ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.35/17
17 March 2025

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Thirty fifth Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 8-9 April 2025

Agenda Item 5h)

PROPOSAL FOR SOMALIA

Background

1. The Operational Policies and Guidelines (OPG) for Parties to Access Resources from the Adaptation Fund (the Fund), adopted by the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board), state in paragraph 45 that regular adaptation project and programme proposals, i.e. those that request funding exceeding US$ 1 million, would undergo either a one-step, or a two-step approval process. In case of the one-step process, the proponent would directly submit a fully-developed project proposal. In the two-step process, the proponent would first submit a brief project concept, which would be reviewed by the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) and would have to receive the endorsement of the Board. In the second step, the fully-developed project/programme document would be reviewed by the PPRC and would ultimately require the Board's approval.

2. The Templates approved by the Board (Annex 5 of the OPG, as amended in March 2016) do not include a separate template for project and programme concepts but provide that these are to be submitted using the project and programme proposal template. The section on Adaptation Fund Project Review Criteria states:

> *For regular projects using the two-step approval process, only the first four criteria will be applied when reviewing the 1st step for regular project concept. In addition, the information provided in the 1st step approval process with respect to the review criteria for the regular project concept could be less detailed than the information in the request for approval template submitted at the 2nd step approval process. Furthermore, a final project document is required for regular projects for the 2nd step approval, in addition to the approval template.*

3. The first four criteria mentioned above are:
   (i) Country Eligibility,
   (ii) Project Eligibility,
   (iii) Resource Availability, and
   (iv) Eligibility of NIE/MIE.

4. The fifth criterion, applied when reviewing a fully-developed project document, is:
   (v) Implementation Arrangements.

5. It is worth noting that at the twenty-second Board meeting, the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Fund was approved and at the twenty-seventh Board meeting, the Gender Policy (GP) of the Fund was also approved. Consequently, compliance with both the ESP and the GP has been included in the review criteria both for concept documents and fully-developed project documents. The proposal template was revised as well, to include sections requesting demonstration of compliance of the project/programme with the ESP and the GP.

6. At its seventeenth meeting, the Board decided (Decision B.17/7) to approve "Instructions for preparing a request for project or programme funding from the Adaptation Fund", contained in the Annex to document AFB/PPRC.8/4, which further outlines applicable review criteria for both

concepts and fully-developed proposals. The latest version of this document was launched in conjunction with the revision of the Operational Policies and Guidelines in November 2013.

7. Based on the Board Decision B.9/2, the first call for project and programme proposals was issued and an invitation letter to eligible Parties to submit project and programme proposals to the Fund was sent out on April 8, 2010.

8. The following fully-developed project/programme document titled “Green and Resilient Ecosystems for Somali Livelihoods (Hal-abuur)” was submitted for Somalia by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), which is a Multilateral Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund.

9. This is the third submission of the fully developed project proposal, using the two-step submission process.

10. It was first submitted as project concept ahead of forty-second.

11. It was last resubmitted as project concept ahead of the forty-third meeting and the Board decided:

(a) To endorse the concept note as supplemented by the clarification responses provided by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to the request made by the technical review;

(b) To request the secretariat to notify IFAD of the observations in the review sheet annexed to the notification of the Board’s decision;

(c) To request IFAD to transmit the observations under subparagraph (b) to the Government of Somalia;

(d) To encourage the Government of Somalia to submit, through IFAD, a fully developed project proposal that would also address the observations under subparagraph (b), above.

(Decision B.43/11)

12. The current submission was received by the secretariat in time to be considered in the forty-fourth Board meeting. The secretariat carried out a technical review of the project proposal, assigned it the diary AF00000382, and completed a review sheet.

13. In accordance with a request to the secretariat made by the Board in its 10th meeting, the secretariat shared this review sheet with IFAD and offered it the opportunity of providing responses before the review sheet was sent to the PPRC.

14. The secretariat is submitting to the PPRC the summary and, pursuant to decision B.17/15, the final technical review of the project, both prepared by the secretariat, along with the final submission of the proposal in the following section. In accordance with decision B.25.15, the

proposal is submitted with changes between the initial submission and the revised version highlighted.

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT/PROGRAMME CATEGORY:

Country/Region: The Federal Republic of Somalia
Project Title: Green and Resilient Ecosystems for Somali Livelihoods (*Hal-abuur*)
Thematic Focal Area: Ecosystem resilience, agriculture resilience, multiple focal areas
Implementing Entity: International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
Executing Entities: Sadar Development and Resilience Institute
AF Project ID: AF00000382
IE Project ID:
Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): 10,000,000
Reviewer and contact person: Ahmad Ghosn
Co-reviewer(s):
IE Contact Person: -

Technical Summary	The project "Green and Resilient Ecosystems for Somali Livelihoods (*Hal-abuur*)" aims to scale-up the climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods in Somalia by operationalizing the Great Green Wall Initiative in the country. This will be done through the three components below: Component 1: Green and resilient agro-pastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia (USD 3,730,016); Component 2: Resilient agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia (USD 3,630,359); Component 3: Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia (USD 980,640). Requested financing overview: Project/Programme Execution Cost: USD 875,576 Total Project/Programme Cost: USD 9,216,590 Implementing Fee: USD 783,410 Financing Requested: USD 10,000,000 The first technical review dated 21 August 2024 raised several issues, such as: i) inclusion of project last submission date, revising table of contents and proofreading; ii) providing a schematic chart of the theory of change; iii) adding a brief discussion on consultations participants and outcomes reflection in project design; iv) clarifying project outcomes sustainability regarding management/ O&M of established installations, rehabilitation works, etc.; v) Revising project management organization chart; vi) Inclusion of IE fees breakdown; vii) revising budget to reflect

	execution costs breakdown; viii) revising disbursement schedule milestones; among other CRs and CARs. The second technical review dated 10 November 2024 found that a few CARs remain to be addressed including amendment of the Results Framework, clarification on budget, tables on core impact indicators and IE certification, disbursement table, etc. The third (final) technical review dated 02 December 2024 finds the CRs and CARs indicated in the second review have been satisfactorily addressed.
Date:	**05 December 2024**

Review Criteria	Questions	First Technical Review Comments (21 August 2024)	Second Technical Review Comments (10 November 2024)	Final Technical Review Comments (05 December 2024)
Country Eligibility	1. Is the country party to the Kyoto Protocol and/or the Paris Agreement?	**Yes.**	-	-
	2. Is the country a developing country particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	**Yes.** Somalia is highly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and has witnessed increasing frequency and severity of climatic events (droughts, floods, cyclones, climate-related diseases/ epidemics, etc.) that exacerbated existing vulnerabilities and resulted in devastating effects on its population, resources, and infrastructure.	-	-
Project Eligibility	1. Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the	**Yes.** As per the Endorsement letter dated 27 July 2024 (See Annex 1 p. 94).	-	-

	project/programme?			
	2. Does the length of the proposal amount to no more than One hundred (100) pages for the fully-developed project document, and one hundred (100) pages for its annexes?	**Yes.** **CR1:** On the project information sheet (first/ cover page), please indicate the date of last submission of the project as a concept note. **CR2:** Include lists of figures and tables in the table of contents, and conduct a quick round of proofreading/ editing to fix some typos, missing table numbers, etc.	**CR1: Cleared** As per amendment to cover page. **CR2: Cleared.** As per correction to document throughout.	-
	3. Does the project / programme support concrete adaptation actions to assist the country in addressing adaptive capacity to the adverse effects of climate change and build in climate resilience?	**Yes.** As per the information provided in Part IIA (pp. 24-37). Concrete actions include ecosystem rehabilitation and sustainable land management, including earth bunds, stone lines, riverbank protection, afforestation/ reforestation, nurseries, seed multiplication. The project also supports the development of plans and mechanisms to operationalize/ scale up Africa's Great Green Wall initiative (GGWI) in Somalia. However, it would	**CAR1:** See Part I-A, Fig. 15.	-

		be recommended to add a schematic chart of the theory of change discussed in Annex 3, p.110, and a brief paragraph at the beginning of Part IIA to indicate the AF strategic objectives supported by the project. **CAR1:** Under Part IIA, provide a schematic presentation of the theory of change (TOC) discussed in Annex 3. **CR3:** Add a brief paragraph to indicate the AF strategic objectives supported by the project activities.	**CR3: Cleared.** See Part I-A, paragraph 76, p.18.	
	4. Does the project / programme provide economic, social and environmental benefits, particularly to vulnerable communities, including gender considerations, while avoiding or mitigating negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	**Yes.** As per the discussions provided in Part IIB, pp. 51-53.	**-**	
	5. Is the project / programme cost	**Yes.** See Part IIC, pp. 53-56 for related discussions.	**-**	

	effective?			
	6. Is the project / programme consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and adaptation programs of action and other relevant instruments?	**Yes.** See Part IID, pp. 56-60, for related information.	-	
	7. Does the project / programme meet the relevant national technical standards, where applicable, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund?	**Yes.** See Part IIE, pp. 60-64, for related information.	-	-
	8. Is there duplication of project / programme with other funding sources?	**No.** See Part IIF, pp. 64-66, for discussions on related projects, synergies, complementarities and lessons learned.	-	-
	9. Does the project / programme have a learning and knowledge management component to capture and feedback lessons?	**Yes.** Please refer to Part IIG, p.67 for related discussions.	-	-

	10. Has a consultative process taken place, and has it involved all key stakeholders, and vulnerable groups, including gender considerations in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	**Yes.** See Part IIH, pp.67-68, and Annex 2 for related details. Consultations were mostly done remotely due to security reasons. Field level consultations in targeted states and regions were conducted by Sadar (with State level Ministries, Village Committees and Elders, vulnerable groups, VSLAs, agropastoralists, pastoralists, riverine producers, private sector), and a final validation workshop was held on 13 July 2024. However, it is recommended to add a brief summary of these consultations in Part IIH. **CAR2:** Under Part II H ", provide a brief discussion that specifies the consulted stakeholders and communities, including total number along and number of participants with due consideration to gender/ vulnerable groups aspects (particularly for communities' consultations) and briefly highlight the key outcomes/ concerns raised and how these were considered in the project	**-** **CAR2: Cleared.** See Part II-H, paragraphs 251-252, and Table 6.	**-**

		design.		
	11. Is the requested financing justified on the basis of full cost of adaptation reasoning?	**Yes.** See Part II "I", pp. 68-70 for related discussions.	**-**	
	12. Is the project / program aligned with AF's results framework?	**Yes.** See "Results Framework" and "Alignment with Adaptation Fund Result Framework" sections, pp. 89-91.	**CAR9 (NEW):** **1.** On Table 12 outcome indicator 5, please insert the correct indicator as per the Adaptation Fund Results Framework language. **"**Ecosystem services and **…".** **2.** On table 12, Output 6, please include related output indicator either 6.1.1. or 6.2.1. **3.** Please also include the Tables for Reporting Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicators for the two impact indicators identified in the proposal. Template available at https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/AF-Core-Indicatovr-Methodologies.pdf	**CAR9 (NEW): Cleared.** See Table 12 (pp. 74-75) and Tables 13 &14 (pp. 75-76).
	13. Has the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes been taken into account when	**To a large extent.** See Part IIJ, pp. 70-71. However, please elaborate more on the measures that would		**-**

	designing the project?	ensure the sustainability of project outcomes <u>after project completion</u> in terms of continued support to the management, operation and maintenance of the established facilities, rehabilitation works, installations, etc. This would be best ensured through integration of realized outcomes in local government plans, ownership by local community entities, etc. **CAR3:** Elaborate further on the measures that would ensure sustainability of project outcomes <u>after project completion</u> in terms of continued financial and resource support to the management, operation and maintenance of established facilities, rehabilitation works, installations, etc. This would best be demonstrated through the integration of outcomes in government plans, established local community entities, etc.	**CAR3: Cleared.** See Part II-J, paragraph 262.	
	14. Does the project / programme provide an overview of environmental and	**Yes.** See Part IIK, pp.71-75 for details. The project overall risk has been classified as Category B	**-**	**-**

	social impacts / risks identified, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	based on AF ESP.		
Resource Availability	1. Is the requested project / programme funding within the cap of the country?	**Yes.**	-	-
	2. Is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee?	**Yes.** The implementing Entity fee (USD 783,410) is 8.5% of total budget before fee (USD 9,216,590).	-	-
	3. Are the Project/Programme Execution Costs at or below 9.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget (including the fee)?	**Yes.** The execution costs (USD 875,575) are at 9.5% of the total budget (USD 9,216,590).	-	-
Eligibility of IE	1. Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?	**Yes.** IFAD is an accredited Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the AF Board. Accreditation Expiration Date: 21 December 2025	-	-
Implementation Arrangements	1. Is there adequate arrangement for project / programme management, in compliance with the	**To a large extent.** See Part IIIA, pp. 76-79. However, not all involved entities/ groups discussed are reflected in the project		

	Gender Policy of the Fund?	management organization chart (Fig. 16, p. 77). **CAR4:** Please revise Figure 16 (p.77) for more legibility and to reflect all entities discussed in Part IIIA, including the PMU, Project Steering Committee (PSC), IFAD, etc.	**CAR4: Cleared.** See Part III-A, Fig. 17 (was Fig. 16 in earlier version). **CAR11 (NEW):** At Part IV: Endorsement, the IE certification is currently unsigned.	**CAR11 (NEW): Cleared** See IE certification signed (p. 78).
	2. Are there measures for financial and project/programme risk management?	**Yes.** See Part IIIB, pp. 79-83 for related discussions.	-	-
	3. Are there measures in place for the management of environmental and social risks, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	**Yes.** See Part IIIC, pp. 83-85, and Annex 3 (ESMP), pp. 109-146). **CR4:** As per AF proposal template contents, the grievance and redress mechanism (p.84) shouldn't be a standalone section. It could be presented as paragraph 300 Part IIIC and connected with the preceding discussion. Delete this section numbering and revise accordingly the letter section numbering of the sections that follow and reflect as well in the table of contents.	**CR4: Cleared.**	-
	4. Is a budget on the Implementing Entity Management Fee use	**No.** A breakdown of the IE fees budget is not provided in		

	included?	sufficient detail. IE fees may cover: Corporate activities fees related to engagement with donor (Policy support, Portfolio management, Reporting, Outreach and knowledge sharing) and Project cycle management fees (Project preparation and management oversight including financial management and quality insurance, Implementation reports supervision, and Project completion and evaluation oversight, etc.). **CAR5:** Include a detailed breakdown of IE fees/ budget. Present this budget as a standalone item or as part of the project detailed budget presented in Table 9, pp.91-92.	**CAR5: Cleared.** See Part III-G, Table 13. **CAR10 (NEW):** In Budget table under execution costs, please clarify costs associated with vehicle. If a vehicle is being purchased separate out the cost to indicate how much is going to the vehicle and how much is going towards the other equipment. If it is vehicle upkeep, etc. please specify this.	**CAR10 (NEW): Cleared.** The "Equipment and Goods" subsection under Execution Costs section in now Table 15 (Detailed budget, pp. 76-77) has been broken down to list vehicle's cost separately. The 'vehicle O&M' costs, are also included under "Operating Costs".
	5. Is an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs included?	**Yes.** <u>However,</u> Table 9, pp. 91-92 need to be revised to better reflect/ highlight the breakdown of these costs. **CAR6:** In Table 9, after "Total project activity cost", add a new row titled "Execution Costs" to define	**CAR6: Cleared.** See Part III-G, Table 13.	-

		the execution costs breakdown under.		
	6. Is a detailed budget including budget notes included?	**Yes.** See Table 9, pp. 91-92. However, the information provided after "Total project activity cost" row needs to be revised, and a new row Execution Costs should be added. Also the IE fees breakdown needs to be added (See CAR5 and CAR6 in review criteria item 4 and 5 above).	-	
	7. Are arrangements for monitoring and evaluation clearly defined, including budgeted M&E plans and sex-disaggregated data, targets and indicators, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?	**Yes.** See Part IIIE (Should be Part IIID after addressing CR4 under criteria item 3 above), pp. 85-87. However, please briefly clarify how the M&E Plan addresses management of the environmental and social risks identified, correct "Trimestrial" spelling and spell out the abbreviation AWPB. **CAR7:** Briefly clarify how M&E Plan would address the management of environmental and social risks identified. **CR5:** In Table 7, p. 87,	**CAR7: Cleared.** See Part III-D, paragraph 317. **CR5: Cleared.** Part III-D,	-

		under time frame please correct the spelling the term “Trimestrial“ (should be “Trimestral”/ every three months)? Also, spell out the abbreviation AWPB.	Table 10.	
	8. Does the M&E Framework include a break-down of how implementing entity IE fees will be utilized in the supervision of the M&E function?	**Yes.** See Part IIIE (Should be Part IIID after addressing CR4 under criteria item 3 above), pp. 85-87.		**-**
	9. Does the project/programme’s results framework align with the AF’s results framework? Does it include at least one core outcome indicator from the Fund’s results framework?	**Yes.** See Results Framework pp. 88-89. **CR6:** Include Table number for the results framework table (pp. 88-89) and revise table numbers that follow and reflect in the list of table and table of contents accordingly.	**CR6: Cleared.**	**-**
	10. Is a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones included?	**Yes.** However, disbursement schedule should include clear time-bound milestones relative to project inception and the annual reporting requirement. It is also recommended to reflect the execution cost portion as a		**-**

		standalone item. **CAR8:** include clear time-bound milestones relative to project inception and annual reporting requirement (e.g.: year 1 payment: upon contract signature, year 2 payment: “at end of year 1 or beginning of year 2, etc.). Also, reflect execution cost portion of the as a standalone item.	**CAR8: Cleared.** See Part III-H, Table 14.	

FULLY DEVELOPED PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE COUNTRY

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Title of Project: Green and Resilient Ecosystems for Somali Livelihoods (*Hal-Abuur*)

Country: The Federal Republic of Somalia

Thematic focal area: Ecosystem resilience, agriculture resilience, multiple focal areas

Type of Implementing Entity: Multilateral Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Executing Entity: Sadar Development and Resilience Institute

Amount of Financing Requested: 10,000,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Letter of Endorsement (LOE) signed: Yes ☒ No ☐

Stage of Submission:
☒ This proposal has been submitted before including at a different stage (concept, fully-developed proposal)
☐ This is the first submission ever of the proposal at any stage

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: ~~6/7/2024~~10/4/2024

Please note that concept note documents should not exceed 50 pages, including annexes.

Contents

Annexes

List of Figures

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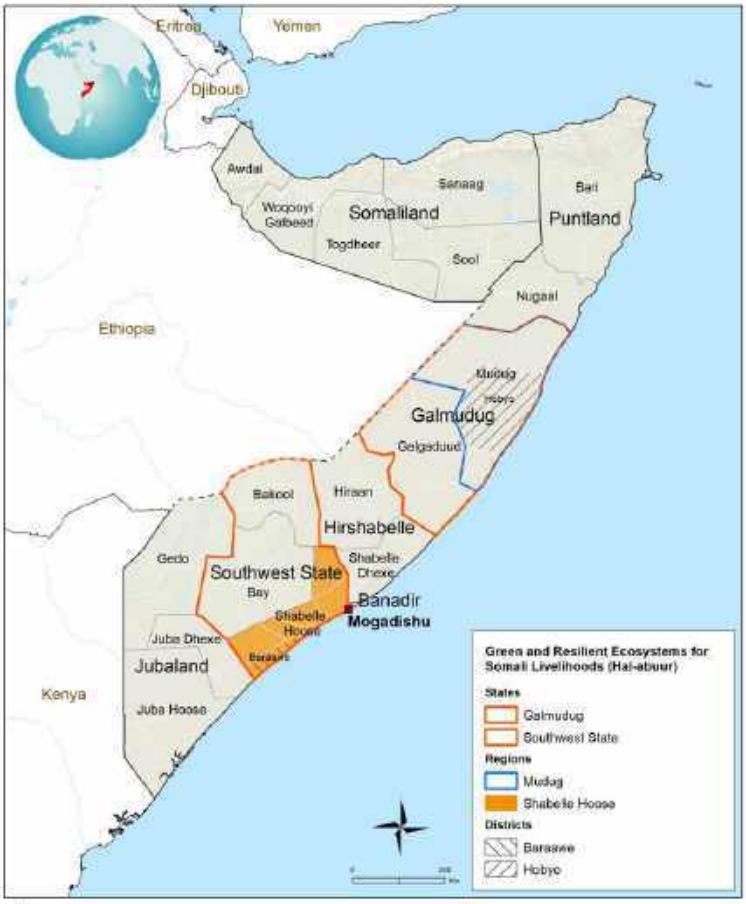
Abbreviations and Acronyms

A2R2	Adaptive Agriculture and Rangeland Rehabilitation Project
ACHM	Ad hoc Complaint Handling Mechanism
AWPB	Annual Work Plan and Budget
BUR	Biennial Update Report
CCA	Common Country Analysis
CCRIP	Community Climate Resilient Investment Plan
CDA	Community Development Association
CfW	Cash for Work
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research
CLeF	Cluster Level Facilitator
CLIMB	Climate-resilient livelihoods to Boost Food production and Nutrition outcomes
COVID-19	Corona Virus Disease 2019
CRI	Crisis Response Initiative
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
CSCC	Cross-Sectoral Committee on Climate Change
ELD	Economic of Land Degradation
ENSO	El Nino Southern Oscillation
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESP	Environment and Social Principle
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FFS	Farmer Field School
FGM/C	Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
FGS	Federal Government of Somalia
FMS	Federal Member State
FRS	Federal Republic of Somalia
FSSFS	Food Security and Sustainability in Fragile Situations
GALS	Gender Action Learning System
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Fund
GGWI	Great Green Wall Initiative
GHG	GreenHouse Gas
GIS	Geographic Information System
GRM	Grievance and Redress Mechanism
HH	Household
ICRAF	World Agroforestry
IDP	Internally Displaced People
IED	Improvised Explosive Devices
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ILO	International Labor Organization
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
ITCZ	Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
K4GGWA	Knowledge for Great Green Wall Action
KM	Knowledge Management
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
LDSF	Land Degradation Surveillance Framework
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation

MoECC	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MTR	Mid-Term Review
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDP-9	9th National Development Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NWFP	Non-Wood Forest Products
O&M	Operation And Maintenance
P/FFS	Pastoral/Farmer Field Schools
P/FMNR	Pastoralists/Farmers Managed Natural Regeneration
PA-GGW	Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall
PMP	Pest Management Plan
PMU	Project Management Unit
PPR	Project Performance Report
PROSCAL	Programme for Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods
PSC	Project Steering Committee
RLRP	Rural Livelihoods Resilience Programme
RUMC	Resource Users Management Committee
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SECAP	Social Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures
SIRAP	Somalia Integrated and Resilient Agricultural Productivity Project
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SO	Strategic Objective
SWALIM	Somalia Water and Land Information
ToF	Training of Facilitators
UNCBD	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
UNCCD	United Nations Framework Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Development Programme
USD	United States Dollar
VDC	Village Development Committee
VSF	Vétérinaires Sans Frontières
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Associations
WHO	World Health Organization

Map of the project area



IFAD Map compiled by IFAD | 28-05-2024

Part I: PROJECT INFORMATION

A. Project Background and Context

Geography and natural resources

1. Somalia is a Least Developed Country situated on the Horn of Africa, that extends from just south of the Equator, northward to the Gulf of Aden. The country has a total area of 637,657 km^2, with the longest coastline (3,025 km) in continental Africa, and borders Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya. Somalia's land area is 98.4% (627,337 km^2) and its water area 1.6% (10,320 km^2). The North of the country is characterized by highlands, while the rest of the country mainly includes plateaus, plains and coastal plains. About 80% of the country is constituted of arid or semi-arid land, which are subject to extreme climatic conditions, including high average surface temperatures, prolonged periods of drought, very erratic rainfall and high winds. Of the total agricultural land comprising 70.3 % of the country, permanent pastures take up 68.5 %, while only 1.8 % is arable land[1].

2. Somalia's arid and semi-arid landscapes are at a high risk of desertification[2] and are prone to extreme variations in weather conditions[3]. The unpredictability of these variations includes high diurnal temperature ranges, torrential rains, periods of extended drought, highly erratic rainfall, and strong winds[4]. As a result, Somalis are in a constant flux between two extremes: adapting to prolonged droughts and coping with recurring flooding. This creates a dual effect whereby drought degrades vegetation cover (biological degradation), leaving the soil exposed (wind and water erosion) to variable and torrential rain that washes away remaining nutrients causing chemical erosion through soil degradation[5]. In southern Somalia, lower elevations and river floods further exacerbate the situation. Land degradation contributes to loss of vegetation, gully erosion, loss of topsoil, siltation of surface dams and irrigation canals, invasive non-palatable plant species and loss of plant nutrients in areas with agricultural potential[6].

3. In addition to climate change impacts associated with droughts, floods and recurrent cyclones, Somalia's natural resources are also under intense pressure from degradation, deforestation and pollution due unsustainable use of charcoal, pollution (water, air), unsustainable land management and loss of biodiversity, with over a quarter of Somalia's territory degraded.[7] Rural livelihoods are threatened by these challenges which along with droughts, cause pastoralists to lose their livestock (main source of wealth and income), while farmers and agropastoralists lose their harvest (main source of food). The resulting reductions in income and food security have further repercussions on the urban economy.

4. Vegetation in Somalia is composed of dry deciduous bushland and thicket, and the country is dominated by the Acacia and Commiphora ecoregion. Main species of this dense bushland include *Acacia bussei, Acacia mellifera, Acacia nilotica, Balanites rotundifolia, Boscia coriacea, Boswellia sacra, B. frereana, Commiphora myrrha,* and *Commiphora Africana*.[8] Closer to the Somali coast, the Hobyo grassland and shrubland ecoregion comprises perennial dune grasslands and sedges. The wetlands of the Shabelle river comprising swamps and floodplains have high significance for biodiversity and the meeting point of the Shabelle and Juba rivers is characterised by the largest area of mangroves in Somalia.

