanatory)

Management arrangement: Indicate NEX, AGEX, NGO Execution, DEX

Budget: Total budget minus the General Management Services Fees

General Management Services Fees: This was formerly COA (Country Office Administrative fee) for cost sharing and UNDP Administrative Fee for Trust Funds.

Total budget: Includes the budget and General Management Services Fees. In-kind contributions can be listed under ‘other’ resources. Unfunded amounts cannot be committed until funds are available.

Signatures:

The Implementing partner is the institution responsible for managing the programme or project. (The institution now commonly referred to as the “executing agency” but will now be referred to as the “implementing partner”)

UNDP is the UNDP Resident Representative.

The Government counterpart is the government coordinating authority.