5. **Forest resources**. According to Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in 2015, Somalia had between 6.4 and 7.1 million ha of forest resources, the majority of which was classified as low-density wood, and with a closed forest cover of 3% only, indicating the dry nature of Somalia's geography. In the 1980s, Somalia's total forest cover was estimated at about 62% of the country's landmass. Somalia's forests have been estimated to contain 394 million metric tons of carbon in living forest biomass. Virtually all of the tropical floodplain forest that once existed along the Shabelle

[1] Central Intelligence Unit (CIA), "Somalia," CIA World Factbook. 2021. https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/somalia/.
[2] International Institute for Sustainable Development. 2015.
[3] Somalia NAPA. 2013.
[4] International Union for Conservation of Nature. 2006
[5] FAO SWALIM. 2007.
[6] NBSAP. 2015.
[7] World Bank. 2022. "Somalia needs its trees to restore landscapes and livelihoods."
[8] Government of Somalia. 2016. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) of Somalia, FAO-Somalia

River has been cleared for smallholder agriculture (including sugar and banana plantations), except for a small patch set aside as a reserve at Balcad by the Somali Ecological Society. The annual rate of deforestation for Somalia (1.03%) is three times that of neighbouring Kenya (0.3%) and almost twice the average rate of loss for Africa (0.62%)[9].

6. The primary causes of de-vegetation and deforestation are overgrazing, shifting cultivation and unregulated charcoal production. As a result of unregulated logging (particularly for charcoal production), the already low national forest area shrank from 8.28 million ha in 1990 to 5.98 million ha in 2020[10]. Deforestation related to shifting cultivation is prominent particularly in the South. Overgrazing (notably with increased private sector driven livestock export to neighbouring and Gulf countries) and charcoal production in particular have had a profound impact on species composition, ground cover and the structure of vegetation. Indeed, charcoal production is the main reason for large scale deforestation of rangelands: about 250,000 tons of charcoal are produced annually for export purposes.[11] Given Somalia's rapid population growth, the profitability of charcoal production, a lack of alternative income opportunities (particularly among Internally Displaced People-IDPs), and the country's high dependency on firewood and charcoal for energy provision, this trend is likely to continue and will negatively impact both, animal and plant biodiversity[12]. Charcoal production (mostly towards Gulf States) has overtaken livestock as the second most valuable export item.

7. As a result of deforestation combined with climate change, the invasive species *Prosopis juliflora* has been able to colonise large areas of Somalia and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has placed *Acacia bussei* (an evergreen, drought-tolerant indigenous tree species that provides fodder to pastoralists) on the Red List of threatened species. Together with climate change, inappropriate land use practices have fragmented and decreased animal habitats and forage not only for livestock but also for wildlife such as hyenas, foxes, leopards, lions, warthogs, ostriches, small antelopes, and a large variety of birds in the south of Somalia.

8. Somalia is one of the world's biggest exporters of frankincense and myrrh. *Boswellia sacra* and *B. frereana* trees of the Acacia - Commiphora bushlands provide frankincense whilst the widespread *Commiphor myrrha* and *C. guidottii* provides myrrh. However, overexploitation and poor harvesting practices by a new generation of tree owners and managers have significantly damaged or killed many trees. If managed sustainably, the gum and resin subsector have potential for value addition and exports[13]. Somalia's shrubland also comprises the *Yeheb nut*, a multipurpose evergreen shrub the seeds of which are consumed by nomads. The bush also provides forage for livestock, firewood and dye. As with many of Somalia's other endemic woody species, the Yeheb bush cover is in decline and efforts need to be made to promote its recovery.

9. **Biodiversity.** Somalia forms part of the Horn of Africa biodiversity hotspot and is one of the areas with a high level of endemic species. The country is home to some 3,028 species of higher plants, of which 17 are known to be threatened. Somalia is considered a centre of floral endemism and of the known species, 700 (17%) are endemic. An IUCN assessment (1993)[14] recorded 150 wild mammals and 645 bird species, 1,332 animal species of which 518 believed to be endemic. As of 2020, the IUCN Red List[15] for Animals ranked 146 species as Threatened, with 145 Near-Threatened and 188 Data Deficient in Somalia. The main threats to biodiversity and its ecosystems come from habitat losses and degradation, climate change, overexploitation, pollution, invasive alien species, civil war, and tsunami. In place of healthy biodiversity, *Prosopis spp*. (Prosopis) and other invasive species, i.e. Siam weed (*Chromolaena odorata*) and Parthenium weed (*Parthenium hysterophorus*) are colonizing rangelands and forest areas, further decreasing the availability of natural pastures, and accelerating biodiversity loss and habitat alteration.

[9] World Bank, 2020. World Bank's Somalia Country Environmental Analysis: Diagnostic Study on Trends and Threats for Environmental and Natural Resources Challenges.
[10] World Bank, "World Bank Open Data," 2021. https://data.worldbank.org/.
[11] Yusuf, F. A., Kusin, F. M., & Kpalo, S. Y. 2021. Knowledge, attitude, and practice regarding charcoal consumption among households in Sanaag province, north-eastern. Sustainability, 13(4), 2084
[12] Thulstrup, A, Habimana, D., Joshi, I. and Oduori, S. 2020. "Uncovering the challenges of domestic energy access in the context of weather and climate extremes in Somalia," Weather and Climate Extremes, vol. 27, no. 100185.
[13] World Bank and FAO. 2018. Rebuilding Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture in Somalia.
[14] https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/so/so-nr-05-en.pdf
[15] IUCN. 2020. https://nc.iucnredlist.org/redlist/content/attachment_files/2020_1_RL_Stats_Table_6a.pdf

Field Code Changed

Agriculture, livestock and water resources

10. **Agriculture, rangeland, livestock, and fisheries are critical for rural Somali livelihoods**.[16] The agricultural sector (which includes the livestock subsector and crop subsector) accounts for approximately 75% of gross domestic product (GDP)[17]. Figure 1shows the main livelihood zones in Somalia.

11. Somalia encompasses large areas suitable for livestock grazing, browsing, and fodder production: livestock used to account for about 60% of GDP and over 50% of export earnings, but this contribution is declining due to conflict and export restrictions. Main livestock production systems are nomadic pastoralism and agropastoralism, and depend on the country's vast rangelands[18]. The availability of traditional grazing areas is becoming scarce due to the climate induced increased frequency and intensity of droughts as well as environmental degradation (e.g. invasive species). As a result and where possible, many households have been adapting by shifting from nomadic pastoralism to agropastoralism, combining livestock production and crop production.

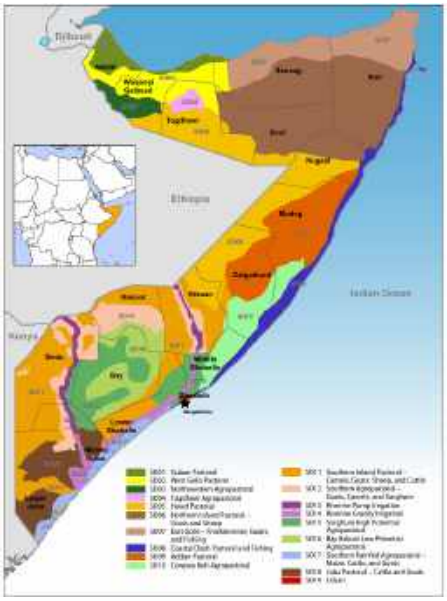


Figure 1 - Somalia Livelihood Zones

12. Nomadic pastoralists make up most of the production of meat and milk and use migration routes to follow the rains, increasingly constrained by national boundaries, infrastructure, and the spread of croplands. Despite these constraints, cattle remain a potent status symbol, encouraging urban and other elites to invest in large herds. The reduction in available grasslands and the increase in livestock numbers has led to rising conflicts with farmers, whose fields herds often invade.[19] Pastoral communities in Somalia have strong attachment to their environment and over the years they have used traditional laws and bylaws as well as community agreements to govern resource access, use and management. These institutions used to be very efficient but their role is weakened as climate change hits the landscape, with the increase in cyclic droughts exhausting water and grazing resources.

13. While agricultural land surface remains limited, agriculture is a key economic sector, thanks to fertile alluvial soils allowing for staple cereals, oil seeds, legumes, and horticulture crops in riverine areas. Rainfed agriculture constitutes the largest part of crop production systems (including under agropastoral systems), with a high dependency on rains for the main crops of maize and sorghum. Maize, sorghum, cowpea and sesame are the main staples. Maize crops dominate production during both Gu and Deyr rainy seasons in most crop-producing regions (the irrigated areas of Gedo, Lower and Middle Juba, Lower and Middle Shabelle regions), except for Hiraan, Galguduud, Bay and Bakool regions, where sorghum and sesame are more prevalent. Productivity is however very low (average yield for maize is 0.6 T/ha). Investments are needed to ramp up crop productivity through better production methods and climate-resilient techniques, enhanced animal health and nutrition, and strengthened value chains. Most of Somalia's northern regions are dry and cannot support widespread rainfed agriculture, with the exception of a few pockets including Borama, Hargeisa and Gebiley. Rainfed agriculture is practiced along the Juba and Shabelle rivers basin especially during the rainy seasons. In south Somalia, irrigation is practiced along the permanent rivers and seasonal streams. In

[16] World Bank. 2018. "Somalia Systematic Diagnostic."
[17] SOMALIA: Rebuilding Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/The World Bank and FAO (2018)
[18] Ibid
[19] World Agroforestry, Nairobi, Kenya. Regreening Africa. 2022. Pastoralism: Climate-smart, effective grassland management. Regreening Africa Insights series volume 1.

the north, it is commonly done in shallow wells and springs. Irrigated crops include vegetables, maize and sesame, while those grown on a large scale include apples, bananas, mango and guava.

14. Despite the presence of agro-input distributors, farmers in Somalia underutilize essential farm inputs, such as fertilizers. They are either employed sub optimally or not at all, due to limited financial resources and input accessibility in remote areas. Additionally, traditional, low-risk responses to unpredictable rainfall patterns further deterred their use. Most farmers use their harvests as seeds especially for maize and sorghum. This limited adoption of inputs has resulted in the proliferation of low-quality seeds and a restricted variety of seeds in the market, as dealers primarily stock them based on demand. Furthermore, the seed sector remains underdeveloped, presenting significant investment opportunities. At the same time there are different local varieties and landraces of maize, sorghum, and cowpea in various parts of the country, and these are uniquely adapted to drought.

15. Regarding postharvest handling, the lack of appropriate storage facilities has contributed large amounts of post-harvest losses at the farm level since the average annual cereal losses in southern Somalia are estimated to be on the order of 50,000–80,000 tons, valued at US$15 - US$20 million, representing about 20–30 % of the harvest[20]. The traditional underground storage pits lined with clay are highly prone to moisture contamination, particularly during the rainy season, and contamination from aflatoxins, other bacteria, and fungi.

16. **Water resources.** The southern part of Somalia hosts the only two permanent rivers (Juba and Shabelle), flowing from Ethiopia to the Indian Ocean. Somalia has 9 water basins namely, the Gulf of Aden basin, Daroor basin, Tug Der/ Nugal basin, Central basin, Shabelle basin, Juba basin, Lag Dera basin, Lag Badana basin, and the Coastal basin. High flows are experienced during the wet seasons (April-June and September–November), and the rivers occasionally break through the weak embankments and flood the adjacent land. In the dry season river flow volumes are reduced significantly[21]. A number of seasonal rivers, “toga”, exist in Somalia and flow during the rainy season. In the dry seasons, these rivers remain dry.

17. Only 52% of the population in Somalia has access to a basic water supply[22]. Outside the Juba and Shabelle regions, the Somali population depends on groundwater for domestic water supply, livestock and small-scale irrigation. The main groundwater sources of Somalia are boreholes (with depth ranging from 90m to 250m), shallow wells (the majority being less than 20m deep), and springs. Surface water collection is also practiced in natural depressions (*balley*), artificial dams (*waro*) and man-made cisterns (*berkeds*) for domestic and livestock use. However, and in addition to high extraction costs, water resources from deep aquifers are often unsuitable for drinking or irrigation, with high salinity as measured through conductivity (as a proxy), reaching levels above 2,000µS/cm (over the required standard for drinking water) (SWALIM).

18. Currently, irrigation for agriculture accounts for over 90% of water use. For only a few months in the year, this water also supports a small but growing horticultural production. In recent decades, expansion of private enclosures on traditionally communal rangelands, especially along livestock migration routes, jeopardizes the mobility of pastoralist communities, thereby weakening their capacity to cope with adverse climate conditions. Existing tensions and conflict risks are amplified during extended dry periods.

19. **Somalian lives are shaped by uncertain water supplies and water insecurity is growing**. The agriculture and livestock sectors are dependent on water of sufficient quantity, quality, and affordability. Water scarcity has led to widespread crop devastation as well as livestock and human deaths. There are concerns that without preventive approaches to address the effects of climate change and extreme weather, existing vulnerabilities will be exacerbated, reducing livelihood options, which may in turn negatively impact on stability and security.[23]

[20] World Bank and FAO. 2018. Rebuilding Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture in Somalia. Volume 1 - Main Report
[21] FAO Somalia Water and Land Information (SWALIM).
[22] UNICEF and WHO. 2019. 2019 Joint Monitoring Programme Updates.
[23] Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NIPI) and Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). 2021. Climate, Peace and Security Fact Sheet Somalia. https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/210203FINALFactSheetSomaliaSkisserLR11.pdf

Socio-economic context, gender and social inclusion

20. With its capital in Mogadishu Municipality (Banadir Regional Administration), Somalia is divided into 18 regions and 90 districts. Somalia has a population estimated at 18.1 million in 2023[24], of which roughly 60% are nomadic and semi-nomadic pastoralists, and 60% live in rural areas. Like many countries in sub-Saharan Africa, the population is predominantly young with 75% of it estimated to be under the age of 30, and 45.6% under the age of 15[25]. Estimated female population is 50.14%.

21. In 2018, Somalia's GDP of US$ 4.7 billion ranked 158 out of 196 countries, while its GDP per capita of US$315 ranked 195 out of 196 countries[26]. Somalia's GDP per capita has consistently been ranked among the five lowest in the world throughout the last decade and in 2020 it was the second lowest in the world. Amid repeated shocks, growth in GDP averaged only 2% from 2013 to 2020. Owing to the multiple crises, GDP contracted by 0.2% in 2020. GDP growth recovered to 2.9% in 2021 but is projected to have fallen to 1.7% in 2022 under the regional drought and worsening global economic conditions. Real GDP growth is expected to rise to 3.7 % in 2024 compared to 2.8 % in 2023, supported by continued recovery in agriculture, greater remittances, and higher investment.

22. **Poverty**. The fragility and high conflict situations in Somalia have led to forced displacements, unemployment, and staggering poverty rates. About 69 % of Somalis live under the international poverty line of US$ 1.90 per day, with 70% of youth being unemployed[27]. With an additional 10 % living within 20 % of the poverty line, almost 80 % of the population is vulnerable to even very small external shocks. Poverty rates are elevated among IDP living in settlements, people living in rural communities, and nomads, with almost 90% of households deprived in at least one dimension of poverty and nearly 70% suffering in two or more.[28] The poorest also have lower access to services, while women have lower rates of literacy and educational attainment (see below).[29]

23. In 2018, remittances, estimated at US$ 1.4 billion, supported about 20 % of Somali households (HHs). Inflows of remittances are, however, increasingly threatened by: (i) the tightening of international money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regulations on foreign banks holding Somali money transfer company accounts; and, (ii) especially in 2020-2021, the global movement restrictions due to COVID-19 and possible future shocks. Beside monetary poverty, many Somalis also suffer deprivations in health, education and physical safety due to the conflicts and natural disasters, mainly droughts and floods.

24. **Humanitarian situation**. Somalia is facing a rapidly unfolding humanitarian catastrophe, driven by the longest and most severe drought in at least 40 years: throughout 2022, and for five consecutive seasons, poor rains put the country in severe drought conditions surpassing the 2010–2011 and 2016–2017 droughts in terms of duration, severity, and scale. In 2023, an estimated 8.25 million people, nearly half of Somalia's population, were projected to need immediate life-saving humanitarian and protection assistance. The recent drought has devastated the agriculture sector — which accounts for up to 90 % of Somalia's exports — and led to increased displacement and loss of livelihoods, with one third of all livestock dying in the worst-affected areas. The humanitarian community is struggling to keep pace with growing needs. The number of people suffering from food insecurity and needing humanitarian assistance grew to 8.3 million people in the country (over 50%) and displaced over 2 million people from their homes in search of water, food, and pasture. Grants including social safety net programs (mainly targeted to rural poor/vulnerable households) and remittances are helping to mitigate the humanitarian crisis.[30] The maps under Figure 2~~Figure 2~~ illustrate the geographic repartition of humanitarian needs by number of people and severity of needs.

[24] https://www.unfpa.org/data/world-population/SO
[25] National Development Plan -9 (2020-2024).
[26] World Bank (2021). World Bank Data Portal.
[27] National Development Plan -9 (2020-2024).
[28] World Bank. April 2019. "Somalia Poverty and Vulnerability Assessment: Findings from Wave 2 of the Somalia High Frequency Survey."
[29] Ibid
[30] OCHA 2023. https://www.unocha.org/somalia

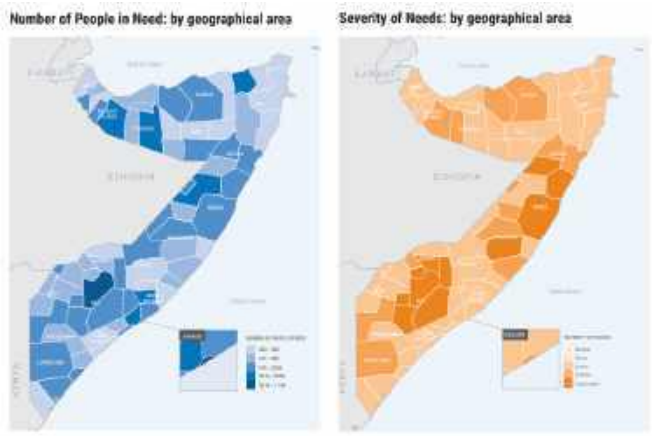


Figure 2 - Humanitarian needs in Somalia as of 2023 (Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2023)

25. **Food Security**. Food insecurity is one of the largest health challenges in Somalia. Between 2012 and 2018, around 1.5 million people were recurrently food insecure. An additional 1.5 million people suffered from acute food insecurity due to the impacts of extreme events such as droughts and floods[31]. In 2020, the stunting rate of children under the age of 5 was 27.8 %[32]. Food insecurity is particularly high amongst rural communities and IDP's. Despite large-scale humanitarian response providing relief in Somalia's food crisis, the latest data shows that 4 million people, or 21% of the population, were experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity between January and March 2024, classified in Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 3 (Crisis) and Phase 4 (Emergency). The key drivers of acute food insecurity in Somalia include the combined effects of below average and poorly distributed rainfall, flooding, the extended impact of multi-season drought in pastoral areas, limited household access to food due to income constraints and elevated food prices, continued insecurity, conflict in many parts of central and southern Somalia.[33]

26. **Fragility status**. With a Fragile States Index of 110.9 in 2021[34], Somalia is considered one of the three most fragile countries since 2007. The drivers of fragility in Somalia include: ethnic divisions and violent struggles for power and resources that have lasted for almost 30 years; weak governance and institutional capacity; poverty; youth unemployment and radicalization; and the Al-Shabaab and Islamic State insurgencies. For the rural farmers and herdsmen, the effects of climate change, dwindling water resources, and the recurring desert locust attacks on crops have eroded the resilience of the production base. The breakdown of governance structures, law and order, has weakened the community institutions that support rural livelihoods, and tensions are building around water points, land use, and access to farm inputs and financial services. Beyond agriculture, the impact of fragility is also felt in the infrastructure, national security, foreign direct investment, and health sectors[35]. The large displacement of people within Somalia and to neighbouring countries, notably Kenya and Ethiopia, disrupted economic activities and increased food insecurity. The infrastructure for basic services has been badly damaged by conflict.

27. **Security environment**. Accessibility to some districts, particularly in southern and central regions, remains limited in rural areas which is largely due to insecurity along main supply routes. Civilian movement in areas controlled by Al-Shabaab is nearly impossible due to regular and active hostilities or military operations across parts of Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Jubaland, and South West State. Conflict in these areas has imposed an added security dimension including an increased threat

[31] World Food Programme, "Somalia," 2021. https:// www.wfp.org/countries/somalia.
[32] Federal government of Somalia. 2020. "The Somali Health and Demographic Survey," Directorate of National Statistics.
[33] FAO. 2024. Resilience Building in Somalia. FAO Programme Review. https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/1842bcc6-9784-45ec-b28c-25d1b2fae934/content
[34] The GlobalEconomy.com. 2022. https://www.theglobaleconomy.com/Somalia
[35] Regional Centre for Small Arms, Nairobi. Undated. An assessment of illicit small arms and light weapons proliferation and fragility situations – Somalia. https://recsasec.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/SOMALIA-FRAGILITY-pdf.pdf

from improvised explosive devices (IEDs), Al-Shabaab reprisal attacks against the civilian population who collaborate with the Government and civilian infrastructure, as well as an acute deterioration of road access for humanitarians. These threats may be compounded by military offensives against Al-Shabaab including those conducted by armed elements with the support of Government forces in central Somalia.

28. Access to areas under the control of the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and allied non-state armed groups remains largely possible although this is hampered by ongoing insecurity including the presence of IEDs along key supply routes. Security checkpoints, many of which are fee-bearing, hinder safe, timely and unimpeded access. Incidents continue to be reported at the authorised checkpoints along all major access roads in southern and central Somalia. Mogadishu-Afgooye-Baidoa, Mogadishu-Balcad-Jowhar and Belet Weyne-Gaalkacyo are among the most affected roads. Extortion and other forms of violations are common at the numerous illegal checkpoints manned by both state and non-state armed actors.[36]

29. The advent of **COVID-19** in March 2020 exacerbated the protracted fragile situation. Somalia was particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 due to: (i) the weak baseline economic and health contexts; (ii) reliance on external markets for import of food, agricultural inputs, and health facilities; and (iii) reduced volume of remittances which had served as a social safety net. The rural populations were expected to be most affected by the resulting poverty, and food and nutrition insecurity, due to reduced production, higher prices, loss of incomes, and depletion of savings.

30. The recent **Ukraine war** has further fuelled Somalia's fragility. Electricity and transportation costs have spiked due to fuel price increases, with a heavy impact on small-scale farmers and pastoralists who, in the face of drought, relied on irrigation-fed agriculture powered by small diesel engines for their survival. About 90% of Somalia's wheat imports previously came from Russia and Ukraine. The crisis resulted in grain supply lines being blocked, leading to exorbitant food prices.

31. **Gender equality**. Life for women and girls in Somalia is challenging. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) indicates that Somalia's Gender Index is 0.674[37], which ranks it 164th globally for 2022, with only Nigeria and Yemen reaching a lower index. Maternal and infant mortality rates are some of the highest in the world, and early marriage is prevalent. The Somalia Health and Demographic Survey shows that Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) in women aged 15-49 is high, at 99.2% which has both short-term and long-term physiological, sexual and psychological repercussions.[38]

32. Culture and norms associated with the male-dominated clan system, reinforced by partial and scant law enforcement, confer low social status to women and constrain their access to productive resources, jobs, and social services. About 55% of women lack access to education, compared to 40% of men and labour force participation rate was only 19% for women, versus 74% for men in 2019[39]. Women in Somalia tend to be excluded from conservation and management of land, lack access to agricultural extension services and institutional credit, and encounter barriers to participation in development, planning and policymaking processes. Somali women continue to be marginalized in almost all spheres of society despite the complex role they play in conflict, peace, and security, and their contributions to maintaining everyday life. Unequal power relations and gender-based discrimination in legal and customary systems in Somalia deny women even user rights to plant trees, control soil degradation and enhance soil fertility. In recent years, policy makers and development partners in Somalia have committed to make gender mainstreaming a central focus,[40] as illustrated by a number of key national documents, strategies and action plans, including the Federal Republic of Somalia Provisional Constitution (2012), the 2016 National Gender Policy and the Somalia Women's Charter.

33. **Other vulnerable groups**. The clan-based system, regulated by the Somali customary law, "*Xeer*", is a prominent social factor among the nomadic pastoralists. Clans and clannism determine one's origin, social standing and access to territory, property, and to a large extent, power at the societal,

[36] Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2023.
[37] United Nations Development Programme (2022). Gender Inequality Index.
[38] UN Women Somalia. 2023. Where we are Eastern and Southern Africa: Somalia | UN Women – Africa
[39] UNDP 2019. Human Development Report 2019.
[40] UN Somalia Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2020

economic and state levels. Clannism has been a source of conflict but clan elders help conflict mediation, and clan-based customary laws used for negotiated settlement together with clan-based blood-payment serve as a deterrent to armed violence. The most famous is the clan-based power-sharing model of the 4.5 formula that gives equal quota to the four "major" clans, and a half-point to a cluster of "minority" clans/groups.

34. Somalia includes the (*Wa*) Gosha minority, comprising the Bantu groups (Gosha, Shabelle, Shidle and Boni) who live in the Lower Juba and Shabelle valleys. The project does not specifically target these minorities but will involve them in project activities if they reside in the project communities. People with disabilities are estimated at 15% of the population. Overall, women and girls, youth, internally-displaced people, rural and nomadic communities, and persons with disabilities face impediments to full participation in Somalia's decision-making processes, and access to productive resources, jobs, and social services, putting them at risk of being left behind in the development process[41].

Governance, Institutional and Policy Framework for Adaptation

35. Recovering from conflict, Somalia has been on a trajectory toward political stabilization and reconstruction. The FGS, established in 2012 after almost two decades of civil war, comprises an executive branch headed by the President, the Somali Federal Parliament, and six Federal Member States (FMS): Somaliland, Puntland, Galmudug, Hirshabelle, South West State, and Jubaland[42]. The latest election of members of the Federal Parliament was in April 2022, and of the President on 15 May 2022. The sustained political, economic, and institutional reforms have enabled the rebuilding of core state functions, though the country's fiscal position remains largely supported by official development assistance, remittances, and foreign direct investment. The country still faces persistent insecurity, conflict, and unresolved political tensions, as demonstrated by the delay of the elections from 2020 to 2022. The new President was officially inaugurated on June 9, 2022.

36. The newly created Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC) is the national authority responsible for the formulation, management, oversight, coordination and effective implementation of environmental and climate laws, policies, standards and strategies. It promotes sustainable management and standards for protecting critical habitats, combatting desertification, enhancing stewardship and ownership, restoration and utilization of natural resources, in accordance and collaboration with the relevant government structures at Federal and State levels. Other Ministries directly involved in the climate agenda at federal level include the Ministry of Livestock, Forests and Rangelands, the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. Other relevant institutions include the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) with the mandate for coordinating and supervising the implementation of the National Climate Change Policy, and the Cross-Sectoral Committee on Climate Change (CSCC) which brings together officials from across the government working on climate change[43].

37. **National policy framework for adaptation**. Somalia joined the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2009 and ratified the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement in 2010 and 2016, respectively[44]. As a signatory to the UNFCCC, the Federal Republic of Somalia has submitted its Initial National Communication (2018), its First Biennial Update Report (BUR: 2022), and its updated National Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2021. The government of Somalia has developed several other climate change-related programs and policies, such as the First Adaptation Communication to the UNFCCC (2022), the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA, 2013) and the National Climate Change Policy (2020)[45]. The country has also recently initiated its National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process through the implementation of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) financed NAP Readiness Project[46].

[41] UN Somalia Common Country Analysis (CCA). October 2020. https://www.ecoi.net/en/file/local/2052858/UN+Somalia+Common+Country+Analysis+2020_3.pdf
[42] IFAD 2021. Country Strategy Note (2022-2023).
[43] https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/Final%20Updated%20NDC%20for%20Somalia%202021.pdf
[44] https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Somalia%20First%20BUR%20report%202022.pdf
[45] https://napglobalnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/napgn-en-2022-somalia-nap-framework.pdf
[46] napgn-en-2022-somalia-nap-framework.pdf (napglobalnetwork.org)

38. A number of additional national policies and strategies contribute to the definition of a national framework for adaptation and are highlighted in section II. D. Strategic Alignment. Amongst those policies are included: the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change 2023-2028 Strategic Plan, the National Environment Strategy and Action Plan for 2021-2025, the National Environment Policy (2020), the Somalia National Action Programme for the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (2016), , the National Voluntary Land Degradation Neutrality Targets 2020, the Somali National Disaster Management Policy (2018), the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2015), the National Drought Plan (2020), the National Rangeland Management Strategy (2022-2032), the Somalia Livestock Sector Development Strategy (2019), the National Food Security and Nutrition Strategy (2020-2025), the Recovery and Resilience Framework (2018), the Agriculture Development Strategic Plan 2021-2025, the Somalia National Water Policy and National Water Resource Law (2010), the Integrated Water Resources Management Strategic Plan (2019-2023), and the National Water Resource Strategy (2021-2025). The federal government has also recognized climate change adaptation as a crucial element of Somalia's development and climate agenda, integrating it into the National Development Plan (NDP-9) for 2020-2024.

39. Despite these strides and the existing institutions, the country is faced with key challenges that undermine the effectiveness in addressing environment and climate change challenges. The challenges include inadequately qualified staff; inadequate personnel; a low level of staff skills and knowledge on climate and disaster management; limited access to information due to inadequate information and computing technology skills; a lack of adequate physical assets, infrastructure and transport; and limited capacity building. The country lacks adequate operational coordination mechanisms for climate change, with weak linkages between MoECC and other government structures and sectors, hindering efforts to address environmental and climate challenges. [47] Generally, there are few policies and laws at federal, state and local level and therefore limited oversight over issues associated with climate change. There is also limited capacity in the enforcement of relevant the laws.

Climate change

(i) Current climate

40. **Climate zones**. The NAPA delineates four climatic zones in Somalia: the desert zone in the northeast; the arid zone in the central area of the country; and the semi-arid and humid zones in the south and parts of the northwest. Somalia's climate is influenced by the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), monsoonal winds and ocean currents, easterly waves, tropical cyclones, and the neighbouring Indian Ocean and Red Sea conditions.[48] Additionally, Somalia is influenced by large ocean-atmospheric processes such as El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) [49] and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), which are significant contributors to rainfall variability within the region.

41. **Temperature**. The annual mean temperature is close to 30°C throughout the country. Average monthly temperatures reach their maximum during the months of April through June. June to September are the hottest months in the north, while December to March marks the hottest weather for the south. Since the 1960s, a warming trend has been observed in Sub-Saharan Africa. The mean annual temperature is 26.91°C (1901-2016).

42. **Precipitation.** The precipitation is generally low across the country with a high spatial and temporal variability, and average annual rainfall of about 200 mm in most areas. The northern maritime plains are extremely hot and arid with average annual rainfall of less than 200 mm. Rainfall in the south is higher at approximately 400 mm and highest in the southwest with around 700 mm on an annual average (FAO, 1995). The mean annual precipitation is 265.44mm (1901-2016).

[47] Ibid
[48] World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal (CCKP), https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/
[49] P.w, Muchiri. 2007. 'Climate of Somalia'. SWALIM.

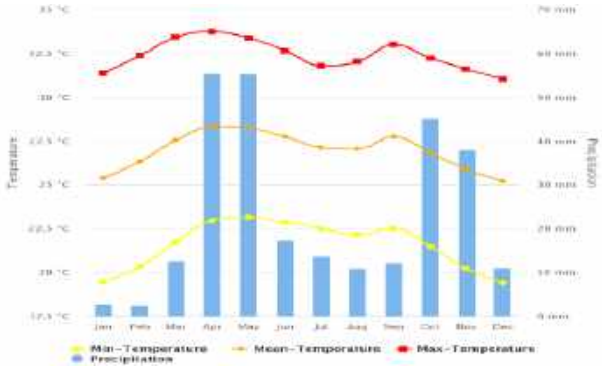


Figure 3 - Rainfall and temperature trends between 1991 and 2020 (Source: World Bank Group, 2021)

43. **Seasons.** Rainfall in Somalia is influenced by ITCZ, the north-south movement, monsoonal winds and ocean currents, and tropical cyclones, which results in two rainy seasons and two dry seasons in a year:

a) The "**Gu"** rain season starts as early as the second half of March. Precipitation intensifies in April across the country, except for the north-eastern coastline which receives the least amount of rainfall during this season. Relatively wet and hot conditions prevail, Gu being considered the major rainy season in the country. Occasionally the Gu season extends into June or July because of the Haggai rains, which are produced by the onset of moist onshore winds.
b) The dry **"Hagaa"** season runs from July to September and is associated with cool sea breezes from the Indian Ocean that results in light coastal rains in July and August. The southwest monsoon dominates, bringing relatively cool conditions, with showers along the coast but dry inland.
c) The **"Deyr"** light rainy season is characterized by a shorter duration and fewer amounts of precipitation in the months of October to the end of November.
d) January to March is the longest dry season known as **"Jilaal"**. This season results from ITCZ emerging from the dry Arabian Peninsula.

(ii) Observed changes in climate

44. A climate risk assessment has been conducted by FAO for Somalia in 2023, using the bias-corrected reanalysis dataset W5E5 (Cucchi et al., 2020). A significant yearly increase in maximum temperature ranging from 0.005 to 0.055 °C/year has been detected, which translates into a temperature increase of 0.15-1.65 °C over the 1981-2010 period. The analysis of temperature extremes shows a significant increase in days with maximum temperature above 35°C in the southern part of the country, especially in the inland areas bordering Ethiopia and Kenya and in western Somaliland with an overall increase of 15 days/year with maximum temperatures above 35°C in 2010 compared to 1981.

45. The total annual trends of rainfall vary across the country as shown in Figure 4~~Figure 4~~[50]. While statistical significance could not be assigned, the estimated annual increase/decrease has a high magnitude. A yearly precipitation increase of 2 mm translates into a 60 mm difference over the 1981-2010 period. The southern part of the country, which is characterized by higher annual precipitation, has received less rain (25% reduction) with high inter-annual variability.

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46. The frequency of days with heavy rainfall conditions is subject to spatial variability (Figure 5~~Figure 5~~). The analysis identifies an increase in the number of days with heavy rainfall (precipitation ≥20mm/day) between 1981 and 2010 in the Horn region, in the southern territories bordering Kenya, and in the Middle Shabelle. In fact, Somalia experienced at least one major climate extreme event per decade from 1960 to 2011 (NAPA, 2013) and major floods occurred in 1961,1977, 1981, 1997-98, 2005,

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[50] The results of the analysis on rainfall trend conducted by FAO are partially in disagreement with previous studies (climate risk profile, weathering risk, 2022). This inconsistency could be explained by the fact that these studies have used GCMs models which do not resolve well regional spatial variation.

2006, and 2009. In March 2020 Somalia experienced excess rainfall that continued sporadically during April, it affected a wide area and caused rivers to rise and flash floods. The results of the analysis on the number of dry days per year (precipitation <1mm/day) (Figure 4~~Figure 4~~) and consecutive dry days show increases in the southern regions but also north/eastern region ranging between 0.2 and 1 day per year. Indeed, the major drought events that were experienced in 1969, 1976, 1984, 1987, 1999, 2001, 2004, and 2010 were mainly linked to the increasing frequency of La Niña, during which strong winds and rainfall deficiency triggered agricultural and hydrological droughts.

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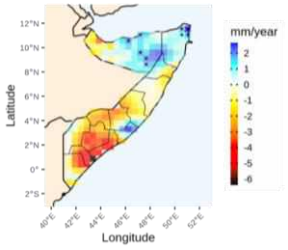

Figure 4 - Yearly change in total precipitation in Somalia (1981-2010)

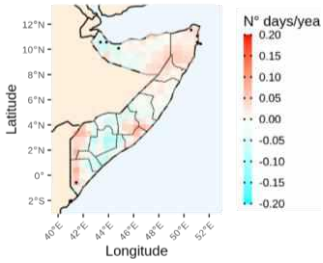

Figure 5 - Yearly change in the number of days with heavy rainfall conditions (≥20mm/day) in Somalia (1981-2010)

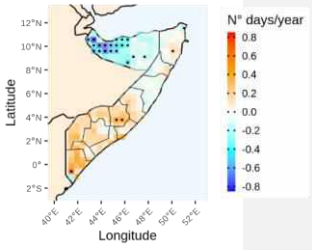

Figure 6 - Yearly change in the number of dry days (<1mm/day) in Somalia (1981-2010)

Data source: W5E5 bias-corrected reanalysis dataset. Figure produced with the Climate HAzard toolbox (CHAT) developed at FAO.

(iii) Projected changes in climate

47. The maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to increase under both RCP 2.6 and RCP 8.5. The analysis indicates that the northern part of Somalia will experience more significant increases in temperatures compared to the southern parts (Figure 7~~Figure 7~~). The number of days with maximum temperatures above 35°C is also predicted to increase up to 200 days per year compared to the baseline in the far future and RCP 8.5, particularly along inland areas (Figure 8~~Figure 8~~). Under RCP 2.6, coastal areas of Somalia are expected to experience low annual maximum and minimum temperature differences compared to the historical period. Marked temperature increases will particularly affect the southern part of Somalia, which concentrates most of the agricultural activities.

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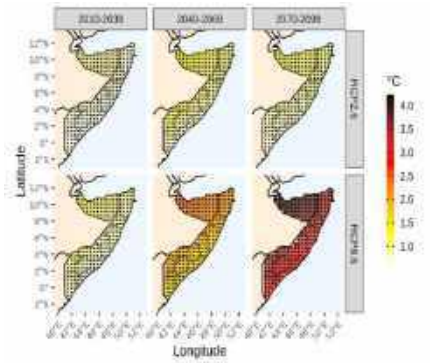

Figure 7 - CC signal in mean annual maximum temperature over the 21st century from historical period (1976 2005)

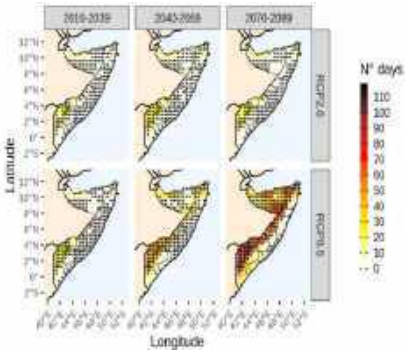

Figure 8 - Mean of the CC signal for the number of days with daily maximum temperature above 35°C

Produced with the Climate Hazard toolbox (CHAT) developed at FAO, using a multi-model ensemble mean of 6 GCMs and RCMs. The black cross indicates whether at least 60% of the models agree on the sign of the climate change signal.

48. The analysis shows a predicted increase in annual precipitation especially under RCP 8.5 (Figure 9~~Figure 9~~) and more erratic rainfall. The increase in precipitation will mostly affect the coastal areas and the southern part of the country, leading to up to 300 mm increase compared to the historical period (1976-2005). Somalia is expected to experience an increased frequency of heavy rainfall events ranging from 1 to 4 days compared to the baseline period (1976-2005) (Figure 8~~Figure 8~~). Under scenario RCP 8.5, the increase is more pronounced along the coastal areas, and in the far future. Coastal areas are

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thus predicted to become wetter (12% to 70% increase in precipitation under scenarios RCP2.6 and 8.5 respectively) (Figure 9~~Figure 9~~) and to receive more rain during a shorter amount of time (increase in the frequency of heavy rainfall events and decrease in the frequency of dry days, as indicated in Figure 10~~Figure 10~~ and Figure 11~~Figure 11~~) with good agreement between models.

49. Mild annual precipitation decrease is expected for inland areas under RCP 2.6, but high inter-model agreement (absence of black cross) predominates (Figure 9~~Figure 9~~). In inland areas, the frequency of dry days is expected to increase (Figure 11~~Figure 11~~).

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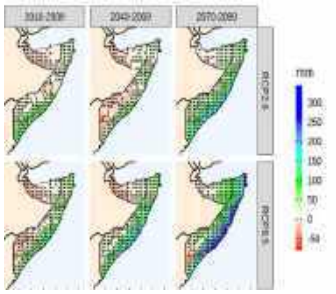

Figure 9 - Climate change signal in annual precipitation over the 21st century from historical period (1976-2005)

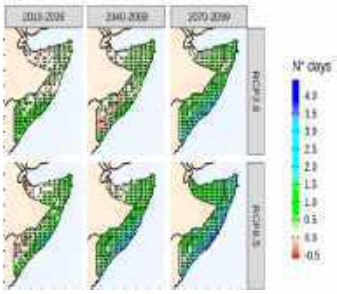

Figure 10 - Mean of the climate change signal for the number of days with daily precipitation above 20 mm (heavy rainfall events)

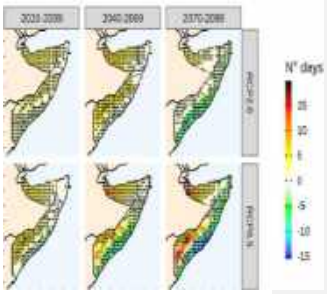

Figure 11 - Mean of the climate change signal for the number of days with daily precipitation below 1 mm (dry days)

Data source: W5E5 bias-corrected reanalysis dataset. Figures produced with the Climate HAzard toolbox (CHAT)

(iv) Impacts of climate change

50. Somalia is highly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change due to its geographic location, socio-political challenges, and economic conditions. Over the past few decades, the country has witnessed an increasing frequency and severity of climatic events that have exacerbated existing vulnerabilities, resulting in devastating effects on its population, resources, and infrastructure. The World Bank[51] confirms that the country is at risk to several hazards, including drought, floods, cyclones, and climate-related diseases and epidemics (Figure 12~~Figure 12~~). Droughts are often followed by devastating floods, particularly in the South where the Shabelle and Juba rivers are vulnerable to heavy rains in the Ethiopian highlands. The ENSO influences Somalia's climate variability in several ways, bringing more rainfall and flooding during El Niño and droughts in La Niña years.

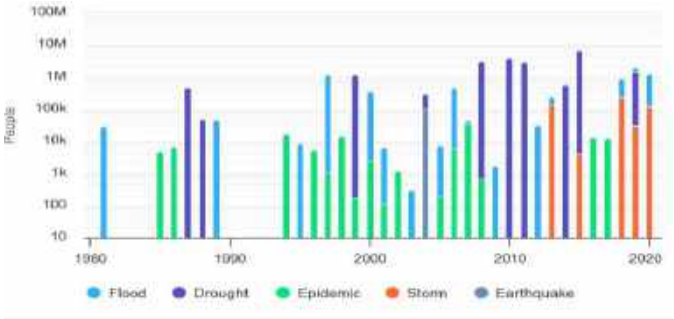

Figure 12 - Key natural hazard statistics for 1980-2020 (Number of people affected)
Source: World Bank Climate Knowledge portal[52]

[51] https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/somalia/vulnerability#:~:text=Historical%20Hazards,aid%20as%20conflict%20is%20ongoing.
[52] https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/somalia/vulnerability

51. **Droughts**. Somalia has been experiencing recurrent droughts for the last 60 years, and their frequency and severity have been on the rise, especially in the last few decades. These prolonged dry spells, often resulting in consecutive seasons of failed rains, have been detrimental to the country's primarily agropastoral economy. Historically, Somalia's drought trends indicate that they occurred at intervals of between 2 to 3 years during the Deyr (October-December) season and 8-10 years in consecutive Deyr and Gu (April-June) seasons, prolonging seasonal hardships for millions that are dependent on rain-fed agriculture, livestock and fisheries.[53] Droughts significantly reduce the availability of water for both human consumption and agriculture, leading to reduced crop yields, livestock deaths, and subsequent food and water scarcity. The cascading effects include malnutrition, displacement of communities, and increased competition and conflicts over diminished resources.

52. Between 1918 and 1975, only 10 major droughts were registered in Somalia with significant escalation experienced in the last three decades although droughts also occurred in 1979-80, 1983-86, and 1989-1990 leading to loss of life, livelihoods and displacements. It is estimated that between 1961 and 2004, droughts have increased frequency and severity, with over 12 droughts killing 19,600 people.[54] The 2004 drought was particularly devastating, with over 200,000 pastoralists from northern and central regions of the country at risk, and a staggering 500,000 individuals reported to be facing a humanitarian emergency or a livelihood crisis in affected regions.[55] The situation escalated further in 2011 when drought-related complications were responsible for the tragic loss of 258,000 lives.

53. The prolonged drought of 2019-2023 in Somalia was the worst in 40 years[56], following five consecutive failed rainy seasons[57], causing around 8.3 million people to confront acute food insecurity[58]. This unprecedented extreme drought has led to mass displacement, widespread death of livestock and a devastating food crisis[59], with 90% of the country experiencing severe drought conditions[60]. As of the beginning of 2023, water shortages were at critical levels, with an estimated 8 million people lacking access to safe water and sanitation facilities. Drought-induced displacement had increased fivefold since the beginning of 2022, affecting more than 1.3 million people by the end of 2022[61]. Estimates suggest that in 2022 alone, the drought caused 43,000 excess deaths, half of them occurring in children younger than 5[62].

54. **River flooding**. Somalia faces the challenge of flash floods, prominently during the Gu rainy season (April to June), but also during the Deyr rainy season (October to December). The maps included as part of Figure 14~~Figure 14~~ indicate areas most at risk of flooding. Climate change-related floods were experienced in as early as 1961, 1977, 1981, 1997-98, 2005, 2006 and in 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2023.[63] These floods are often sudden and intense, exacerbated by localized heavy rainfall. In addition to loss of human lives and livestock, flash floods disrupt local communities, displacing populations, destroying crops and damaging critical infrastructure, contaminating drinking water sources, and facilitating the spread of water-borne diseases. Flooding events also often lead to loss of livestock, a crucial asset for many Somali households. The increased frequency of floods is of significant concern, especially since the *El Niño* years of 1997-1998, with flooding regularly wreaking havoc in different parts of the country.

55. **Cyclones and storm surges**. Somalia's coastline along the Indian Ocean is periodically threatened by tropical cyclones (on average once per year)[64]. These cyclonic events, though less frequent than droughts and floods, can be severely destructive when they occur. Cyclones can result in extensive damage to infrastructure, loss of life, displacement, and saline intrusion into freshwater resources. The storm surges associated with these cyclones can inundate coastal regions, affecting

[53] Drought Impact and Needs Assessment (DINA), Somalia. 2017.
[54] Ullah, Saleem and Gadain, Hussein. 2016. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) of Somalia, FAO-Somalia
[55] World Bank. 2021. Climate Change Knowledge Portal https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/somalia
[56] https://reliefweb.int/attachments/807798ae-4833-449a-b43b-e5470b20d865/c0087608-eca2-46bf-a095-26e01350679a.pdf
[57] iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbdl486/files/situation_reports/file/IOM-Somalia-Drought-Response-November-2022.pdf
[58] https://reliefweb.int/disaster/dr-2015-000134-som
[59] iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbdl486/files/situation_reports/file/IOM-Somalia-Drought-Response-November-2022.pdf
[60] https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2022/11/29/somalia-s-economy-expected-to-grow-despite-significant-shocks
[61] https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-humanitarian-needs-overview-2023-february-2023
[62] https://www.unicef.org/esa/media/12316/file/From-Insight-to-Action-Somalia-2023.pdf
[63] NAPA 2013, FAO SWALIM 2019, ReliefWeb 2023.
[64] https://www.worlddata.info/africa/somalia/cyclones.php

both human settlements and coastal ecosystems. Cyclone Gati (December 2020) affected 120,000 people in the region of Puntland, of whom 42,100 were temporarily displaced. Nine people were killed by the cyclone besides loss of livelihood assets, death of livestock, damaged buildings and infrastructures, damage to farms and fishing equipment.[65]

56. **Extreme heat**. Extreme heat is an increasingly prevalent and concerning hazard in Somalia. Somalia's arid and semi-arid climate makes it highly susceptible to extreme heat events, which have become more frequent and intense as a result of climate change, with profound impacts on agriculture and livestock sectors. In agriculture, soaring temperatures and extended heatwaves result in crop failures and reduced yields. High temperatures accelerate soil moisture evaporation, making it challenging to sustain crops during dry spells. This, coupled with erratic rainfall patterns, can lead to decreased agricultural productivity and food shortages. The projected rising temperatures will very likely result in more frequent and higher exposure to heatwaves in Somalia, which will increase heat-related mortality. Under RCP 2.6, the population affected by at least one heatwave per year is projected to increase to 21.1 % in 2030. Projections under RCP 6.0 do not differ substantially and suggest increase to 20.6 % until 2030.[66]

57. **Projected impacts on ecosystems**. Climate change is expected to have a significant influence on ecosystems, even though the magnitude and direction of these changes are very uncertain. Due to the rising temperatures, increased frequency and intensity of extreme events and shorter growing periods, wetlands and riverine systems are increasingly at risk of being converted to other ecosystems with plant populations being displaced and animals losing their habitats. Recurring droughts alternating with periods of floods also accelerate land degradation and contribute directly to desertification[67]. Rising temperatures and changing rainfall patterns can also influence succession in forest systems while concurrently and simultaneously increasing the risk of invasive species, all of which affect ecosystems. In addition, reduced agricultural productivity and population growth might lead to further agricultural expansion, increasing deforestation, land degradation and forest fires, all of which will adversely affect biodiversity.[68]

58. **Projected impacts on agriculture**. Agriculture is among the sectors most exposed to climate change. Smallholder herders and farmers in Somalia are increasingly challenged by the uncertainty and variability of weather caused by climate change. Rising temperatures, as well as increasing inter-annual precipitation variability and intensity are causing recurrent flooding and droughts, which affect Somalia's agricultural production negatively, making the population increasingly vulnerable to food insecurity[69][70]. Almost two thirds of the cultivable land is located in the floodplains of the Juba and Shabelle rivers in southern Somalia, where the agricultural potential is highest. As a result of increasing inter-annual precipitation variability, some rivers in these floodplains, including the Shabelle river, have started drying up during the dry season[71]. Climate change impacts have also been associated with an increased intensity of pest diseases[72]. In 2020, the hotter weather conditions gave rise to the worst outbreak of desert locust swarms in over 25 years, destroying tens of thousands of hectares of cropland and pastures and posing a major threat to national food security[73]. Furthermore, with the outbreak of

[65] ReliefWeb. 13 December 2020. Somalia Cyclone Gati.
[66] Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, adelphi. February 2022. Climate Risk Profile Somalia. https://weatheringrisk.org/sites/default/files/document/Climate_Risk_Profile_Somalia.pdf
[67] Desertification is a gradual process by which the productivity of land is reduced. The land degradation involves a continuum of change of land quality from slight to severe. It results from a combination of man's excessive use of ecosystems that are inherently fragile. Fragility means that the habitat is vulnerable to deterioration of ecological features. The effect of desertification is often dramatic as it causes widespread failure of food-producing systems. If excessive exploitation (overgrazing, over cultivation, over-denudation of trees) coincides with the incidence of drought, rates of ecological degradation (desertification) often accelerate. [National Drought Plan for Somalia, 2020]
[68] Shanahan, T.M., Hughen, K.A., McKay, N., Overpeck, J.T., Scholz, C.A., Gosling, W.D., Miller, S.S., Peck, J.A., Wing, J.W., Heil, C.W., "CO2 and fire influence tropical ecosystem stability in response to climate change," Nature Scientific Reports, vol. 18, no. 6, pp. 1-8, 2016
[69] UNDP & Government of Somalia, "Somalia drought impacts and needs assessment and recovery and resilience framework," International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/The World Bank and FAO, 2021.
[70] Warsame, A., Sheik-Ali, I., "Climate change and crop production nexus in Somalia: an empirical evidence from ARDL technique," Environmental Science and Pollution Research, vol. 28, pp. 19838- 19850, 2021.
[71] Somalia Water and Land information management (SWALIM), "The Dry River Beds of Shabelle River" FAO, 21 March 2018.
[72] Salih, A., Baraibar, M., Mwangi, K., Artan, G, "Climate change and locust outbreak in East Africa," Nature Climate Change, vol. 10, pp. 548-585, 2020
[73] UNOCHA, "Humanitarian Needs Overview Somalia," 9 March 2021.

the civil war, the maintenance of irrigation infrastructure came to a halt[74] and the cultivated area under irrigation has decreased by more than a half[75].

59. A retrospective study found that Somalia cereal crop losses averaged around 11.5% between 1985-2006, when mean temperatures were 1% warmer than normal (Wasame et al., 2021). Richardson et al. (2022) note that maize yields in Somalia could decline by between 20% and 50% due to hotter temperatures alone. Sorghum is more resilient to warmer temperatures and extended dry periods than maize crops; however, locust plague outbreaks are also likely to increase in frequency, given their linkages to heavy rainfall and the possibility of an increase in the intensity of rainfall events (Richardson et al., 2022; Salih et al., 2020). On the medium term (2041-2060), there is good agreement in the CORDEX Africa multi-model experiment and among other climate modelling initiatives that the January-February season is likely to become wetter over the medium term, irrespective of RCP, leading to greater harvest losses among cereal crops that would have historically been harvested post-Deyr, and post harvest losses due to fungal infection/rot. Historically, The Gu season has been the dominant, more reliable cropping period, as a greater proportion of the annual precipitation falls during this period (SWALIM, 2007), but many of the climate models predict that the Gu season will likely start later and end earlier by the medium term. This can be mitigated by the adoption of drought-tolerant and early maturity varieties and multi-purpose crops such as sorghum: in the case of sorghum, even if there is a crop failure, crop by-products can be grazed by livestock.

60. **Pastoralism and the trade of livestock are major livelihood strategies in Somalia**. Climate impacts, including increasing temperatures and inter-annual precipitation variability, associated with water scarcity and recurrent droughts, already result in a loss of water points and grazing areas. Land degradation and desertification are further exacerbating the increasing resource scarcity. Extreme heat events and overall warmer days and nights, and/or precipitation variability, during key calving, kidding and lambing periods can lead to higher mortality among livestock young and birthing livestock, as well as decreases in milk production (Richardson et al., 2022; Girmay et al., 2018; Rahimi et al., 2021). Heat stress risks can further generate cascading gendered nutrition and economic risks amongst pastoralists and agropastoralists, as women often supplement children's nutrition with milk products and augment their incomes from the sale of milk products. Limited access to water sources during heatwaves worsens the situation.

61. Potential increase in extreme precipitation events, more dry spells and shifts in the onset and duration of the Gu and Deyr rainy seasons, as well as higher temperatures in all seasons will disrupts grazing patterns and reduce the availability of dryland forage, leading to challenges in maintaining healthy and productive herds. These changes, along with other socio-economic and political factors, strongly impact traditional mobility patterns and intensify the competition and conflict over access to resources amongst farmers and herders. Furthermore, pastoralists increasingly experience climate-induced economic losses, which can exacerbate existing community tensions and fuel recruitment into armed opposition groups[76].

62. **Climate impacts on vulnerable groups**. Climate change and its devastating effects on all sectors of the economy in Somalia has significant gender dimensions. Women and youth, and especially those in rural areas, are most affected due to their vulnerability, their natural resource- and climate-dependent livelihoods, their responsibilities toward their families, and their role in safeguarding community survival. Women are on the frontline of confronting the challenges posed by climate change to livelihoods and the health of their families, and yet they are often poorly equipped and resourced to respond to them.

63. Adding to the challenge, conflicts have eroded many of the gains made in education, health care and employment prior to the civil war, perpetuating and deepening gender inequality. Women and girls, youth, IDPs, rural and nomadic communities, and persons with disabilities face additional impediments to participation in the country's path to sustainable development, putting them at risk of being left behind.[77]

[74] World Bank & FAO, "Rebuilding resilient and sustainable agriculture in Somalia. Volume I," IBRD/WB and FAO, 2018.
[75] FAO, "Aquastat," 2021.
[76] Ekloew, W., Krampe, F., "Climate-Related Security Risks and Peacebuilding in Somalia. SIPRI Policy Paper," Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Solna, 2019.
[77] UN Somalia (October 2020). Common Country Analysis (CCA)

Overall vulnerability to climate change

64. Ranked as 172 out of 182 countries on the ND-GAIN Index (2022)[78], Somalia is considered one of the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change[7980]. In addition to climate-vulnerability, Somalia is a fragile country that experiences diverse challenges in terms of governance, security, and poverty, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities[81]. Since 2011, Somalia has suffered from more frequent and prolonged climate-related disasters such as droughts, floods with the addition of cyclones and even locust infestations in the last two years. These disasters unceasingly degrade ecosystems, threaten food security, and increase conflict over resource scarcity, putting a massive strain on the humanitarian situation, impoverishing and displacing hundreds of thousands of nomadic and rural people[82].

65. As exposed previously, Somalia is very sensitive to climate change due to high dependency on rainfed agriculture and pastoralism, high food insecurity, and political instability. The productivity of the crop and livestock subsectors is low due to limited availability of water resources and insufficient diffusion of climate adaptation measures.

66. The adaptive capacity of populations who are engaged in the agriculture sector is very limited because of low literacy rate, limited opportunities for education and limited awareness and knowledge on climate resilient agriculture[83]. Soil management by smallholder farmers is poor, resulting in very low moisture retention and inadequate internal drainage. Most of smallholder farmers adopt low or no-input farming techniques for crop production, resulting in low crop productivity. Many varieties of main crops used by farmers are not drought-tolerant, increasing the risk of crop failure and production reduction when rainy seasons fail.

67. As of early 2023, Somalia had a food-insecure population estimated at approximately 6.6 million people[84], reflecting the increasing impacts of climate change – extreme weather, droughts, floods, as well as desert locust upsurges – affecting the ability of Somalis (particularly rural families) to meet their needs. The drought-affected rural Somalis have become the human face of the global climate emergency. Climate vulnerability and resulting food insecurity have been also aggravated by conflict, economic shocks associated with the COVID-19 recession, and inflation of key inputs such as fertilizer and livestock inputs[85].

68. **Vulnerability mapping**. Climate vulnerability and the size of affected populations is location specific and derives from unique interactions of different biophysical and socioeconomic variables so that different levels of vulnerability characterize different places. IFAD conducted a vulnerability analysis to prioritize areas to be targeted. The analysis is based on official statistics and data, improved with analyses to increase the evidence base and knowledge on how climate change affects rural populations. The indicators of hazard and exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity were chosen on the basis of the socio-economic, climatic and environmental analysis presented in Annex 4. The composition of these indicators results in vulnerability indices, reflecting the areas that are most vulnerable to climate induced droughts or floods.

69. The map included as part of Figure 13~~Figure 13~~ below highlights the areas in Somalia that are particularly susceptible to droughts. A substantial portion of the central and southern regions, are expected to face extremely high vulnerability to droughts. The extent of land under extremely high risk of drought is predicted to increase from the current approximately 68,348 km² to roughly 69,591 km² under the RCP 4.5 scenario, and further to about 256,269 km² under the RCP 8.5 scenario. This potential surge in drought vulnerability can be attributed to the forecasted rise in temperatures along with the increasing unpredictability of rainfall patterns and intensity in the future.

[78] Rankings // Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative // University of Notre Dame (nd.edu)
[79] hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2022/VNR 2022 Somalia Report_0.pdf
[80] napglobalnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/napgn-en-2022-somalia-nap-framework.pdf
[81] https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Somalia%20First%20BUR%20report%202022.pdf
[82] hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2022/VNR 2022 Somalia Report_0.pdf
[83] World Bank. 2022. Somalia Economic Update, Seventh Edition: Investing in Social Protection to Boost Resilience for Economic Growth.
[84] Somalia Food Security and Nutrition Outcomes and Projections (March-June 2023)
[85] FSIN and Global Network Against Food Crises. 2022. 2022 Global Report on Food Crises

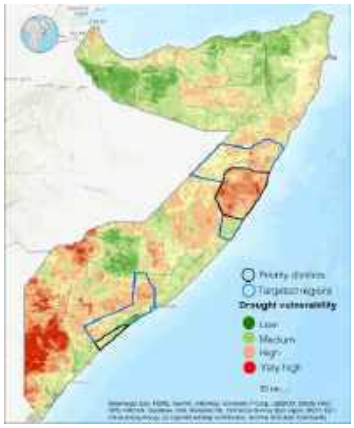

Figure 13 - Maps of vulnerability to potential droughts (IFAD, 2024)

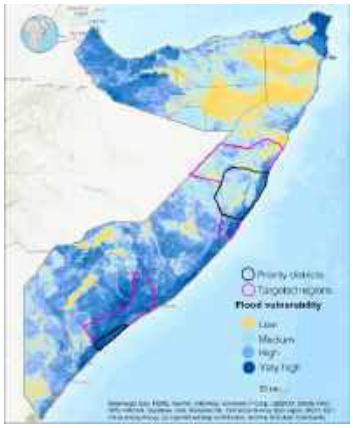

Figure 14 - Maps of Vulnerability to Potential Floods (IFAD, 2024)

70. All regions across Somalia, are susceptible to severe flooding. This vulnerability is anticipated to escalate in the future. The current flood-prone area, which is approximately 123,585 km², is projected to expand to approximately 171,221 km² under the RCP 4.5 scenario and approximately 171,725 km² under the RCP 8.5 scenario. This expected increase in flood-prone areas can be attributed to the projected rainfall levels as a consequence of climate change. Figure 14~~Figure 14~~ above highlights the areas that are particularly susceptible to flooding, identifying them as flood hotspots.

71. The risk of river flooding in the Lower Shabelle area is a critical concern due to the region's susceptibility to heavy rainfall, its low-lying topography along the Shabelle river, the historical precedent of devastating floods and projected increase in rainfall as per SWALIM's forecast.

Somalia and the Great Green Wall Initiative

72. To address increasingly complex and interrelated challenges associated with land degradation and climate change, and support the transition towards climate resilient, low emission agriculture, the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) was launched in 2007 by the African Union. The GGWI aims to restore the continent's degraded landscapes and transform millions of lives. The GGWI's initial objectives were to address land degradation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and protect biodiversity and forests. Under the GGWI, environmental aspects and natural capital have been integrated into the development agenda and a multi-stakeholder dialogue has been established to ensure country ownership. It has also created opportunities for the scaling-up of investments based on successful experiences on the ground. The initiative is currently being implemented across 22 African countries and intends to revitalize thousands of communities across the continent. The GGWI brings together African countries and international partners under the leadership of the African Union Commission and the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PA-GGW). The present project builds on relevant from the initiative as outlined in Annex 6.

73. During the One Planet Summit in January 2021, the launch of the Great Green Wall Accelerator was announced to help meet the financial requirements of the programme.[86] The Accelerator is coordinated through the PA-GGW with support from the United Nations Framework Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). It aims to facilitate collaboration among donors and stakeholders involved in the Initiative and help all actors to better coordinate, monitor, and measure the impact of their actions. To date, multilateral and bilateral organizations have raised more than USD 19 billion for this initiative.[87]

74. The African Union Great Green Wall Initiative Strategy and Ten-Year Implementation Framework (2024-2034) was officially launched in May 2024. On 13 July 2023, the Federal Republic of Somalia

[86] Somalia is not yet a member of PA-GGW and not a target country for the OPS Pledges.
[87] Green Wall Accelerator. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

officially established the Great Green Wall Initiative in Somalia, in alignment with the "Green Somalia Initiative" launched by the President of Somalia on 21 October 2022. The GGWI Somalia aims to enhance Sustainable Land Management and Restoration, address the critical issue of land degradation and promote sustainable land management practices. Its objectives include amongst others: (i) establish synergies, coordination of action amongst restoration initiatives and projects with the Green Somalia Initiative & the GGWI Somalia; (ii) improve the resilience of local communities to climate change impacts, such as droughts and food insecurity; (iii) promote sustainable land management practices and restore degraded ecosystems; (iv) enhance biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services in the region; (v) create employment opportunities and improve livelihoods for local communities; (vi) promote of natural products value chains and enterprises; and (vii) enhance renewable energy and energy transition activities.

Theory of change

75. As illustrated previously, Somalia is extremely vulnerable to climate change, with fragile ecosystems exposed to accelerated degradation as a result of more frequent heat waves, droughts and flash floods. The livelihoods that depend on the services rendered by these ecosystems, whether pastoral or agropastoral (depending on the agroecological zone considered), are put at extreme risk, as the current humanitarian situation demonstrates. This situation creates a vicious circle, by which desperate populations resort to short term strategies to sustain their livelihoods, including charcoal production, displacement, or even engagement in armed groups. In this context, very fragile groups, and in particular women and children, are the ones that suffer the most.

76. Small scale agropastoralists and pastoralists in Somalia are hence both extremely vulnerable to climate change, and pivotal for the resilience of the whole country. Ecosystems they depend on are degrading rapidly, and the recurring drought and flood cycles directly affect the productivity of their livestock and/or crops, leading to possible failures. The project seeks to address these vulnerabilities, with the goal of *scaling-up the climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods in Somalia by operationalizing the Great Green Wall Initiative in the country*. With this goal, the project will directly support the Adaptation Fund's impact level results, with (i) increased ecosystem resilience in response to climate-induced stresses, and (ii) increased adaptive capacity of communities to respond to the impacts of climate change.

77. Indeed, the Great Green Wall Initiative is an integrated approach, that encompasses activities aimed at sustainably restoring ecosystems which degradation is accelerated by climate change, and at supporting the livelihoods that depend on them. As such, the present project will act as a flagship to accelerate the initiative in the country, but also contribute to the new regional GGWI strategy by scaling-up its lessons. The project will leverage good practices from the GGWI to address the critical climate vulnerabilities that affect Somali ecosystems and livelihoods, while mainstreaming gender considerations thanks to dedicated methodologies as outlined in the Gender Strategy and Action Plan (included in Annex 5):

a) First through the **improved resilience of agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems to climate change** (Outcome 1), by engaging local stakeholders to collectively identify priorities for the protection and restoration of degraded ecosystems. This participatory cluster level mapping will directly involve women, youth and minorities to factor in their perspective on the local landscape thanks to methodologies such as the Gender Sensitive Climate Vulnerability & Capacity Analysis (GCVCA)[88]. The resulting Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans will highlight priority areas for resilient investments protecting both the landscape and livelihoods, which will also be reflected in Village Level Action Plans. The project will in turn implement priorities associated with ecosystem resilience in an integrated manner. In pastoral areas, the plans will rely on (i) the resting of pastoral land through social fencing; (ii) revegetation thanks to afforestation/reforestation, over sowing and/or reseeding, as well as Assisted Natural Regeneration; and (iii) soil and water conservation works. In agropastoral areas affected by flooding and erosion, the plans will focus on soil and water conservation works and reforestation in upstream areas and riverbank protection in downstream areas. Sustainable pastoral management through social fencing, controlled grazing, reseeding and Pastoralists/Farmers Managed Natural Regeneration (P/FMNR) will also benefit agropastoral areas. Actions will be

[88] Paragraph 93 below further outlines the specific pathways promoted for a gender and youth-sensitive targeting.

consolidated thanks to the creation of Resource Users and Management Committees, and reinforcement of other relevant management structures at local level (Village Development Committees/Community Development Associations), including through conflict resolution mechanisms.

b) Under its second component, the project will support the **enhanced resilience of agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods to climate change** (Outcome 2), both by promoting the adoption of climate resilient practices at agropastoral and pastoral system level using Pastoral/Farmers Field Schools and Pastoralists/Farmers Managed Naturally Assisted Regeneration, and through income diversification (nurseries, Non-Wood Forest Products value chains, and support to diversification), sustained through relevant capacity building on business development and financial inclusion, and provision of adequate inputs and equipment.

c) Finally, the project third component will aim at ensuring that the **Great Green Wall initiative framework is operationalized in Somalia** (Outcome 3). Based on lessons from the regional initiative, this will be achieved by elaborating the relevant strategic and planning documents, roadmaps, as well as establishing coordination mechanisms and monitoring systems that constitute the GGWI framework and are necessary for its operationalization in Somalia. This framework will build on the specific experience of the project under its first two components, other relevant experiences in the country, and lessons from the Global GGWI as outlined in the African Union Great Green Wall Initiative Strategy and Ten-Year Implementation Framework, such as the establishment of national coalitions to manage the initiative (also see Annex 6 for more detail).

78. The project relies on a number of key principles, including:

- **Participatory approaches as the entry point for all project activities**, engaging relevant stakeholders to develop activities based on their needs and their in-depth knowledge of the systems they operate in and depend on. These approaches will be key to build ownership of project activities, ensure the inclusion of fragile and marginalized groups including women, youth and minorities, and build social capital as a core factor of resilience. They will be reinforced by sound gender and social inclusion methodologies, as well as conflict resolution mechanisms.
- **Concentration of investments and complementarity of activities**. The project will concentrate investments in selected clusters of two to three villages or communities, seeking also to establish synergies with past or ongoing actions supporting access to water. By proposing to holistically address factors of vulnerability as part of its landscape approach (e.g. proposing landscape restoration approaches combining social fencing, mechanical works, revegetation, enhanced resource management, provision of alternative livelihoods, etc.), the project maximizes chances of success and guarantees the effective resilience of targeted communities.
- **Adaptive management**. Implemented in a fragile and fast evolving context, the project is conceived to adapt to situation changes, and a variety of needs and opportunities. All activities are proposed in a way that make them highly adaptable to the specific priorities of the area (e.g. menu of sustainable land management options, or adaptable solutions such as Pastoral/Farmer Field Schools - P/FFS). At the same time, all proposed activities are based on consolidated experiences from Somalia, and have proved their effectiveness in the country.
- As part of this, the project will adopt a **phased approach**, concentrating efforts in five initial clusters, and two districts of intervention. From mid-term, an additional five clusters will be phased in, either in the same districts or in new ones. This will allow for all stakeholders to get familiar with proposed approaches, learn lessons from the experience and quickly scale up to new districts and clusters.

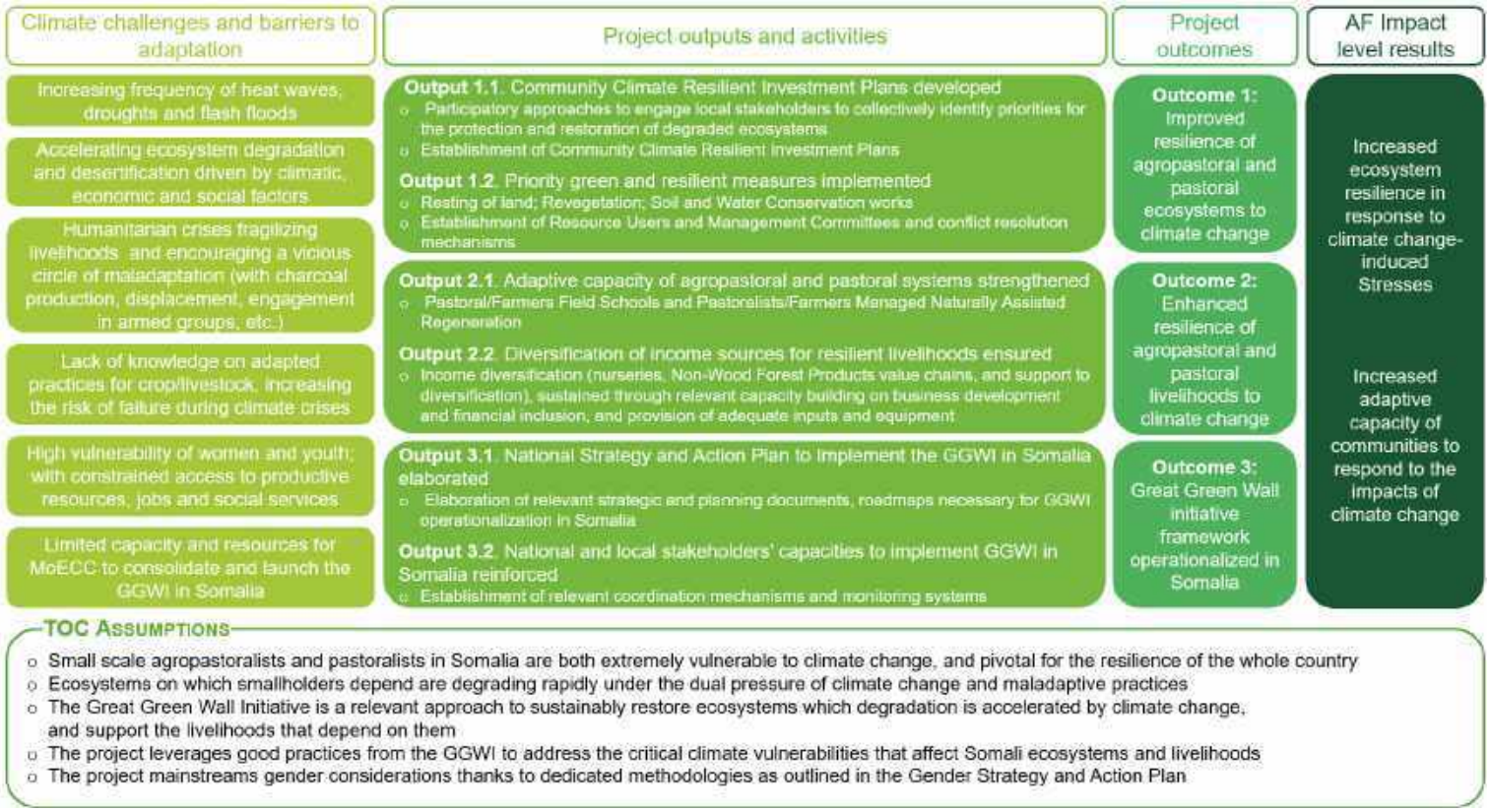

Figure 15 - Project Theory of Change

Project Area and targeting strategy

Geographic targeting

79. The project will target inland areas of the Lower Shabelle region (South West State) and the Mudug region (Galmudug State), as both highly vulnerable to climate change and representative of distinct agroecosystems and livelihoods. The choice of intervention sites has been agreed with the government, based on specific criteria. Existing access to water resources including through past or recent interventions supporting access to water will be a primary targeting criteria[89]. Other district and site selection criteria will be adapted to the nature of the area (whether agropastoral in the South West state, or fully pastoral in the Galmudug state):

- For agropastoral zones, the specific criteria retained are (i) projected likelihood and intensity of floods, (ii) need to combat desertification, erosion, land degradation, (iii) past or recent interventions in terms of access to water, and others.
- For pastoral zones, the criteria retained are: (i) projected likelihood and intensity of drought, (ii) need to combat desertification, erosion, land degradation, (iii) the importance of the pastoral livestock system compared to other livestock systems, (iv) accessibility to animal health centres for pastoralists; (v) the existence of community management of the pastoral area, (vi) the presence of communities that can effectively participate in measures to combat land degradation and restore degraded pastures. In pastoral areas, the project will also focus its interventions based on land tenure, to ensure that engaged communities effectively have the capacity to manage rangelands and pastoral resources, and that no major conflict around privatization of water resources is observed in the area.

80. The project will avoid overlapping or duplication with other initiatives, but will also seek complementarity with actions (completed or in progress) of other stakeholders with a view to maximizing benefits for the target population. In particular, synergies will be sought with existing projects supporting access to water, and notably the World Bank Barwaaqo project.

81. This process will result in the identification and formation of clusters of up to three neighbouring communities (belonging to the same watershed and/or using the same resources), with a total of 5 clusters of interventions in priority districts (possibly 1-2 in Baraawe and 4-3 in Hobyo) during the first year of implementation. Additional districts and up to 5 more clusters may be identified for support at mid-term (year three). In total, the project will target 10 clusters or up to 30 villages/communities. Targeted clusters will belong to similar “landscape units”, determined by the main resource use practices with: (i) a community-based approach in areas dominated by nomadic pastoralism and characterized by communal use of pastoral resources (most vulnerable to droughts); and (ii) watershed approaches bringing together groups of villages in agropastoral areas where floods are major issues.

Characteristics of project sites

82. The Project will initially operate in the priority districts of Hobyo in the Mudug region (Galmudug State) and Baraawe in the Lower Shabelle region (South West State). Whilst these areas have distinct livelihood features, both are characterized by high vulnerability to droughts and floods respectively[90], and high poverty rates with sites where natural resources are degraded. Two additional districts may be phased in from mid-term to phase in 5 new project "clusters".

83. The **Mudug region** is primarily pastoral, and strongly affected by droughts and the increased number of very warm days, as demonstrated by the extreme severity of humanitarian needs (see Figure 2~~Figure 2~~). Agriculture production is mainly associated with cowpea and some irrigation using groundwater resources. Out of a population of 1.2 million people, 47% were estimated in crisis, emergency or catastrophe at the beginning of 2023[91].

84. Security and conflict remain an issue in Mudug. As of 30 November 2022, Al-Shabaab reportedly controlled the southeastern most part of Xararheere district, and a narrow section in the south of Hobyo district, including the town of Xaradheere. Control over the western and northwest part of Hobyo town

[89] As access to water will not be supported under the project.
[90] As evidenced by the vulnerability mapping in Annex 4
[91] Ibid

was reportedly mixed or unclear.[92] Households on Hobyo are more likely to reside in areas with a presence of Ma'Wisley groups – historically unrelated militia groups who are uniting to reclaim land under the control of non-state armed group.[93]

85. **Pastoralists will be the main target group in the Mudug region**. Pastoralists principally lead nomadic lifestyles, migrating seasonally with their livestock in search of grazing land and water sources, and are extremely vulnerable to climate change. However, their mobility faces the advanced degradation of pastures as a result of climate change, the non-rational exploitation of resources (appropriation of the best pasture lands for agricultural practices, destructive charcoal manufacturing practices) and policies which have caused population movements and the disorganization of traditional circuits and modes of transhumance. Their livestock mainly consist of camels, cattle, goats, and sheep, with goats and sheep being particularly vital for sustaining household livelihoods. Livestock serve various purposes for pastoralists, including providing milk for domestic consumption and generating income through milk and meat sales.

86. Challenges such as political instability, and recurrent droughts have severely impacted pastoralist economies and livelihoods. Arid or semi-arid regions like Hobyo have become increasingly vulnerable to harsh climate conditions and fodder shortages. Political marginalization often excludes pastoralists from accessing governance structures and market opportunities. The project's approach is centred around the restoration, regreening and enhanced resilience of communal land, and will hence vastly benefit the health of rangeland and pastures. The project will support the roll out of 40 Pastoralists and/or Farmers' Field Schools (P/FFS) to encourage the uptake of climate-resilient and ecosystem-based adaptation practices. The project will improve social cohesion through a participatory landscape and livelihoods investment process, and strengthen traditional conflict resolution strategies into land management.

87. The **Lower Shabelle region** is a riverine region, characterized by high vulnerability to floods, and strong agropastoral potential. The region has a high potential for agricultural production, with the Shabelle River enabling farming to be the primary source of livelihood of the South West State. In recent years, the Shabelle River has nearly dried up due to a rainfall shortage in the Ethiopian highlands where the river originates, as well as the construction of dams across the river on the Ethiopian side. Political instability, insecurity (Al-Shabaab), clan violence, frequent and prolonged droughts, and recent locust invasion have affected agricultural and livestock production, causing food insecurity in the area. This agropastoral zone also includes irrigated crops (maize, sesame). Out of a total population of 1.3 million[94], 9% was estimated in crisis, emergency or catastrophe at the beginning of 2023[95].

88. **Agropastoralists will constitute the main target group in the Lower Shabelle**. Agropastoralists rely on both crop cultivation and livestock rearing. They typically reside in villages or small settlements with dependable water sources. These agropastoralist households primarily engage in subsistence rainfed farming, typically operating on farms ranging from 2 to 4 hectares in size or less.

89. Agropastoralist households face numerous challenges. These include low agricultural productivity due to unpredictable weather patterns, water scarcity, pest infestations, and inadequate transportation infrastructure. Moreover, they struggle to access essential resources like seeds and fertilizers, lack capital for investment in irrigation systems, and contend with high post-harvest losses due to insufficient storage facilities and limited access to pesticides. Additionally, they encounter difficulties in accessing markets for both their crops and vegetables, as well as a shortage of crop chemicals.[96] The project will set up 10 community nurseries to support alternative livelihoods and provide access to inputs and equipment (the project will however not support access to chemical inputs). It will support pastoralists- and farmers-led naturally assisted regeneration. The project will improve social cohesion through a participatory landscape and livelihoods investment process, and strengthen traditional conflict resolution strategies into land management.

Targeting strategy

[92] https://euaa.europa.eu/country-guidance-somalia-2023/mudug
[93] IOM. September 2023. Galmudug District profiling.
[94] UNFPA, 2021
[95] FSNAU, IPC Population Estimates: Current (Jan-Mar 2023)
[96] Abdi-Soojeede, M. 2018. Crop Production Challenges Faced by Farmers in Somalia: A Case Study of Afgoye District Farmers. Agricultural Sciences, 9, 1032-1046. doi: 10.4236/as.2018.98071.

90. The targeting approach is aligned with the project's vision to promote inclusive (productive, social, environmental) climate resilience[97]. Detailed district and cluster diagnostics will be conducted in a participatory and iterative manner as the initial step of project implementation. These diagnostics will include specific socioeconomic studies aiming at (i) determining the stratification of the districts targeted by the project; (ii) identifying clusters that meet the eligibility criteria and: (iii) further assessing the specific dynamics and evolutionary trajectories of the different socio-productive groups.

91. **Target group**. The beneficiaries of the Project are the households living in the selected clusters, especially women and youth. The project is expected to directly benefit 26,550 persons, and indirectly touch 35,400 persons, of which 50% women, 50% youth, and 15% marginalized groups including IDPs. All these households are highly vulnerable to climatic hazards and face high levels of poverty. The projects primary target groups will be the poorest and most vulnerable agropastoralists and pastoralists, who are vulnerable to climate risks and have little access to assets and economic opportunities due to social exclusion, marginalization, conflict and the negative impact of climate change. The project will support these groups build their resilience through improved access to assets and opportunities for sustainable management of ecosystems, agricultural and pastoral production, and alternative livelihoods to increase their resilience against the uncertainty caused by climate change on food security and nutrition.

92. **Targeting approaches**. The project will rely on a mix of targeting approaches, in line of best practices from other initiatives in Somalia: beneficiary selection and participatory engagement will be facilitated by community institutions and district administrations, and the Cluster Level Facilitators mobilized to support all project activities. Beneficiary engagement will be based on participatory approaches such as the Gender Sensitive Climate Vulnerability & Capacity Analysis. The project will have a strong reliance on community-based targeting and self-targeting/enabling measures to ensure the most vulnerable benefit from the project: communities will participatorily define specific criteria for the selection of vulnerable groups (e.g. widowed women, household with less than a given number of livestock, households with less than a determined surface of land, etc.). Direct targeting may also be used, on the basis of government social registries, such as poverty makers, will be used as to ensure social inclusion of women, youth and vulnerable groups (IDPs and Persons with Disabilities) and communities through quotas (in particular, marginalized groups including IDPs will make up to 15% or project beneficiaries).

93. **Women and youth-sensitive targeting**. The project will put special emphasis on addressing gender inequalities and empowering women. This will be done in three ways: (i) recognition of gender differences in adaptation needs and capacities as part of landscape planning processes; (ii) gender-equitable participation and influence in adaptation decision-making processes; (iii) gender-equitable access to finance and other benefits resulting from investments in adaptation. The project will pay special attention to women and young people for an equitable access to the benefits of the project. Particular focus will be given to identify vulnerable widowed women headed HHs, HHs with children under two years, pregnant women and youth, with targets for women and youth participation (who will represent at least 50 % and 50 % of beneficiaries, respectively). This equity will be guaranteed by the very nature of the interventions. The participation and livelihoods of young people and women will be strengthened through participatory approaches, appropriate training, field schools and coaching adapted to the activities they wish to undertake. Emphasis will be placed on diversifying production to meet identified nutritional needs.

B. Project Objectives

94. **Objective**. The project objective is to *scale-up the climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods in Somalia by operationalizing the Great Green Wall Initiative in the country*.

95. **Outcomes**. The project will achieve the stated objective through three outcomes:

a) **Outcome 1**. Improved resilience of agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems to climate change
b) **Outcome 2**. Enhanced resilience of agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods to climate change
c) **Outcome 3**. Great Green Wall initiative framework operationalized in Somalia

[97] Social resilience is intended as enhanced social capital and empowerment.

C. Project Components and Financing

Table 1 - Project components and financing

Project Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Concrete Outputs	Amount (USD)
Component 1 Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia	**Outcome 1**. Improved resilience of agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems to climate change	**Output 1.1**. Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans developed	1,053,539
		Output 1.2. Priority green and resilient measures implemented	2,676,477
Subtotal Component 1			**3,730,016**
Component 2 Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia	**Outcome 2** Enhanced resilience of agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods to climate change	**Output 2.1**. Adaptive capacity of agropastoral and pastoral systems strengthened	1,953,344
		Output 2.2. Diversification of income sources for resilient livelihoods ensured	1,677,015
Subtotal Component 2			**3,630,359**
Component 3 Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia	**Outcome 3**. Great Green Wall initiative framework operationalized in Somalia	**Output 3.1**. National Strategy and Action Plan to Implement the GGWI in Somalia elaborated	252,343
		Output 3.2. National and local stakeholders' capacities to implement GGWI in Somalia reinforced	728,297
Subtotal Component 3			**980,640**
Total project activity cost			8,341,015
Project Execution cost (9.5%)			**875,575**
Total Project Cost			9,216,590
Project Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (8.5%)			783,410
Amount of Financing Requested			10,000,000

D. Projected Calendar

Table 2 - Projected calendar

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project Implementation	January 2025
Mid-term Review (MTR)	December 2027
Project Completion	December 2030 (6 years)
Project Closing	June 2031
Terminal Evaluation	December 2030

Part II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. Project components

Component 1. Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia

Outcome 1. Improved resilience of agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems to climate change

96. Somalia's arid and semi-arid landscapes are at a high risk of desertification and are prone to extreme variations in weather conditions (constant flux between prolonged droughts and recurring flooding) which magnitude is increasing as a result of climate change. This creates a dual effect whereby droughts degrade vegetation cover (biological degradation), leaving the soil exposed (wind and water erosion) to variable, and torrential rains wash away remaining nutrients causing chemical erosion through soil degradation. In southern Somalia, lower elevations and river floods further exacerbate the situation. Land degradation contributes to loss of vegetation, gully erosion, loss of topsoil, siltation of surface dams and irrigation canals, proliferation of invasive non-palatable plant species and loss of nutrients in areas with agricultural potential.

97. Under this first component and in line with the GGWI approach, the project will engage local stakeholders following a landscape planning approach (as already applied by other Technical and Financial Partners in the country) to collectively identify priorities for restoring and protecting degraded ecosystems, the project will seek to improve the resilience of agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in two regions of Somalia. Based on this type of approach, key climate vulnerabilities can be mapped within the targeted landscape unit, including, where relevant, in relation with the flow of water within the watershed (with impacts in terms of drought/water availability, erosion, and flooding), as well as key local dynamics (including possible maladaptive behaviours accelerating ecosystem degradation). The landscape unit is determined by the main resource use practices with: (i) a community-based approach in areas dominated by nomadic pastoralism and characterized by communal use of pastoral resources (most vulnerable to droughts); and (ii) watershed approaches bringing together groups of villages in agropastoral areas where floods and water erosion are major issues.

98. The project will follow a participatory process at village level, taking a close look at women, youth and minorities' perspective on the local landscape. The resulting Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans (CCRIP) will highlight priority areas for resilient investments protecting both the landscape and livelihoods (thanks to better ecosystem services, increasing resilience in the face of climate impacts), and be integrated to Village Level Action Plans or other local development documents. The project will in turn support the implementation of priorities associated with ecosystem restoration, through a menu of interventions adapted to the local context including (i) mechanical restoration (Soil and Water Conservation and Soil Protection and Restoration works, treatment against erosion and runoff, dune fixation, Prosopis management, riverbank protection, etc.); (ii) revegetation (afforestation, reforestation, naturally assisted regeneration, afforestation, reforestation and reseeding); and (iii) enclosure/ex-closure systems to allow for the resting of the land. Resource users and management committees will be established at each site and will be charged of ensuring established management plans are respected, and that the investments are maintained over time.

99. The meaningful and equal participation of men, women and youth will be promoted throughout this component. The decision-making capacities of women and men committee members will be developed through technical support and training. Thorough understanding of targeted communities and their dynamics will be applied to resolve contextual challenges that could arise in community development organisations. For example: in some places mixing clans may cause members of a minority clan to fear speaking, sometimes mixing younger and older women may cause younger women to defer to older women and not express their concerns, and alternatively, older women may be ignored by younger women. Women, men and different social groups will be included in selecting species for regeneration and restoration. Cash for Work will consider providing higher quotas for women, who if unable to attend will be able to nominate a replacement. Engagement will be supported through radio and social media to help impact hard-to-reach areas.

Output 1.1. Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans developed

100. Under the present output, the project will ensure the engagement of targeted communities, including women, youth and minorities, and their active participation in the project. The present output focuses on participatory planning and the identification of priorities of investment to restore the resilience of local ecosystems. Participatory approaches and capacity building under this output are also conceived as a means to build social capital, a core factor of resilience for vulnerable communities.

Selection of project sites

101. **District diagnostic**. At inception, a district diagnostic will be conducted in the two prioritized districts of implementation, compiling the following information: (i) updated disaggregated information on municipalities and villages, with population estimates and presence of IDP camps, unemployment, poverty, food and nutrition insecurity, security situation, access to water resources, road accessibility, and other key information (relevant data/statistics); (ii) a detailed gender assessment; (iii) characterisation of production systems: agropastoral, pastoral, riverine, main crops and seasonality, main livestock production, prevalence of nomadic practices, key issues, etc.; (iv) mapping of all relevant stakeholders, including at State and Regional level, district, municipality and village level, listing: Government Agencies, Technical Services, Local Authorities, active Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Farmers/Pastoralists organizations, women associations, marginalized or fragile groups (including IDPs), private sector partners, etc.; (v) detailed Geographic Information System (GIS)/remote sensing analysis including: mapping of land use, land cover, watershed boundaries and digital elevation model, administrative layers, settlements location, vegetation degradation (current state and trends), water resources (including rivers/wadis), infrastructure (including roads), transhumance routes, agricultural roads, veterinary facilities, seed bank facilities; (vi) rapid GIS vulnerability analysis identifying the projected likelihood of droughts and floods; (vii) detailed mapping of recent and ongoing interventions by various partners and type of support planned (verifying the presence of World Bank Barwaaqo, or other projects' infrastructures for access to water); (viii) mapping of available documentation at district level (studies, reports, etc.); (ix) any other relevant information.

102. This analysis will be conducted by national consultants in each district, with the support of the Project Management Unit (PMU) Natural Resources Management Specialist, Gender and Social Inclusion Officer, Community Development Officers, and AgroPastoralism Officers. The analysis will rely on available documentation, training on use of GIS, and extensive consultations with all relevant stakeholders (including at the state and regional levels). The final product will be a detailed report compiling the relevant information. Based on project progress and opportunities, two additional districts may be selected at mid-term (year three), and a similar exercise will be repeated. Alternatively (if conditions are not favourable, e.g. security-wise), additional sites of implementation will be identified at mid-term within the initial districts of implementation. Coastal zones and communities will not be considered in the assessment are they are outside of the project's scope.

103. **Selection of project sites**. The selection of project sites will be done in a participatory manner, using the detailed district analysis described above. Based on this information and the following criteria outlined below, the project's Regional Level Officers (Community Development Officers, and Agro/Pastoralism Officers) will engage relevant stakeholders (Authorities, CBOs, local projects, etc.) from the State to the Regional, District and local levels, to identify specific project sites. Regional Level Officers (Community Development Officers, and AgroPastoralists Officers) and the Gender and Social Inclusion Officer will first engage relevant Ministries at State level both in the Galmudug and South West, seeking to also identify active Rural Organizations in the State, then engage the administration and technical services of the targeted regions, and finally engaging local administration and services at district level.

104. The information from the initial district level diagnostic will be used to delineate sites of intervention for the project in the districts of intervention, based on a number of selection criteria, as defined in the geographic targeting section. In particular, synergies will be sought with existing projects supporting access to water, and notably the World Bank Barwaaqo project (See section II. F.). Site selection will need to adapt the criteria to the nature of the area (whether agropastoral in riverine areas of the South West state, or fully pastoral in the Galmudug state):

105. This process will result in the identification and formation of clusters of up to three neighbouring communities (belonging to the same watershed and/or using the same resources), with a total of 5 clusters of interventions in priority districts (possibly 1-2 in Baraawe and 4-3 in Hobyo) during the first year of implementation. Additional districts and up to 5 more clusters may be identified for support at mid-term (year three). In total, the project will target 10 clusters or up to 30 villages/communities, focusing on (i) villages encompassed by selected watersheds in the Lower Shabelle, and (ii) communities and the wider area that is commonly used for pastoralism in the Mudug.

106. CCRIPs will cover clusters of communities, while site specific management plans will be developed subsequently. The CCRIPs will include a pastoral management planning section (as even agropastoral areas in the Lower Shabelle have a large pastoral component), and identify priorities for the regreening and climate resilience of the ecosystem. The planning process is outlined later in this section.

107. **Learning exchange for the PMU**. To strengthen the PMU's understanding of good practices in terms of integrated planning for ecosystem restoration, implementation of SLM measures and approaches such as social fencing to allow for the resting of pastoral land, the project will support exchange visits with other relevant GGWI projects such as the IFAD/Adaptation Fund project in Djibouti.

Mainstreaming conflict resolution mechanisms and gender and social inclusion in project activities

108. The project adopts a participatory approach and will mainstream relevant approaches for conflict resolution and gender inclusion in all its activities. Paragraphs below outline the standard approach that will be adopted.

109. **Conflict resolution mechanisms**. Resource-based conflicts have severe implications for projects in Somalia, with initiatives halted or destroyed due to disputes. The unpredictability brought by these conflicts not only stifles economic growth but also hinders the country's ability to improve basic services and infrastructure that are crucial for its development. In addressing these conflicts, community-level structures play a critical role. Traditional conflict resolution mechanisms, such as the Somali *Xeer* (customary law), facilitated by local elders and community leaders, have proven effective in mediating disputes and restoring peace at the local level.[98] These structures leverage deep-rooted cultural norms and historical understanding, which are often more accepted and respected by local communities than formal governmental interventions[99]. The importance of strengthening and integrating these community-level structures into broader conflict resolution strategies is vital, as they offer a culturally relevant and sustainable approach to managing and resolving conflicts over natural resources.[100]

110. The *Xeer* laws consist of community agreements following the ancestral kinship and their interaction with other community and neighbours. The rules are clearly defined and guide the exploitation of pastures, grazing fields, forests and water resources. They give every member of the clans the right to access rangeland resources within the territory as defined by the clan. The governing rules are made by community and respected elders know as (*Odayo*), were the one overseeing the implementation of community agreements including sharing of resources and conflicts resolution.[101] Steps for conflict resolution based on *Xeer* include: (i) initial mediation: if a conflict arises, the responsible community committee initiates mediation efforts, bringing together the conflicting parties to discuss issues in a neutral environment; (ii) investigation and fact-finding: committee members gather facts and information relevant to the conflict, consulting with witnesses and other community members; (iii) deliberation and resolution: leveraging *Xeer* principles, the committee deliberates on the findings to reach a decision that honours traditional laws and the community's sense of justice; and (iv) reconciliation and follow-up: after a resolution, the committee facilitates a reconciliation process between parties, including rituals or ceremonies if applicable, and monitors the post-resolution situation to prevent reoccurrence.

[98] Le Sage, A., 2005. Stateless Justice in Somalia. Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue.
[99] Samatar, A.I., 2001. Somali Reconstruction and Local Initiative: Amoud University. *World Development*, 29(4), pp.641-656.
[100] Powell, B., 2006. State development in Somalia: colonialism, civil war and corruption. *Cato Journal*, 26(3), pp.525-549.
[101] FGS. Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range. 2022. Rangeland management strategy 2022-2032.

111. The project will support the establishment or the reinforcement of conflict-resolution mechanisms on use of natural resources (land, water, etc.) by mainstreaming the adoption of traditional Somali customary system "*Xeer*" for conflict resolution in its activities, and reinforcing structures that implement it, thanks to the following elements:

a) The comprehensive conflict analysis (related to pasture, water and human/ wildlife conflicts) conducted during the development of climate resilient investment plans (see below).

b) Formation/consolidation of Village Development Committees (VDCs) or Community Development Associations (CDAs) in each village/community of intervention. These committees/associations should be composed of respected elders known for their wisdom and fairness, as well as representatives from various sub-clans, women, youth, and representatives of municipality to ensure diverse perspectives. The project will support the recognition of legal status and authority of these committees, working with local government to grant these committees formal recognition and authority to mediate and resolve disputes, ensuring their decisions are respected and enforceable. The project will also ensure that resource users and management committees, VDCs and CDAs are active and meet regularly to review ongoing conflicts and document resolutions for future reference, ensuring transparency and consistency.

c) The establishment of Resource Users and Management Committees (RUMCs) (as part of activities under output 1.2), targeting sites and resources prioritized for investments in the local planning process. These committees should be composed of respected elders known for their wisdom and fairness, as well as representatives from various sub-clans, women, youth, and representatives of existing VDCs/CDAs to ensure diverse perspectives.

d) Capacity building: the project, through its PMU (and in particular the Gender and Social Inclusion Officer, and Community Development Officers), and relying on Cluster Level Facilitators, will: (i) conduct regular training workshops for committee members on conflict resolution, legal rights, and responsibilities under both *Xeer* and national law, enhancing their skills and knowledge on these topics; (ii) provide opportunities for committee members to learn about other conflict resolution systems and legal frameworks, broadening their perspectives and improving their mediation techniques; and (iii) set up special training sessions to empower women and youth, encouraging their active participation in Xeer processes and community leadership. To achieve this, dedicated training sessions on conflict resolution will be organized for cluster level facilitators after their mobilization. Conflict resolution training workshops will be organized by the project team and facilitators at the start of each new activity, targeting dedicated groups of stakeholders (VDCs/CDAs, Resource User and Management Committees, P/FFS, Village Savings and Loans Associations-VSLAs, cooperatives, etc.). This will be reinforced by the organization of awareness campaigns to educate the broader community on the role and benefits of the newly established committees and the importance of their engagement.

e) Participatory planning processes: the project adopts a participatory approach ensuring the involvement all relevant stakeholders with the inclusion of feedback mechanisms, enabling community suggestions on ongoing activities, ensuring continuous engagement and responsiveness to community needs.

f) Grievance redress mechanisms: in complementarity to conflict resolution mechanisms and as part of the project level grievance redress mechanisms (see Part III C.), the project will ensure all stakeholders are made aware of recourses and mechanisms for anyone who believes they have been wronged to seek appropriate remedies.

112. **Gender considerations** will be taken into account throughout project implementation, thanks to relevant tools and methodologies to ensure women (and other marginalized groups) participation to activities. A Gender and Social Inclusion Officer will be recruited, and dedicated trainings will be organized to reinforce the project team and other relevant stakeholders' ability to mainstream gender and social inclusion into project activities. Additionally, the implementation will assess the presence and needs of minorities within the target areas in collaboration with local communities. The outcome of these assessments will determine whether a social inclusion strategy is required to ensure equitable access to the project. This will be further supported by project mainstreamed conflict resolution mechanisms.

Community mobilization

113. **Recruitment of "Cluster Level" community facilitators**. The site selection process outlined above will be conducted in full consultation and with the leadership of the communities. Once clusters are identified, the project will recruit "Cluster Level" community facilitators in each cluster, taking into account gender, clan dynamics and conflict sensitivity. Two facilitators will be recruited to specifically support activities under the present component, while two additional facilitators will be mobilized from the second year of cluster operations to support Pastoral/Farmer Field Schools activities. Where possible, the project will encourage the selection of women facilitators. All facilitators will be sensitized trained on project approaches, gender and social inclusion, conflict resolution mechanisms, etc.

114. **Consolidation of Village Development Committees or Community Development Associations**. In the case where targeted villages or communities do not have a VDC or CDA in place, the project will support their establishment, ensuring that members are diverse and representative of the different categories of vulnerable people in each community (women, youth, vulnerable households, etc.). The VDC/CDA will be closely engaged in the planning and implementation of project activities at the community level and support the identification of community facilitators. Each VDC/CDA will have an elected Executive Committee (EXCO) with at least 40 % female. The EXCO shall comprise a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Auditor, Works Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Secretary, and Data Secretary. Cluster Level Facilitators trained specifically on resilient landscape practices may join the VDC/CDA and perform an advisory role ensuring that measures are taken and community resources are allocated to pursue the implementation of resilient measures beyond project life (e.g. crowdfunding to finance priorities of investment).

115. The project will support (i) the development of a by-law template for the VDC/CDA, reflecting the *Xeer*; (ii) the formal registration/recognition of the VDC by the relevant district authority; and capacity (iii) building by the Gender and Social Inclusion Officer, and Community Development Officers of VDC/CDA members on topics such as group dynamics and management, strategic planning, gender and social inclusion, conflict management, project monitoring, and basic reporting skills. Support to *Xeer* will contribute to organizing the mobility and access rights to water and rangelands.

116. **Community mobilization and awareness raising**. The project Community Development Officers, Agro/Pastoralism Officers and Gender and Social Inclusion Officer will engage VDCs, Cluster Level Facilitators and implementation partners to raise awareness about the project and its approach in each community, through (i) communication campaigns (including social media and community radio programmes); meetings with local authorities, Rural Organizations and other CBOs, and selected institutions and service providers; (iii) special communication events on market days, harvest days, as well as sensitization events targeting producers and their organizations; and (iv) visits to more mature well-established CBOs.

Development of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans

117. **The project will support a cluster level participatory process for the identification of local climate investment priorities**. The detailed methodology for the process will be defined at project start by the PMU (in particular the Natural Resources Management Specialist, the Gender and Social Inclusion Officer, the M&E Officer and M&E assistant, with the support of regional level Community Development Officers and Agro/Pastoralism Officers), based on SADAR experience and other good practices in the country (including World Bank Barwaaqo). After establishment of targeted clusters in the initial two districts of intervention, and mobilization of Cluster Level Facilitators, the project will initiate community engagement for the preparation of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans. The approach will bring together representatives of all members of communities belonging to the cluster, ensuring the inclusion of all stakeholder groups, for example, pastoralists, irrigation farmers, rainfed farmers, landless labourers, women, youth and minorities, relying on the facilitation by the VDCs. The processes will be accompanied by dedicated sessions on conflict resolution mechanisms and the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) methodology. Additionally, trainings on governance, community procurement, environmental and climate mainstreaming will be delivered directly by the Gender and Social Inclusion Officer, Natural Resources Management Specialist, regional level Community Development Officers and Agro/Pastoralism Officers, with the support of CLeFs.

118. **Scope**. CCRIPs will cover clusters of communities, while site specific management plans will be developed subsequently. The CCRIPs objective will be to prioritize investments for the resilience of the

local ecosystem. All CCRIPs will include a pastoral management planning section (as even agropastoral areas in the Lower Shabelle have a large pastoral component), and identify priorities for the regreening and climate resilience of the ecosystem. In pastoral areas where the transhumant and nomadic system remains dominant, the CCRIPs will constitute for all effects, a full "climate resilient pastoral management plan", while in agropastoral areas, their priorities will cover a wider range of options, in particular looking at solutions to mitigate flood risk, with a watershed approach.

119. **Process**. The plan will be prepared over several community engagement sessions, including a diagnostic of key climate challenges, associated factors of low adaptive capacities and drivers of ecosystem degradation for the cluster, based on: (i) preparatory work and data collection during the development of district level diagnostics (assessing specific climate risks for the area, availability of water resources and state of the environment based on satellite imagery – see below), (ii) existing village or community level development plans; (iii) inclusive and participatory mapping of existing natural resources and drivers of degradation (ecological, socio-economic and climatic), (iv) assessment of the use of natural resources based on animal feed calendars and cropping calendars, mapping of grazing areas and water points (including access rights), (v) identification of local grassroots organizations that are involved in natural resource management, (vi) a cluster level gender and social inclusion assessment (utilising frameworks for analysis such as Gender Sensitive Climate Vulnerability & Capacity Analysis)[102], and (vii) comprehensive conflict analysis (related to pasture, water and human/ wildlife conflicts). In addition to the information collected through consultation, and mapping exercise using GIS and remote sensing, several sites visits and transects will be conducted by the regional level Community Development Officers and Agropastoralism Officers, with the support of Cluster Level Facilitators to analyse key issues.

120. The project's M&E officer and M&E assistant will support this process by producing maps compiling relevant information (building on maps produced for the district level diagnostics), and the team may use the maps to help communities prepare their action/investment plans, based on the following information: 1) satellite imagery showing the village and its surroundings; 2) land cover maps showing where fields, settlements, roads, wadis and pastures are located; and 3) maps showing remotely sensed indicators of land health, showing long-term levels of degradation. All of these maps will also be available in digital form on a tablet. The field officers can use the maps to identify the areas that are used by the community. This will be done in a participatory way. Then the villagers may draw on the maps how they use the land. For example, they may show where their water resources are and which areas are uses at different times of the year. In a third step, the villagers will assess the productivity and degree of degradation of their land resources, and any projected changes due to projected climate change. Field officers can use the land health indicator maps to help with this assessment. In the final step, the villagers identify and prioritize actions to improve the health of their land resources and/or to increase their adaptive capacity, mapping out where they will carry out what type of intervention, which may be funded by the project (based on the list included under output 1.2). Eligible investments with the highest priority will be funded by the project, seeking to spread sites between the communities/villages composing the cluster. Local communities may provide direct contributions to the investment in addition to project funding. For interventions not funded by the project, the Field officers may work with communities to identify other sources of funding, either from development partners, the government or through beneficiaries' contribution themselves. At the onset, communities will be encouraged to identify mechanisms to ensure the sustainability of interventions in the absence of the project's support, in particular where regular O&M may be required.

121. Field officers will save the results of the mapping exercise. They will take pictures of the maps that the village drew. They will also digitally capture the main results on the tablet (ideally during the planning process). Special software for off-line use such as Merginmaps can be set up and used for this purpose. All layers will follow data standards that apply for all village plan mapping exercises. This allows for data aggregation and will later help identify the most important needs for villages. The most important layers to digitalize include the village boundaries and the proposed interventions in area format (e.g. alien species removal and afforestation) and point format (e.g. gabion baskets).

[102] The GCVCA practitioners guidebook provides a framework for analyzing vulnerability and capacity to adapt to climate change and build resilience to disasters at the community level, with a specific focus on social and in particular gender dynamics. Gender Sensitive Climate Vulnerability & Capacity Analysis - CARE Climate Change.

122. **Content of the CCRIPs**. In all areas, the plans will identify the following: (i) priority communal sites for ecosystem restoration, sustainable rangeland management, and other climate resilient practices (including land restoration practices, treatment of watersheds against erosion and runoff, sand dune fixation, river embankment protection, afforestation, reforestation and Naturally Assisted Regeneration, reseeding, etc.) – in pastoral areas, a surface of minimum 400 hectares will be defined for sustainable pastoral management and to prioritize the implementation of project supported measures including social fencing for rangeland restoration and Naturally Assisted Regeneration (NAR); (ii) additional priority needs and opportunities for the development of resilient pastoral practices (including demarcation of pastoral corridors, veterinary services, reduction of animal pressure on pastures surrounding sedentary agropastoralists sites, etc.); (iii) priority needs for the enhanced resilience of agropastoral livelihoods (training needs, themes for Pastoral/Farmer Field Schools, and material/equipment needs for livelihood diversification); and (iv) priority interventions to support women-led activities (establishing tree nurseries, developing Non-Wood Forest Products (NWFP) VCs, support to business skills in women led businesses, etc.). Priorities of interventions will be identified in an integrated manner, looking at ensuring a good complementarity between them, in line with the project's landscape management approach. Field Officers, supported by the Natural Resources Management Specialist at the PMU, will review the consistency and potential conflicting investments proposed by neighbouring communities (e.g. risks of reducing water availability for communities downstream, risks of attracting pests and diseases or of pushing them to other neighbouring communities, etc). Where needed, investment plans will be revised accordingly, in consultation with communities.

123. These plans will be living documents that will progressively integrate all relevant mechanisms supported by the project, as relevant to the area (e.g. detailed pasture management plans, Prosopis management plans, etc.). They will inform the agenda of the project action in each community, focusing on investments responding directly to local needs to enhance climate resilience, and complementing other existing local development plans.

124. **Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)**. The CCRIPs preparation process will include dedicated sessions on safeguards, with a view to screen priorities of interventions against the 15 Adaptation Fund Environment and Social Principles (ESP). An outline for this screening is including in Appendix of Annex 3.

125. **Mainstreaming climate-resilience into Village Level Action Plans (VLAPs)**. It is possible that targeted villages/communities already have VLAPs (or similar community development plans) in place when the project starts, in which case the CCRIPs may be used to further reflect climate risks and ecosystem restoration priorities into those VLAPs. Alternatively (where no plan is established yet). The project may also leverage the participatory process to support the preparation of a new VLAP, which would include issues and priorities unrelated to ecosystem resilience (to be covered by the plan, but not supported by the project). In this case, the participatory process will also be the occasion to sensitize local stakeholders on the link between healthy ecosystems and other local priorities (e.g. access to water, improved agriculture, education, etc.).

Output 1.2. Priority green and resilient measures implemented

126. Under the present output, in line with the GGWI approach, and based on the priorities outlined in the Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans, in line with the specific needs of the targeted agroecosystem (arid, semi-arid or riverine), the project will support the implementation of priorities of interventions to enhance the resilience of ecosystems. As indicated previously, priorities of interventions will be implemented in complementarity, to ensure integrated landscape and natural resources management, and that upstream investments benefit downstream areas (in line with the watershed management approach), to maximize resilience to climate change. As a result, direct interventions over 1,500 hectares will be associated with benefits over 10,000 hectares of vulnerable landscape[103]. The following paragraphs presents options that may be identified under the plans (up to three priorities of investments will be supported under each plan, for a total average surface of 1,000 ha protected and 150 ha restored per cluster). The project will not directly finance water infrastructure (such as boreholes, catchments, sand dams or check dams), but will rather establish synergies/complementarities with projects already supporting similar activities.

[103] As CCRIPs will encompass areas of 500 to 1,500 hectares, and based on the assumption that each hectare of investment protects up to 4 hectares downstream.

127. Activities under this output will be conducted on communal/intercommunal land (primarily pastoral land) for which the land tenure status has been clarified and in which a communal use of pastoral resources is observed. In agropastoral areas, they will benefit groups of villages belonging to the same watershed and that are particularly affected by erosion/flood risks. Activities will be implemented in an integrated manner, under the leadership of the project's Natural Resources Management Specialist, based on a preliminary planning process established with the community based on the objective of the intervention (pastoral management, Prosopis management, etc.). In pastoral areas, the plans will rely on (i) the resting of pastoral land through social fencing; (ii) revegetation thanks to afforestation/reforestation, over sowing and/or reseeding, as well as NAR (P/FMNR supported under output 2.1); and (iii) soil and water conservation works. In agropastoral areas affected by flooding and erosion, the plans will focus on soil and water conservation works and revegetation in upstream areas and riverbank protection in downstream areas. Sustainable pastoral management through social fencing, controlled grazing, reseeding and P/FMNR will also benefit agropastoral.

128. For all sites, the project will support the establishment of management committees in charge of the social fencing, and of ensuring their collective management is done in line with established management plans. The restoration process will be strengthened by the implementation of Pastoralists' or Farmers' Managed Assisted Natural Regeneration as outlined in output 2.1, but also complementary pastoral practices, as supported through Pastoral Field Schools under output 2.1.

129. **Sustainable rangeland rehabilitation and management**. In rangeland ecosystems, biological degradation manifests in loss of vegetation cover; increase in undesirable plant species; bush encroachment and soil erosion of various types associated with intensification of use and climate impacts. Sustainable rangeland management encompasses a range of practices, which will be directly supported by the project under the present output. Indeed, degraded ecosystems targeted for resilient greening practices in project areas are primarily pastoral. As such, most of the proposed practices will directly benefit the resilience of rangeland ecosystems, through the association of land restoration practices (as presented later in this section), over-sowing, reseeding and controlling bush encroachment (possibly associated with the planting of fodder trees), and resting of the land (social fending). The project will also support the participatory establishment of pasture management plans, recognizing the need for certain pastures (beyond restored sites) to be protected to leave time for the vegetation cover to return, allowing for the "resting" of rangeland (up to 2 years during which controlled access is possible). The project will hence support site protection (through social fencing) on communal lands and for temporary periods, either with live hedges or guardians. Fodder production on restored pastoral land may also allow "cut and carry" fodder systems (which reduces grazing pressure and limits conflicts over livestock as local communities harvest grass within the area protected through social fencing).

Management plans

130. Based on priorities of intervention outlined in the Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans, the project's Natural Resources Management Specialist, supported by Environment and Climate Specialists from the FMS, and ad-hoc technical assistance, will define the technical specifications for the conduction of restoration activities in each site. This process will involve concerned communities, and ensure they are well informed, and take an active role in identifying best approaches (including in choosing tree species for reforestation/afforestation and herbaceous for reseeding). In parallel, communities consultations will be held for the formalization of sites' management plans (pastoral management plan, Prosopis management plan, etc.), along the following steps: (i) Community consultations to raise awareness and support mobilisation; (ii) setting up Resource Users and Management Committees to formalize arrangements for the management of the sites; (iii) site delineation and briefings on the different practices foreseen :land restoration through Cash for Work (including in-depth discussions on the requirements and approach – see below), revegetation, PMNR/FMNR, tree management, grazing bans, etc.; (iv) establishment of bylaws that define the roles and responsibilities of partners and penalties to be paid in case of violations; and (v) development of management/business plans by the communities if applicable. This process will also leverage the GALS methodology.

Establishment of Resource Users and Management Committees

131. To ensure the sustainability of investments, Resource Users and Management Committees will be set up for each site supported by the project. These committees will be responsible for the preservation of the works and the sustainable use of its by-products (fodder, fruits, leaves, wood products, etc.). These Committees will be linked to the VDCs, and CDAs and receive trainings on group dynamics and management, strategic planning, gender and social inclusion, conflict management, project monitoring, and basic reporting skills.

132. These committees will also receive small equipment to facilitate their role, and may be engaged in the surveillance and monitoring of the sites, especially if temporary bans are established through social fencing (see below), to allow for the resting of the land and return of vegetation.

Social fencing for the resting of land

133. Resting of restored land will be supported through the temporary closure of pastures, to ensure the rational management of existing resources. “Resting” is a rangeland management technique that makes it possible to consolidate the return of plant cover and the specific diversity of pastures. This low-cost technique is based on community agreements to restricting grazing and any other activity in selected pastures for a relatively short period which generally does not exceed 2 years (except in particular situations: climatic, social or others). During the period, grazing is controlled (banned for certain periods and limited to a maximum number of heads during others), and fodder can be collected through *cut and carry*. Resting can also be achieved through physical fencing, but this is associated with higher costs, extends over a longer period and may fuel conflicts. Tensions that may arise around access restriction resulting from grazing bans will be mitigated by the participatory approach and temporary nature of the bans. The community may be compensated through *cut and carry*, or enhanced access management. Conflict resolution mechanisms will also be leveraged where applicable.

134. Resting is applied on rangelands that show potential for rapid vegetation return in response to grazing bans, based on the stock of pastoral seeds at ground level, and presence of heavily exploited perennial woody and herbaceous species. Successful resting therefore requires that certain ecological and social conditions be respected:

- The level of degradation of the vegetation must not reach the threshold of irreversibility: a diagnosis of the initial situation of the pasture must be carried out by a specialist (in this case with the support of the PMU Natural Resources Management (NRM) Specialist and regional level agro/pastoralism experts) and must provide information on the total cover of the vegetation, the specific diversity, the level of fertility of the soil and its richness in seed stock;
- The importance of the site with regards to the community’s pastoral exploitation calendar needs to be clarified to avoid conflict zones and livestock passage corridors; as well as sites housing pastoral infrastructure of a community nature such as watering points (this will be done as part of the cluster level adaptation planning process);
- The land status of the pasture needs to be clarified to ensure the site corresponds to communal land, and consent of all users on the resting of the land must be obtained to avoid conflicts (for restored sites, this will be conducted as part of site selection process);
- The decision on the location, timing and duration of the closure period must be taken in a participatory manner with all users (as part of site-specific management plan for land restoration operations). Experiments carried out in similar arid areas have shown that a standard duration of closure may not be sufficient to guarantee the success of this approach. Indeed, the occurrence of prolonged dry period can impede for this technique to achieve the expected results, and it is recommended to establish specific indicators, such as the improvement of at least 30% in the total vegetation cover compared to the initial situation to reopen of the pasture.

135. The project will support local stakeholders in agreeing upon and enforcing resting of restored pastoral communal land after recuperation and revegetation practices. The protection of the sites will be ensured by the Resource Users and Management Committees, who may receive small support/compensation for guarding the sites. The project will also support the identification of measures to ensure the financial sustainability of temporary access restriction, including: (i) collectively agreed fee systems to access enclosures; (ii) penalties for trespassers as agreed upon in site management

and Resource Users and Management Committees by-laws; and (iii) possibly the selling of fodder if "cut and carry" systems are temporarily practiced on these enclosures.

136. **Pastoral management plans and their scope**. As mentioned previously, Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans in pastoral areas will effectively constitute pastoral management plans. To be effective, these plans need to be established for large areas, considering the breadth of rangeland used by the communities, and covering between 400 and 1,500 hectares. Accordingly, areas to be put under temporary closure (grazing bans) thanks to project support will go beyond sites targeted for restoration, and include additional land based on communities' priorities. Similar successful experiences have been supported by IFAD in the subregion (Djibouti). The project will support communities in identifying large areas for resting of land (including for short periods of time such as one year, to conduct a form of pasture rotation) and promote approaches such as Pastoralists Managed Natural Regeneration (see output 2.1) on those sites. Economic activities such as Non-Wood Forest Products collection and apiculture may be conducted on those sites (in synergy with output 2.2). Based on this approach and thanks to communities' engagement and ownership, it is estimated that project investments will ensure the protection of 10,000 hectares, and direct restoration of 1,500 hectares.

Cash for Work

137. Activities foreseen under this output will rely on the Cash for Work modality, which consists in identifying vulnerable households with availability of workforce, who are then trained and mobilized on a part time basis to deliver the works. This is particularly relevant for High Labour Intensity activities, that do not necessarily yield immediate benefits, as it is typical of land rehabilitation practices. This modality is widely used in Somalia with excellent results. It also enables (on the short term), to support alternative livelihoods to poorer households (increasing their short-term resilience), and to reinforce the ownership of activities conducted. It is estimated that CfW will benefit up to 4,500 households, with an average of 30 days worked per household.

138. Cash for Work programmes provide cash payments in exchange for labour on community projects, contributing to both financial support and community development. Cash transfers provide immediate financial relief to vulnerable households, enabling them to meet their basic needs while participating in and benefiting from environmental projects[104]. These transfers empower communities to take ownership of resilient environmental rehabilitation efforts, ensuring that projects are sustainable and tailored to local needs. By offering financial incentives (in exchange for labour), cash transfers encourage active community participation in mechanical activities such as sustainable land management and regreening activities such as reforestation/afforestation, which are crucial for restoring degraded lands and improving resilience against climate shocks[105].

139. The implementation of Cash for Work under the project will be conducted with the support of service providers (such as CARE Somalia), and follow the steps outlined below:

a) Community engagement and mobilization: the iterative planning processes for resilient ecosystems under the present output (development of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans and site-specific management plans) will clearly identify activities that are labour-intensive and align with both community needs and environmental goals. A clear evaluation of the labour required for proposed investments will be conducted when preparing the management plans, with the technical support of the project's Natural Resources Management Specialist and ad-hoc technical assistance, and involving community members (VDC representatives and resource users and management committee members). Wider community meetings and information sessions, involving local leaders, community members, and relevant stakeholders will be organised throughout the process to ensure awareness and buy-in on the objectives, benefits, and implementation process of Cash for Work.

b) Oversight: the Resource Users and Management Committees for each site of intervention will be vested with the oversight of the environmental rehabilitation activities. These committees will work in close collaboration with the local authority and project teams.

[104] CARE Somalia, 2020. Cash Transfers via Mobile Money for Maternal Child Health Services. [pdf] CARE. Available at: https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somali-health-and-demographic-survey-2020 [Accessed 23 May 2024].
[105] Mattinen, H. and Ogden, K., 2006. Cash-based interventions: Lessons from southern Somalia. Disasters, 30(3), pp.297-315. Available at: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.0361-3666.2005.00322.x [Accessed 23 May 2024].

c) Beneficiary Selection and Registration: clear criteria for beneficiary selection will be established to target the most vulnerable households, such as those affected by environmental degradation, unemployed individuals, and households with low income. Participatory methods for self-targeting will be used to identify eligible participants (e.g. wealth ranking and community consultations). A small percentage (quotas) of highly vulnerable households without workforce capacity (e.g. women led households that cannot free up time to join community works) will be selected to benefit from the Unconditional Cash Transfer even if they cannot actually participate to works (as a way to include everyone and show solidarity). Additionally, cash for work quotas will consider higher quotas for women, with the potential for women to defer to other family members if they are not able to carry out the work.

   Targeted beneficiaries will be registered during public meetings to ensure transparency and community agreement. The community will keep track of participants that may be remobilized for Operation and Maintenance or replication beyond project implementation. The project will establish all relevant safeguards for data protection and will refrain from using biometrics (based on associated Human Rights concerns, statistically significative issues/lack of effectiveness of fingerprinting for people involved in manual works such as pastoralists and agropastoralists, and observed reluctance of local populations to be scanned in relation with privacy and security concerns).

d) Setting Wages and Work Schedules: fair wages for the CfW activities will be determined at the start of the activity, ensuring they are competitive with local labour rates and sufficient to meet basic needs. Clear work schedules will be set, considering seasonal variations and the availability of participants. The project will ensure that work is appropriately distributed to avoid overburdening any individual and maximize community participation.

e) Implementation and Supervision: selected activities will be implemented with active community participation. Service providers and the project will ensure that activities are supervised by qualified personnel to maintain quality and promptly address any issues that may arise. Supervisors should regularly monitor progress and provide feedback to the workers to ensure that the work meets the required standards. Active participation of beneficiaries along the agreed-upon project implementation approach will be monitored using timesheets. These timesheets will serve as evidence of the daily hours worked by the beneficiaries.

f) Payment distribution: in line with current practices for Cash transfer in Somalia, wages will be distributed after works are completed, using secure and efficient methods, such as mobile money transfers, to ensure timely and transparent payments. The project and service providers will coordinate with local mobile money operators such as telecommunication companies or Salam Bank to facilitate the payment process. The project will ensure that all beneficiaries have access to mobile phones and understand how to use mobile money services. In case some beneficiaries do not have access to these services, the project will propose alternative tailored mechanisms (such as vouchers). As per best practices for cash transfer using mobile money in Somalia, verification steps will be clearly established and followed, as outlined in the 2021 Guidelines for Cash Transfer in Somalia. Where possible, the project will explore opportunities to distribute payment through VSLAs if they are present.

g) Monitoring and evaluation: the project will establish robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track the progress and impact of CfW activities. Where this doesn't risk fuelling conflicts or tensions, the project may use civilian drones to monitor the progress and impact of rehabilitation works. This will include regular site visits, surveys, and focus group discussions to gather feedback from beneficiaries and assess the effectiveness of the projects. The project will also use baseline and endline surveys to measure changes in community resilience, environmental conditions, and socio-economic status.

h) Reporting and feedback: the project will ensure local stakeholders (including local authorities, community leaders and beneficiaries) receive regular feedback on the progress and outcomes of CfW activities. As for all other project activities, stakeholders will be made aware of feedback mechanisms, such as hotlines or suggestion boxes, to gather input from participants and make necessary adjustments to the program.

140. A dedicated manual for the implementation of cash for work will be developed at the start of implementation, aligning notably on the latest United Nations Development Group Harmonized

Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) framework[106] and IFAD/SECAP. Additionally, the project will ensure coordination with the Somalia Inter-Agency Cash Working Group[107] to best align on latest practices.

141. A gender sensitive lens will be taken to implement cash for work (CfW). Principally, CfW will consider analysis of the needs, roles and dynamics of women and men in relation to CfW and how other dimensions of diversity (e.g. clan, minorities, disability, etc.) intersect with them. The analysis of gender issues will look at (i) access to markets, (ii) handling CfW, (iii) preference for CfW or in-kind assistance, (iv) gender dynamics around household income, resources and decision-making, (v) working behaviours, (vi) literacy, numeracy and comfort with technology, (vii) safety in collecting and using CfW, and (viii) identification/documentation needed.

142. The project will ensure work can be conducted in ways that are culturally appropriate and legally permissible for women. Where possible it should create jobs that make use of women's skills and build women's assets. Jobs should not be limited to current skills. However, new roles should consider protection risks and mitigation mechanisms, including engaging men and communities in line with household methodologies promoted under component 2. Under the present output, activities that could be targeted for women's participation in CfW include installing semi-circular bunds or half-moons in the rehabilitation of degraded land upstream the watershed; vegetation for riverbank protection; biological dune fixation; afforestation, reforestation and naturally assisted regeneration; and Prosopis and invasive species management. The project will consider opportunities to reduce barriers for female participation. This could include providing childcare at work sites; training and allowing women to work at times where they do not overlap with men. Training will be a particularly important consideration under the activities listed for women above.

Menu of interventions for mechanical ecosystem restoration

143. Relevant mechanical interventions covered by the Cash for Work modality will be conducted during the dry season and include:

- **Rehabilitation of degraded land**. These practices aim at recreating vegetal cover of barren or highly degraded lands in community sites, which are mostly silvo-pastoral. They consist of: (i) building up earth bunds on slight to moderate slope area on indurate soils or compacting the level of works – seeds should be planted in the impluvium in the early wet season (herbaceous plants or direct sowing of woody plants, both indigenous); (ii) creating half-moons or semi-circular earth bunds on slight slope areas (for fodder, and/or forestry according to the use status of the land). These activities will be carried out in two steps: mechanical work during the dry season, and biological work during the early wet season (see *revegetation* below).
- **Treatment of watersheds against erosion and runoff (anti-gullies infrastructure)**. These activities are relevant on community lands of medium to steep slope and predominantly mechanical (with the exception of trenches digging) require the capacity to delineate contours lines as well as regular maintenance. They consist of: (i) building stone lines following the contour lines on moderate runoff areas (glacis, top of slope); (ii) digging trenches following the contour lines on steep sloped areas or strong runoff areas; removed soil from the trenches is compacted to create a downstream levee and gaps between trenches and the levee can be cultivated (sowing of agricultural or woody plants); and (iii) building dry stone filtering weirs on the gullies. The steep-sloped gullies that would require more complex engineering will not be involved in these works because they are beyond the conventional scale of intervention of the Cash for Work approach. This approach reduces the phenomena of downstream gullying (which will be more intense as a result of climate change, notably in flood prone areas) and improves local water infiltration. These structures can also be strengthened by vegetation growth (see *revegetation* below). This type of activity requires collecting stones and therefore also: (i) an identification of suitable source; (ii) crushing work (high labour-intensive work); and (iii) a haulage mechanism adapted to the sites to be treated (moving high tonnage). For this, communities may contribute by providing the use of community dam trucks.

[106] UNDG Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer Framework 2014: https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/HACT-2014-UNDG-Framework-EN.pdf.
[107] https://response.reliefweb.int/somalia/somalia-cash-working-group

- **Riverbank protection stabilization**. Bank erosion is a natural process in stable rivers; however, it can become accelerated and exacerbated by modifications of river flow as a result of climate change, and particularly in flood prone areas. Channel incision and widening from hydrologic alteration in watershed is an example of indirect bank destabilization cause. Bank degradation result in societal impacts (impact on infrastructure or land from undermining structures and sedimentation of in-stream structures) and environmental impacts (fine sediment loading affecting water quality and aquatic habitat through fouling and eutrophication; channel widening modifying sediment transport capacity and damaging riparian habitats). In flood prone areas, river embankment can be stabilized using a mix of infrastructure (gabions) and vegetation (trees and grass) to stabilize the bank, thus reinforcing the protection against overflowing, slowing down river breakage, and reducing the risk of riverbank destruction in case of flood. Where relevant, this activity may be expanded to the rehabilitation of irrigation canals.
- **Prosopis and invasive species management**. According to FAO, forest area in Somalia declined by 27.8% between 1990 and 2020. Forest and woodland area have also been significantly impacted by recurrent droughts, in addition to unregulated tree cutting and the illegal charcoal trade. The degradation of vegetation and indigenous species negatively impact the social and economic resilience and livelihoods of displaced and host communities. In place of healthy biodiversity, Prosopis spp. (Prosopis) and other invasive species, i.e. Siam weed (Chromolaena odorata) and Parthenium weed (Parthenium hysterophorus) are colonizing rangelands and forest areas and accelerate biodiversity loss and habitat alteration, further increasing climate vulnerability.

  Prosopis can be managed by (i) identifying priority areas, (ii) conducting land restoration and promoting planting activities of indigenous tree species and forage trees in order to build resilient livelihoods for communities, (iii) engaging early on with landowners, farmers and communities regarding land use and *Prosopis* management techniques, (iv) reducing the dense Prosopis cover (including through pruning: tree crown lifting) and introducing other income-generating activities by planting indigenous plants and species, (v) supporting the development of agroforestry systems including fodder shrubs and fruit trees in riverine (and rainfed where possible) areas and further integration of agriculture and livestock systems through the introduction of multipurpose tree species suitable for fruit, fodder, fencing, fuel, shade, and nitrogen-fixing. The project may build on or seek synergies with experiences that valorise Prosopis to produce charcoal.
- **Dune fixation**. Vegetation disappearance as a result of the climate change induced drought and flood cycles can render sandy soils barren which, mainly under the effect of wind, can be further degraded or facilitate the formation of dunes. These dunes can spread or move, thus threatening areas that could play an important environmental (ponds) or economic and social role (horticultural lowlands with higher added value). To protect these areas, dune fixation operations can be undertaken. They combine two essential components: (i) a “mechanical fixation” stage using a grid consisting in fences/checkerboard grids perpendicular to the prevailing winds and the steepest lines. These fences/checkerboard grids must be protected (from straying animals, strong winds) and regularly lifted (due to the sand accumulating in the spaces in the grid, the fences/checkerboard grids should be regularly re-assembled); and (ii) a “biological fixation” (see *revegetation* below) stage in which the spaces of the grids are planted with native woody species such as *Cordia somaliensis* and *Aerva javanica* (these shrubs grow in clumps, survive in arid condition, and are ideal for dune fixation), in addition, grassy xerophytic species with a high capacity of cover and surface root growth will be sown. This fixation must be carried out during the rainy season in all treated areas and enables to stabilize the soil and the particles collected by fences/checkerboard grids. The *Cordia somaliensis* and *Aerva javanica* seedlings may be produced in the nurseries established under Output 2.2.

144. **Restoration of vegetative cover**. At the onset of the rainy season, the project will support the return of vegetation on its sites of intervention by providing communities with seedlings and fodder seeds in association with the restoration techniques described above.

- Assisted Natural Regeneration consists in selecting and letting grow spontaneous trees in agricultural, pastoral or forest land. It is a simple and effective technique, that is disseminated through awareness raising, communities’ consensus, some basic technical skills on conducting

NAR, selecting and pruning trees, and some tools (pruning shears, marking of young plants, and reseeding if necessary). NAR can be pastoralist and/or farmer led (PMNR/FMNR). This technique will be supported as part of the activities under output 2.1.

- Reforestation and afforestation. Tree planting is the most expensive and labour-intensive way of bringing trees back into landscapes, and is typically used when trees are wanted by the community or land managers but are not naturally regenerating or are needed for a specific purpose such as fodder, wood or fruit, where superior genetic planting material is available to develop a certain value chain.[108] It is also a useful approach when close control on growing niches, tree densities and their complementarity with other farm enterprises, such as food crops and mechanised farm operations, is desired or important. Where superior genetic planting material is available, this promotes the development of local tree-based value chains. Finally, enrichment planting is often used in conjunction with PMNR/FMNR to fill diversity gaps or raise the value of the production obtained from naturally regenerated trees. It works best where water supplies through rain or irrigation are sufficient, where the seedlings can be protected through their first, fragile years, and where subsequent tree management encourages growth and production.

  The project will support local communities to restore degraded forests or tree populations by providing coaching, and strengthening their management capacities. Reforestation and afforestation plans should (i) avoid monospecific populations which are vulnerable to parasitic and other disease attacks, and (ii) maximize diversity and complementarity of tree species with the surrounding environment (e.g. providing continuity of habitat for the fauna, etc.). The project will procure seedlings of local species, to be selected by the communities as part of the planning process and based on availability. As soon as nurseries supported under Output 2.2 become operational, the project may procure seedlings directly from them to support the reforestation/afforestation process. The new tree cover thus supported may also create opportunities to develop Non-Wood Forest Products value chains, to the benefit of women and youth.

  Afforestation and reforestation need to thoroughly consider access to water as young trees may need regular watering. Both in NAR and afforestation/reforestation, young trees need to be protected from animals and people through surveillance and awareness raising.

- Reseeding. The project will support reseeding of rehabilitated sites, by procuring seeds for reseeding and broadcasting. Seeds may be procured directly on site from plots under social fencing and NAR. Adapted fodder seeds from local species (including legumes) will be preferred. Where land recuperation techniques such as semi-circular earth bunds or stone lines have been performed, the reseeding will primarily target those works (enabling soil and water conservation), to enhance vegetation return. The project will ensure the timeliness of reseeding taking into account seasonality and forecasts (to be conducted at the onset of the rainy season).

Monitoring

145. During the implementation of the green and resilient measures, the regional level Community Development Officers and Agro/Pastoralism Officers, with the support of Cluster Level Facilitators will demarcate the areas where the project has intervened and types of measures implemented (e.g. rehabilitated degraded land, Prosopis management, sustainable pasture management, dune fixation, etc.), including specific revegetation measures conducted (NAR, afforestation, reseeding). The data will be collected in a GIS layer format following standards that record the type of intervention, its location and timing. The data standards will follow IFAD's mapping guidelines. The project's Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) assistant will coordinate field data collection. The Project Management Unit should also include geo-referencing requirements in the procurement of works, including tender and contract documents, to ensure that service providers collect location-specific data on project activities, which will be shared with the PMU and IFAD. Monitoring of impacts at site level will also be supported by the establishment of Land Degradation Surveillance Framework (LDSF) methodology under component 3. Monitoring of using GIS tracking and LDSF surveys will be done annually, while additional remote sensing analysis (e.g. NDVI using Earthmap) will be conducted at mid-term and completion.

[108] ICRAF/CGIAR. 2023. Regreening Africa Final Report.

Component 2. Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia

Outcome 2. Enhanced resilience of agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods to climate change

146. Climate change is expected to have a significant influence on ecosystems, due to rising temperatures, increased frequency and intensity of extreme events and shifting growing periods. Wetlands and riverine systems are increasingly at risk of being converted to other ecosystems with plant populations being displaced and animals losing their habitats. Recurring droughts alternating with periods of floods also accelerate land degradation and contribute directly to desertification. In addition, reduced agricultural productivity and population growth might lead to an increased strain on scarce natural resources.[109] Vulnerable households are disproportionately affected by the effects of climate change, including because their lack of knowledge on climate resilient techniques (including soil and water conservation) leaves them unable to solve land degradation issues, and consequently faces them with decreases in crops and livestock production and productivity. In addition, these pastoralists and agropastoralists cannot afford to purchase enough inputs for each season.

147. Under this component, and in line with the GGWI approach the project will support the **enhanced resilience of agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods to climate change** (Outcome 2), both by supporting ecosystem restoration through the diffusion of climate resilient farming and pastoral practices (in line with the principles of agroecology), and with income diversification (including support nurseries and Non-Wood Forest Products value chains and access to means of livelihood diversification).

148. Component 2 will be implemented with a gender sensitive lens. Community members will be mobilised to understand how the adoption of regenerative practices will benefit women and men and women will be capacitated to benefit from land and Non-Wood Forest Products equally to men. Activities that reduce women's workloads, as well of those of disadvantaged groups) will be identified and implemented. Sensitisation and advocacy will be undertaken to promote women's access to productive resources (for example land and farm inputs). Finally, the project will consider the gender composition of cooperatives and the potential negative and positive implications for gender transformation in Somali context.

Output 2.1. Adaptive capacity of agropastoral and pastoral systems strengthened

149. The targeted regions and prioritized districts of intervention are characterized by different production systems, described briefly in the following (Figure 16~~Figure 16~~ below highlights key activities in Somalia's seasonal calendar):

- In inland areas of Mudug, as it is the case for the Hobyo district, the Addun Pastoral system is dominant, and comprises mixed herds of shoats (60% goats, 40% sheep), camel and few cattle. The area is known as 'Guri Ari' (home for shoats). Addun pastoralists are characterised by low mobility (as they tend to move within the Addun ecological zone only). This is in part due to the low livestock resistance to ectoparasites (e.g. ticks), as ticks are few in the area, low levels of predators and relatively low prices and reasonable availability of water. Field consultations highlighted however that herds can move over distances of up to 300 to 350 km during one season (over 5 months dry period). The Addun landscape is flat and sandy with low lying vegetation and few trees. Vegetative variety is limited reducing livestock productivity but local vegetation has a high resistance to drought.[110]
- In inland Lower Shabelle and for example inland areas of Baraawe, 'Southern rainfed' agropastoral systems relies on maize, cattle and goats. Maize is predominantly grown in rainfed areas and, to a lesser extent, on precarious irrigation systems. However, due to the frequent and recurrent droughts caused by the seasonal upsets of rainfall and the hydrological droughts resulting from cut-off river water flow at critical periods of crop-water requirements, this key staple food crop is at risk.

[109] Shanahan, T.M., Hughen, K.A., McKay, N., Overpeck, J.T., Scholz, C.A., Gosling, W.D., Miller, S.S., Peck, J.A., Wing, J.W., Heil, C.W., "CO2 and fire influence tropical ecosystem stability in response to climate change," Nature Scientific Reports, vol. 18, no. 6, pp. 1-8, 2016

[110] FAO, FSAU. 2001. Livelihood Baseline Profile. Addun Pastoral.

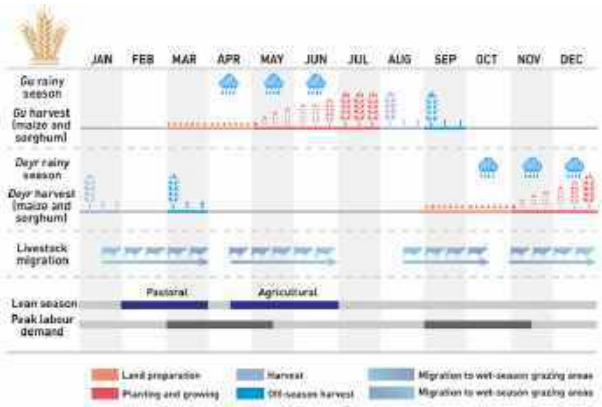

Figure 16 - Key activities in Somalia's seasonal calendar

150. Under the present output, the project will support vulnerable smallholders (pastoralists and agropastoralists) with technical assistance on climate resilient production techniques

Mainstreaming Household methodologies into project activities

151. **Gender Action Learning System (GALS)**[111]. The GALS is a household methodology that helps realize gender-transformative results. A GALS process usually lasts a period of two to three years, and is based on a set of principles, tools and stages. Additional key elements of GALS are also the peer replication structure and integration into the interventions of a specific project. The GALS is based on a set of principles which should inspire and guide its implementation and use: (i) gender justice, (ii) inclusion, (iii) leadership potential of all, (iv) action orientation, (v) sustainability, and (vi) gender is fun.

152. The GALS aims at increasing awareness of gender roles in the households and communities by improving their capacity to negotiate their needs and interests and find innovative, gender-equitable solutions in livelihoods planning and value chain development. In this project, the methodology will be leveraged for activities under this and other outputs to enhance women participation to all project activities, create assets for the poorest, and work with female-headed households. It constitutes an innovative and effective approach for a community-led empowerment using specific participatory processes and simple mapping and diagram tools. The ultimate goal is to give women and men more control over their lives as the basis for individual, household, community and organizational development. The results are tangible in terms of: a more equitable work balance in the home, a greater voice for women in household decision-making, a fairer share of economic benefits accruing to women, improved food security and nutrition and a noticeable reduction in domestic violence. It is critical to appreciate that the GALS focuses explicitly upon achieving gender justice “from within”, involving all households members without supporting the woman/girls at the expense of man/boys.

153. The methodology takes the participants through a number of stages, all of which are participatory and depend on the use of visual, rather than written, material to work with. The process includes creating initial commitment and action priorities for gender justice in an entry point event. It aims to achieve a positive orientation by encouraging participants to develop individual and then household level visions for their futures (step 1) before establishing their current situation (step 2). In order to promote a sense of achievement and to help them identify cause-effect linkages, the participants are asked to consider where they have come from (step 3). Next, participants identify the opportunities and constraints that will affect the realization of their vision (step 4). Step 5 focuses upon enabling participants to identify their objectives, and finally, step 6 asks participants to set milestones on the road towards the achievement of their overall vision.

[111] See https://www.ifad.org/en/web/knowledge/-/how-to-do-note-integrating-the-gender-action-learning-system-in-ifad-operations

154. During the first and second year of implementation, the project will support training of key project staff and stakeholders (in particular the Gender and Social Inclusion Officer, Community Development Officers, Agro/Pastoralism Officers and Cluster Level Facilitators). This methodology will be mainstreamed in all relevant project activities.

Pastoralists and Farmers Managed Naturally Assisted Regeneration (P/FMNR)

155. Assisted Natural Regeneration is an agroforestry practice that relies on natural regeneration of trees from stumps and/or seeds that are stored in the soil to raise new trees. The regrown trees and shrubs help restore soil structure and fertility, inhibit soil erosion and soil moisture evaporation, rehabilitate springs and the water table, and increase biodiversity. There is no fixed or prescriptive way to implement P/FMNR since practitioners apply what works best for them after understanding the general principles and depending on the local context of land ownership and use. They have freedom to choose which tree species they wish to grow and which ones they wish to remove. This implies that the practice is highly adaptable to the ecological area, geographical location, community, household or landscape.

156. P/FMNR respects local knowledge and builds on local assets: the assessment starts with what farmers/pastoralists already possess, such as land with tree stumps or stored seeds of trees that have known value and uses (for example fodder trees or trees with agricultural value). The technique is both suitable for cropland and communal grazing land, and can help enhance women's access to tree and tree resources, as it doesn't entail actual tree planting. P/FMNR is not expensive to implement, as it relies on locally available tools, although some form of tree protection may be necessary such as fencing off where free-range livestock grazing is pronounced. Costly physical fencing is however efficiently replaced by 'social fencing', based on the use of community-level by-laws (e.g. Xeer). P/FMNR has shown great potential for spreading from farmer to farmer or from one pastoralist community to another. Finally, P/FMNR provides a wide range of adaptation benefits from the same land unit to farmers, herders/pastoralists or communities, including enrichment of soil organic matter content, lowering of surface evaporation, reduction of wind erosion, improvement of water infiltration, alternative livelihood options, shelter, etc. On the medium term (after 7 to 8 years) P/FMNR allows to generate non-farm incomes through the collection of wood from pruning the tree of the plots.

157. The methodology to implement P/FMNR relies on village level trainers and facilitators. At the end of the first year of implementation for the five initial clusters, and at the end of year three for the five subsequent clusters, the project will organize district-level trainings of trainers on P/FMNR, to the intention of trainers, Cluster Level Facilitators, project staff, and FMS staff engaged in the project. The trainers will go on to build communities' capacities and raise their awareness on P/FMNR. The technique involves the main following three steps: (i) selection of tree species and stumps, and protection against animals and/or tillage; (ii) pruning and management of regenerating trees to enhance the growth of shoots and their health; and (iii) maintenance and utilization of trees. The project will support community engagement, and access to required tools (pruning shears, and equipment for marking of young plants, and grafting).

158. World Agroforestry (ICRAF) has successfully supported P/FMNR in Somaliland and Puntland under the Regreening Africa project, and the present Hal-Abuur will build on this experience and approaches (including the dedicated Somalia FMNR Manual). In particular, the guide outlines tailored approaches for Pastoral and Agricultural areas. Over time, trainers and facilitators can identify P/FMNR champions, who will play a critical role in scaling up the practice at local level. These stakeholders can be reinforced by receiving a training of trainer, or facilitator course, enhancing the upscaling of this practice. Cluster Level facilitators will actively support P/FMNR champions in sharing the practice with their peers, and in various settings, including possibly with school children.

159. Over the course of its implementation, the project will support the direct training of 1,000 pastoralists and agropastoralists on P/FMNR (100 per cluster), and the implementation of this practice over 5,000 ha thanks also to peer-to-peer replication (direct investment over 3,000 ha and spontaneous replication over 2,000 ha). This will primarily benefit restored sites and rangeland protected through social fencing under output 1.2, while FMNR will concern up to 1,500 ha of farmland.

Pastoralists and Farmers' Field Schools (PFS/FFS/FPFS)

160. The project will support the roll out of the P/FFS approach that has proven an effective way for uptake of climate-resilient and ecosystem-based adaptation practices through its participatory and context specific methodology[112]. P/FFS are also an effective way of increasing the outreach of extension support to farmers. The standard roll out of the P/FFS relies on three levels: (i) the Master Trainers Course; (ii) the Training of Facilitators (ToF); and (ii) the actual FFS implementation.

161. Results expected under this activity include the organization of a total of 40 FFS, as the implementation of up to 4 P/FFS at the same time per village/community clusters demonstrates many benefits on longer-term results[113]. This approach will result in the training of at least 1,000 agropastoralists and pastoralists in 10 clusters. The prioritization of PFS, FFS and FPFS will be cluster based and identified during the planning process outlined in output 1.1. The MTs mobilization and their capacitation will be achieved through service providers such as NGOs that have the relevant expertise on the topic in Somalia. MTs will go on to train Cluster Level Facilitators (in addition to the ones already mobilized under component 1). It is estimated that one Cluster Level Facilitator (CLeF) will carry a maximum of 2 P/FFS.

162. **Master Trainers mobilization**. During year 1, the project will identify service providers to provide master trainers (two per district) whose role will be to capacitate and accompany the CLeFs. The service provider will ensure master trainers receive a refresher (3 weeks) tailoring their support to the local context (predominant rainfed maize in the Lower Shabelle/Baraawe, and Addun pastoral in Mudug/Hobyo). Relevant project staff (agro/pastoralism officers in particular), district level agriculture and pastoral experts, will also join the refresher course, with the view to enhance local capacities. Service providers may be identified in the country, and even in the subregion (e.g. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières-Germany (VSF-G) has acquired strong experience on PFS implementation in Kenya). During year three of implementation and as soon as new sites are identified, Master Trainers will be mobilized again to start the process in new areas.

163. **Training of Facilitators (ToF)**. CLeFs will be identified under output 1.1 among lead/innovative pastoralists and agropastoralists in targeted clusters, women (at least 30%) and men, prioritizing youth. CLeFs will be carrying out the P/FFS with regular support from the Master Trainers (during the first year), and direct oversight of the project team. The ToF will last 3 weeks and include the basic P/FFS principles and trainings, in addition to training modules on climate resilient practices and approaches. These modules will be prepared by the PMU, with possible ad-hoc technical assistance. The ToF will be conducted in Y2 in initial sites (2 trainings for 20 facilitators each) and Y4 (2 trainings for 20 facilitators each) in new sites. A total of 40 CLeFs will be trained, to conduct 40 P/FFS (4 in each cluster of intervention). The project will provide facilitators with motorbike to enhance their capacity to service multiple villages and communities.

164. **P/FFS implementation**. The duration of each P/FFS will be 12-18 months of intense participation. The active P/FFS group will continue for around 3 years (with continued support from the CLeF). The learning subjects will fall under 2 main categories being (i) pastoralism (shoats); (ii) rainfed crop production (maize). Specific modules (e.g. on gravity irrigation, fodder production and agroforestry) will be included based on the context. The choice of category will vary according to the groups' interests and the agroecological areas.

165. P/FFS groups will ensure gender balance and women/youth specific P/FFS may be organized. P/FFS will take a gender sensitive approach empowering women to address social and gender norm barriers, engaging men and boys to champion gender equality, supporting women small-scale producers, and increasing food security and good nutrition. This will be achieved by using the GALS methodology with P/FFS groups.

166. The P/FFS groups may also evolve commercial groups, including to provide services to other stakeholders based on the technical expertise/equipment acquired. The P/FFS will use a participatory

[112] https://www.fao.org/farmer-field-schools/ffs-overview/en

[113] This so-called "foci model" can improve results by: easier and more cost-effective monitoring and mentoring support of P/FFS groups and facilitators; easier to ensure peer-to-peer support among local facilitators, a key element to maintain quality; greater closeness of groups enables group to- group inter-visits and exchanges, which enhances a feeling of togetherness and a positive competitive spirit across groups. Farmer Field School Guidance Document. FAO, 2016.

"action research" approach[114] for the adoption of climate-resilience practices. This entails working with pastoralists and farmers to redesign their livestock or cropping system, the relations between the various production units, and even the system as a whole. The key to the successful implementation of P/FFS is therefore to establish a truly participatory process of observation, experimentation and design of solutions that are useful to local pastoral and agropastoral practices, by mobilizing all members of the pastoral/agropastoral group and the facilitator[115]. This will create the pathway for the transition of the pastoral and agropastoral system to climate resilience.

167. **For FFS** the topics covered will align with the 9 modules developed by FAO in Somalia[116], based on context and needs:

i) Soil and water conservation measures and soil fertility management, using (i) land restoration techniques (e.g. semi-circular bunds); (ii) conservation agriculture (e.g. mulching, no tillage, crop rotation, cover cropping, etc.); (iii) composting and manure composting; (iv) planting pits (zai) on crusted or compacted areas for agriculture or agroforestry (depending on the availability of organic matter). This module will emphasize on the importance of soil organic matters and soil structure by using compost to boost soil fertility and moisture.

j) Intercropping by associating legumes (cowpea) to cereals (maize/sorghum) both to enable nitrogen fixation in the soil, and to have shorter cycle crops (cowpeas can be grown over 60-70 days) in case of drought. Intercropping can also be done with fodder crops for dual benefits.

k) Promotion of early maturing, drought-resistant and climate-resilient crops. Crops with low water requirements reduce evapotranspiration losses during photosynthesis by rapidly closing their stomata and maintaining leaf water potential and photosynthetic rate. The adoption of heat/drought resilient crops/varieties (e.g. sorghum as an alternative to maize) enhances food production during the dry season when food insecurity levels are highest. At the same time, climate projections indicate possible shifts in seasonality, and integration of early maturing species or varieties in the system may contribute to increased climate resilience. The project will support procurement to such species and varieties, and organization of tests in FFS. Seeds selection and procurement may rely on IFAD's current experience with the A2R2/SIRAP project, where tests will be conducted in partnership with the Somali Agricultural Regulatory Agency (SARIS), as well as on IFAD's Regional Seed Systems Grant Project (targeting four Horn of Africa countries, including Somalia, to provide high yielding, climate-resilient seeds.

   As part of this, participants will be trained/sensitized on best practices for seed replication and conservation.

l) Agroforestry (in addition to FMNR), incorporating high-value trees into farming systems to improve biodiversity, create windbreaks, improve water retention, and offer additional income sources. Tree seedlings may be sourced at the nurseries supported under output 2.2.

m) Water use efficiency (beyond Soil and Water Conservation), with techniques such as rainwater harvesting and micro-irrigation (e.g. drip or sprinkler systems) for relevant crops.

n) Integrated Pest Management, including sampling, scouting and monitoring systems for a proper early identification of pests; plant quarantine and 'cultural techniques' e.g., removal of diseased plants, and cleaning pruning shears to prevent spread of infection; association with other plants that deter insects, etc.

o) Post Harvest Management, to reduce loss and damage, including with the proper handling, drying and packaging of harvested products.

p) Farming as a business, including accounting, and understanding market and prices.

[114] Participatory Action Research, emphasizes research and action. Pastoralists and Famers are involved in deciding what needs to be researched, designing and measuring results.

[115] Bakker, T., Dugué, P., Roesch, K., Phillips, S. and Poisot, A.S. 2022. How can the farmer field school approach be used to support agroecological transitions in family farming in the Global South? Recommendations for farmer field school facilitators, agricultural development project designers and managers. Rome, FAO. https://doi.org/10.4060/cb9920en

[116] FAO in Somalia has pre-identified 9 modules of relevant techniques which include Good Agricultural Practices, Integrated Pest Management, Irrigation Management, Post Harvest, etc.

168. **Pastoralists Field Schools**. In 2001, the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) developed and adapted the FFS methodology for livestock production systems in Kenya with support from the Animal Health Programme of the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and FAO. Smallholder dairy and extensive mixed farming systems were the focus of this project and a number of "Livestock FFS" groups were implemented. Following the successful experience of the Smallholder dairy project ILRI and Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium (VSF-B) embarked on piloting the adaptation of FFS to the pastoralist situation in arid and semi-arid parts of Turkana District, Kenya and thereby the development of the Pastoralist Field School (PSF) concept. PFS quickly caught the attention of several development agencies in Uganda and Northern Kenya, particularly under an FAO project. From 2011 the concept has expanded more widely in the region. Just as FFS, PFS can be described as a 'school without walls', where groups of pastoralists learn through observation and experimentation in their own context, based on methods of adult education. This allows them to improve their management skills and become knowledge experts in their own resource use practices.

169. Usually the PFS cycle starts before the onset of the dry season, continues through the migration during the dry season and carries on after the dry season ends, enabling participants to observe and asses their coping strategies at each stage of the cycle. In this environment, the PFS learning cycle typically takes about one-and-a-half to two years, and ends with the graduation of the group members. The PFS group provides animals and other resources to use in simple comparative experiments. These animals form the groups' study herd, on which different (but not risky) treatments are tried and observations made. Changing environmental conditions and factors affecting the study herd, such as disease outbreaks, dictate the topics to be addressed each week during the PFS session. Folk media, including songs and storytelling, is used to disseminate information on technical and social issues. Tools such as illustrations, practical demonstrations and real-life exhibits are further used as learning aids adapted for illiterate group members.

170. For PFS, the training modules and topics can build on the FAO Pastoralists Fields Schools Training of Facilitators Manual[117], and may include:

a) Pastoral Ecosystem Analysis/Agroecosystem Analysis (PESA/AESA) is one of the core activities of the PFS. The purpose of using PESA/AESA is for pastoralists to learn to make regular observation of the livestock-herd-pasture–ecosystem, analyse problems and opportunities encountered and improve decision making skills regarding land or herd management.

b) Dynamics of livestock production in pastoral areas and climate impacts: the module will analyse production systems, husbandry practices, factors determining livestock production in pastoral areas, and challenges and opportunities facing livestock production. This module will particularly discuss breeding/husbandry practices and the importance of introducing performant breeders to improve productivity and avoiding consanguinity. The module will also assess how climate change is impacting livestock production and pastoral systems and initiate the reflection on potential solutions, including reducing the size of herds by eliminating unproductive females, older animals and those affected by diseases.

c) Pasture ecology, soil health and Natural Resource Management: the module will interrogate local dynamics as well as ownership and user rights, and analyse how local stakeholders can adjust their practices to enhance pastoral productivity, adopting climate resilient practices, including regreening practices and restoration of degraded pastures under climate stress, and management of invasive species as promoted under the first component.

d) Climate resilient grazing management practices: in continuity with previous modules, participants will discuss their grazing practices and be supported on adjusting them to adopt adaptive practices, including by optimizing stocking rates and commonly agreeing on temporary grazing bans (as supported under output 1.2) to mitigate climate risks.

e) Crop production in pastoral setting: Depending on the area, this module may or may not be relevant and the trainers will assess whether to include it, introducing and promoting adaptive practices for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands, along the principles of the modules described above

[117] FAO. 2013. Pastoralists Field Schools. Training of Facilitators Manual.
https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/7922413f-ce8a-4902-b37d-169e0bd01b2e/content

for FFS. In particular and where relevant, the project will include dedicated sessions on fodder crops production (including identification of drought-tolerant and climate-resilient forage species and promoting biodiversity to enhance pasture adaptability), processing and storage.

f) Animal health: Climate change has direct impacts on animal health, through heat stress, water scarcity and increased/modification of parasites and diseases. Diseases affect production through deaths, or decreased productivity (milk, eggs, and slowed or poor breeding habits). Diseases of livestock have direct economic impacts through associated losses. If the livestock is healthy, production will increase, directly benefiting the health of pastoralists and their livelihoods. This module will help participants to be familiar with the normal habits, behaviour, actions, the appearance of skin and hair, mucus membranes, secretions and excretions, respiration, etc. of their animals. This will help them distinguish between healthy and sick animals, and form the basis for tentative diagnosis in the field. The module also focuses on the causes of diseases, mode of transmission, disease description and control measures (including vaccination). The participants should understand the causes of disease in livestock and the various modes of disease transmission as this can lead to disease prevention and control. The participants should facilitate identification and description of locally important diseases as they relate to clinical signs and post-mortem lesions for the different species of animals kept in the specific area. Finally, the module will also interrogate increase in parasites and diseases, and other health issues as a result of climate change, and explore possible solutions.

   Beyond the question of parasites and diseases, this module will look at animal feed and best practices to optimize the ration. This module will receive direct support from district level veterinary services, to reinforce the link between these services and communities.

Peer to peer learning, replication and exchange visits

171. The project will promote peer to peer exchanges to ensure that P/FMNR techniques and other techniques learnt at the level of the Field Schools are widely shared and up taken by stakeholders beyond the participants to the P/FFS. CLeFs will play a key role in further disseminating new techniques and identifying other peers or champions that can act as relays within the community. Exchange visits between villages and clusters will be encouraged to allow experience sharing on P/FMNR, P/FFS as well as approaches around landscape restoration. Additionally, the project will disseminate knowledge through radio, TV, voice messages and SMS.

Output 2.2. Diversification of income sources for resilient livelihoods ensured

172. Under this output, the project will support livelihood diversification while looking to ensure the sustainability and replicability of results supported under other outputs. More specifically, the project will support: the establishment of 10 nurseries (one per cluster) managed by women cooperatives and/or private entrepreneurs, and focusing on the production of indigenous tree species seedlings; support to up to 20 Non Wood Forest Products cooperatives (one per cluster); support to livelihood diversification through access to relevant inputs or equipment for 500 smallholder cooperatives; and the development/consolidation of women led businesses through dedicated training on business skills development (also benefiting pre-existing VSLAs in targeted clusters[118]). The project will also mainstream the GALS methodology with all supported cooperatives.

Business skills development and financial inclusion

173. **Training of CLeFs**. On year 2 of implementation, all CLeFs from the five active clusters (20 CLeFs) will receive a training of trainers on Business Skills Development. The same training will be repeated for the 20 CLeFs from new clusters on year 4. CLeFs will rely on this expertise to provide ad-hoc support to cooperatives supported under the project, in association with corresponding activities. 10 CLeFs from initial clusters (2 per cluster) will remain engaged after year 3 to consolidate project results and accompany the professionalization of supported groups. The project may rely on service providers (such as CARE) to deliver this activity.

[118] The Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) are groups of about 10-15 people (often over 90% women) who willingly come together to pool savings, from which members can borrow when need arises. The project may also link these existing groups with CfW activities under output 1.1.

174. **Business skills development and financial inclusion for project supported cooperatives**. The CLeFs will then go on to provide dedicated support to cooperatives targeted under the project. The trainings will include aspects such as: starting, developing and managing a business, entrepreneurship and understanding stakeholders involved in implementing a business, market development strategies (identifying and negotiating with off-takers, suppliers and service providers), financial literacy and basic financial management, reinforcing existing VSLAs if they are present, and linking stakeholders with microfinance institutions, etc. The trainings will include gender specific considerations relying on the GALS methodology.

Community nurseries

175. Community nurseries will focus on tree seedlings conservation to maintain local diversity, particularly to support common land restoration as well as to multiply and preserve native and lost crops, and will therefore target high value-added species, including fodder trees/shrubs (e.g. The *Cordia somaliensis* and *Aerva javanica*). The selection of sites to establish/support nurseries will rely on the following criteria: (i) water availability (proximity of a reliable water supply); (ii) community interest and group of motivated stakeholders ready to engage in the activity; (iii) ease of access for monitoring of production activities and transportation (including proximity to land restoration sites); and (iv) availability of good media for the production of seedlings.

176. Initially, the project will support the design and establishment of the nursery, including: water tank/supply, tools and equipment store/shed, germination beds area, potting/container filling area, seedling raising area/shaded area, propagation structures, and composting area. Construction material will be locally sourced and the benefiting cooperative will provide in-kind contribution to the works. The project will also support access to relevant inputs (seeds, seedlings, watering cans/pots, etc.).

177. During the first and second year of operation, the cooperative will receive training on seedling production, including on[119]: (i) seed propagation (seed collection and sourcing; seed pre-sowing treatments; seed sowing and transplanting or pricking-out); (ii) shading (shade benefits and construction, good nursery practices, poor nursery practices); (iii) watering; (iv) weeding; (v) root pruning; (vi) pest and diseases in the nursery; (vii) grading or culling plants; (viii) hardening off (preparation for field conditions). The cooperative will also receive training on proper monitoring of operations and business management (see above). The project will assist cooperatives in formalizing their status with local authorities.

178. The project will progressively support these nurseries' professionalization, so that they can also support implementation of the Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans developed under output 1.1 and future scale-up of activities in terms of land restoration (including under other initiatives), and for the resilience of farm-level production. Species and varieties will be identified amongst indigenous and drought/heat resilient varieties, as well as varieties with nutrition and/or fertilisation benefits. This activity seek to primarily target women.

Non-Wood Forest Product value chains.

179. The successful implementation of regreening requires robust value chains and enterprises that incentivise reinvestment in forest products and agroforestry. Tree-based value chains provide an opportunity to establish community-based businesses, enhance rural employment for women and youth, and diversify income streams, thereby empowering communities, increasing their resilience and supporting food security. However, despite an untapped growth opportunity in tree-based value chains compared to agricultural commodity crops, markets for non-wood forest products in Somalia remain scarce or disorganised, limiting the return on investment for value chain actors and hindering the potential to scale regreening practices across sites.

180. The Somalia Rangeland Management Strategy 2022-2032 notes that: *genetic resources that contribute to development through industrialization, manufacturing and international trade thereby contributing employment in Somalia include Aloe vera, frankincense, myrrh, Gum Arabica, dyes and medicinal herbs, honey and handicrafts from plants, all of which have a ready market locally and*

[119] The project may build on the 2020 ICRAF Tree Nursery Management Guide for Landscape Restoration Planners. https://regreeningafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Tree-Nursery-Management-Guide-For-Landscape-Restoration-Planners.pdf

internationally. Somalia's communities have opportunities that could help them grow and change. These include the much-needed capital of social cohesion, indigenous technical knowledge about their environment, and customary rules for managing natural resources and resolving conflicts in rangeland management.

181. The project will support district and cluster level studies during its second year of implementation, with the objective to identify relevant NWFP VCs that could be supported. As part of these local needs assessments, mapping of value chain actors will be conducted to help improve information flow and enhance the effectiveness of the chain, and possibly identify quick wins, such as the need to raise local and national appreciation through marketing, with the possible registration and licensing of producer groups and cooperatives. Similar assessments will be repeated in new districts at project mid-term.

182. Based on the needs assessment and identification of VC stakeholders, the project will support the creation/consolidation and formalization of cooperatives involved in these value chains. The project will also provide technical support, looking at enhancing raw material production capacity and product development, and support access to essential processing equipment (e.g. presses, extractors, etc. depending on identified products), thereby reducing the time spent on these tasks, particularly for women.

183. The project will support 10 women cooperatives (one per cluster, on the second year of cluster engagement) in developing their business around NWFP value chains. The cooperatives will receive dedicated training on business management (see above) and the project will assist them in formalizing their status with local authorities. This will support the recognition of trees' added value at the community level, resulting in enhanced conservation efforts. The VCs may cover high value added NWFPs, such as frankincense, myrrh and gum Arabic, but also other products benefitting from a local market such as honey and local tree products used for personal hygiene and cosmetics.

Livelihood diversification through access to inputs and equipment

184. As part of this output, and to help livelihood diversification and consolidation of project adaptation benefits, the project will support access to inputs (e.g. seeds, seedlings, organic fertilizer, veterinary products), small equipment (e.g. hand tools, walking tractors, drip irrigation, and post-harvest equipment such as small scale animal feed mills or silage machines, threshers, milking equipment, storage solutions) and good reproducers (for shoats) for up to 500 cooperatives of at least 4 people (on average 50 cooperatives per cluster), benefitting a total of 2,000 households or 11,800 people. For seeds, the project will collaborate with the IFAD Regional Seed Systems Grant Project for four Horn of Africa countries, including Somalia, to provide high yielding, climate-resilient seeds, and IFAD's current experience with the A2R2/SIRAP project, where tests will be conducted in partnership with the Somali Agricultural Regulatory Agency (SARIS). At the same time, the project will ensure that beneficiaries are empowered to auto-finance similar small activities beyond the project lifetime thanks to business development and financial literacy trainings under the present output.

185. Eligible investments under this activity will all correspond to solutions presented at the level of F/PFS, and recipients will either have received training on the relevance and use of the technology by directly participating to the F/PFS, or will be sensitized/trained by their peers, with the support of Cluster Level Facilitators and the PMU. Special attention will be given to promote equipment that contributes to the alleviation of women workload and supports their businesses (e.g. fodder collection and storage equipment, milking equipment, milk storage/transformation, etc.).

186. The project's targeting strategy will ensure access to inputs is provided in a fair, equitable and inclusive manner. The project will take a number of transparent steps that will help ensure that the benefits of the project are being distributed fairly, with a focus on women and youth, with no discrimination nor favouritism. The project will advertise broadly through the mass media (radio, social media, cluster/village/community meetings and workshops, etc.) for the implementation of an outreach/mobilisation strategy.

187. The strategy for allocation of inputs and equipment under this activity will rely on thorough needs assessments, community engagement, capacity building, and regular monitoring and evaluation to ensure the effective and sustainable use of resources. Targeting under this output will be done by identifying groups of project beneficiaries that are well engaged in project activities, responsive, and

meet community-defined criteria, to ensure access and equity. The project will support the organization and structuration of these groups until cooperatives that can share and co-manage the equipment as a prerequisite to receive inputs or equipment.

Component 3. Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia

Outcome 3. Great Green Wall initiative framework operationalized in Somalia

188. To address increasingly complex and interrelated challenges and support the transition towards climate resilient, low emission agriculture, the GGWI was launched in 2007 by the African Union. The GGWI's initial objectives were to address land degradation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and protect biodiversity and forests. Under the GGWI, environmental aspects and natural capital have been integrated into the development agenda and a multi-stakeholder dialogue has been established to ensure country ownership. It has also created opportunities for scaling-up investments based on successful experiences on the ground. During the One Planet Summit in January 2021, the launch of the Great Green Wall Accelerator was announced to help meet the financial requirements of the programme.[120]

189. The Great Green Wall Initiative is an integrated approach, that encompasses activities aimed at sustainably restoring ecosystems which degradation is accelerated by climate change, and at supporting the corresponding livelihoods. As such, the present project will act as a flagship to accelerate the initiative in the country, but also contribute to the new Regional GGWI Strategy by scaling-up its lessons. Under its first and second components, the project leverages good practices from the GGWI to address the critical climate vulnerabilities that affect Somali ecosystems and livelihoods.

190. Under its third component the project aims at ensuring that the **Great Green Wall initiative framework is operationalized in Somalia** (Outcome 3). This will be achieved by establishing the relevant strategic and planning documents, and capacity building at Federal and State level, as well as coordination mechanisms and monitoring systems that constitute the GGWI framework and are necessary for its operationalization in Somalia. This framework will build on the specific experience of the project under its first two components (which are fully aligned with the Great Green Wall Initiative), other relevant experiences in the country, and lessons from the regional GGWI and in other GGW countries (for instance Ethiopia is setting up its GGW national coalition involved several ministries and partners). Activities under the component will also contribute to strengthen the Government's fundraising and advocacy capacities.

Output 3.1. National Strategy and Action Plan to Implement the GGWI in Somalia elaborated

191. The **African Union Great Green Wall Strategy and Ten-Year Implementation Framework (2024-2034)** was officially launched in May 2024[121], and includes Somalia amongst new "pioneer" countries. Its overall objective is to "*enhance the resilience of communities, ecosystems, and economies in the African drylands by improving the living conditions of populations, improving the state and health of ecosystems, advocating and mobilising resources, strengthening institutional collaboration and promoting policy coherence*". The strategy includes four strategic intervention axes: (1) enhancing leadership, governance and political commitment; (2) adopting approaches toward transformative restoration and resilient ecosystem management and sustainable development; (3) enhancing the implementation of resilient landscape restoration through resource mobilisation, partnerships, inclusion, knowledge exchange and capacity development; and (4) leveraging existing efforts and knowledge systems.

192. The AU GGWI Strategy foresees 8 specific objectives: (i) invest in, and scale up, nature-based practices and inclusive landscape approaches to sustainable land, water and biodiversity restoration and management to support resilient value chains; (ii) promote locally led land planning, land restoration and resilience building initiatives and nature-based entrepreneurial and livelihood activities that improve the well-being and incomes of communities, as well as empower them, particularly women and youth; (iii) catalyse inclusion, alignment, cooperation and ownership of land restoration and resilience-building in related strategies, policies, programmes and plans; (iv) promote policy coherence, alignment and a

[120] Somalia is not yet a member of PA-GGW and not a target country for the OPS Pledges.
[121] https://aiccra.cgiar.org/news/great-green-wall-initiative-enhance-ecosystems-and-livelihoods-resilience-africa

common narrative in strategies, policies, programmes and plans; (v) develop, invest in, and support, economic and environmental infrastructure facilitating the move to a green and circular economy; (vi) enhance the linkage and effective collaboration among community, practice, science, policy and private sector stakeholders; (vii) encourage systems-oriented, cross-sectoral and coordinated decision-making and adaptive management environments that facilitate the integration of activities across all stakeholders, sectors and scales; and (viii) enhance Africa's capacity to mobilise resources at multiple scales.

193. The **Knowledge for Great Green Wall Action (K4GGWA)** focuses on the Sahel and Horn of Africa, and aims to address a number of issues identified in the Great Green Wall (GGW) evaluation conducted in 2020. Launched in 2023, the programme is led by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)/ICRAF and FAO. K4GGWA aims to empower key GGW stakeholders to enhance their knowledge management and sharing mechanisms, develop learning and data platforms, foster dialogue at national and regional levels, and fund innovations. It also aims to strengthen policies and institutions and enhance the capacities of national and regional GGW agencies. K4GGWA is specifically designed to: (i) strengthen the knowledge base to inform GGW action; (ii) address drivers of land degradation, including socioeconomic (e.g., gender, business, security) and ecological factors; (iii) improve GGW-relevant interventions and monitoring of key actors' activities; (iv) scale sustainable land management approaches adapted to both pastoral and crop systems (including communal and state lands) that fit local contexts; and (v) develop the right enabling environment by tackling governance issues and policy environments that build on the use of evidence to develop and implement effective interventions at scale.

Somalia GGWI strategy and action plan

194. Under the present output, the project will rely on CIFOR-ICRAF (based notably on its ongoing experience with K4GGWA) to support the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change in elaborating and/or updating a National Strategy and assorted Action Plan for the GGW in Somalia (over the first two years of implementation). The Strategy and Action Plan will align on the African Union Great Green Wall Strategy and Ten-Year Implementation Framework (2024-2034), and will also build on all relevant initiatives in the country. The process for the preparation or elaboration and sensitisation of the strategy will engage all relevant Ministries at Federal and State level, and other relevant partners in the country.

Capacitation of Federal Member States to initiate the preparation of GGWI Strategies and Action Plans

195. The project will also rely on CIFOR-ICRAF's experience and expertise to accompany State level focal points and build their capacities to initiate the process of preparation of State level strategies. State focal points will receive dedicated training and brainstorming workshops will be organized to establish roadmaps for the preparation of State level GGWI Strategies and Action Plan preparation. In project supported States, experience from the project implementation will be a central piece of the reflexion. Final products from this exercise will be outlines of Strategies and Action Plans for each FMS, aligning on the Federal Strategy and Action Plan, and a roadmap for their finalization.

Output 3.2. National and local stakeholders' capacities to implement GGWI in Somalia reinforced

Coordination mechanisms

196. With the support of CIFOR-ICRAF, the project will support the establishment of relevant coordination mechanisms for the management of the GGWI in Somalia, with the possible creation of a national GGWI coalition. This will be achieved through technical guidance and mentoring of focal points and attending dialogues. This support will also include knowledge gap analysis from all stakeholders involved in past and current initiatives in GGW areas of the country, to better guide the capacity building of key stakeholders. The project will seek to propose straightforward and efficient mechanisms, to avoid burdening MoECC, which is a new Ministry, with limited human and material capacities. As such, and while it has been the GGW approach to also support the creation of dedicated directorates as semi-autonomous structures, synergies could be established with other instances, such as for example the National Forest Commission which is foreseen to be established under the revised NDC. Alternatively, MoECC could build on existing interministerial committees to ensure representation of the different areas of work, enhance ownership and successfully decentralize activities.

Capacity building

197. The project has set aside budget to facilitate participation of MoECC staff and other GGWI focal points in the country to capacity building events organized by different partners of the GGWI throughout Africa, including IFAD. Indeed, IFAD is engaged in two regional support programmes in the eleven GGW member countries of the GGW Pan-African agency, funded respectively by the GCF and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Under these programmes, IFAD ensures that knowledge and innovation is shared among GGW stakeholders, including the private sector and farmers' organisations, and provides dedicated trainings and knowledge management activities. Similarly, the AU GGW Accelerator, CIFOR-ICRAF/K4GGWA and other partners organize regular capacity building sessions, but Somalia's participation remains challenging due to limited coordination capacity, and lack of means.

198. The PMU's Policy Development Specialist together with the National Consultant supporting MoECC will also attend these sessions, and organize regular in-country capacity building and sensitization sessions for MoECC staff, other staff from interested ministries, and GGWI focal points in FMS.

Direct support to MoECC in coordinating the GGWI in Somalia

199. The project will build MoECC's capacities to lead the GGWI in Somalia. As such, it will provide the Ministry with all required means to coordinate and implement the strategy. In particular, the project will recruit one dedicated staff (Policy Development Specialist with NRM expertise and a good knowledge of the GGWI) and mobilize a national consultant with expertise on Governance, Policy and Partnership Building to accompany MoECC on the operationalization of the Initiative. Together, these two experts will work closely with MoECC and CIFOR-ICRAF, and ensure the following tasks:

- **Enhancing coordination**. Building on the support provided by CIFOR-ICRAF, the team will ensure that all relevant stakeholders (at Federal and State level) are identified and engaged as part of a national GGWI coalition, and ensure in particular that linkages are established with: staff from relevant Ministries (including the Ministry of Finance), FMS GGWI focal points, and focal points for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UNCCD and UNCBD.
- **Supporting access to training**. The team will keep track of relevant trainings organized throughout Africa by different GGWI partners (including IFAD), either virtually or in presence, and help organize and prioritize the participation of relevant MoECC staff and other GGWI focal points in country, in line with the training needs and gaps identified for Somalia stakeholders.
- **Tracking and coordination of relevant initiatives**. The team will support MoECC in developing relevant tools and databases to track and centralize information on all relevant initiatives that could be part of the GGW in Somalia, their status and achievements. As part of this process, the team will identify relevant mechanisms to facilitate technical and financial partners' engagement to support Somalia's GGWI.
- **Identifying and consolidating knowledge**. The team will also work proactively with relevant projects and programmes in Somalia (notably the Green Somalia Initiative) to identify opportunities for capturing and sharing relevant knowledge and disseminating information about major progress and results associated with GGWI. They will support the centralization, consolidation and dissemination of relevant knowledge in the country, and prepare Factsheet/Case Studies to promote relevant results and activities. In particular, the team will coordinate the organization of dedicated studies on project results during the second half of implementation.

  The knowledge consolidated could be made accessible through the Digital Learning Campus supported by CIFOR-ICRAF, a central repository and dissemination platform. The DLC could further host courses and learning materials for participants in remote areas or where security limits accessibility. The DLC is an online platform which aims to: (i) facilitate a holistic, demand-driven learning experience; (ii) drive collaborative action on sustainable landscapes through learning, knowledge co-creation, knowledge exchange, and dialogue; and (iii) connect learners, educators, scientists, and other subject matter experts across the world.
- **Enhancing knowledge sharing** by supporting engagement of MoECC GGW focal point with key print and electronic media (including radio, TV, news websites and blogs) to supply them

with newsworthy material about the GGW in the country, and supporting MoECC in sharing information about GGWI on social media.

- **Supporting the establishment of monitoring systems** in coordination with CIFOR-ICRAF (see below).

Monitoring impact for the Somalia GGWI

200. **Land Degradation Surveillance Framework (LDSF) methodology**.[122] The LDSF is a comprehensive method developed by ICRAF scientists, as a response to a lack of methods for systematic landscape-level assessment of soil and ecosystem health, using a robust and consistent indicator framework. The LDSF provides meaningful diagnostics to unpack the complexity involved in managing ecosystem health across landscapes, including trade-offs, through: (i) a science-based field protocol for measuring land and soil characteristics and vegetation composition; the field protocol measures indicators of the "health" of an ecosystem at landscape level, such as vegetation cover, structure and floristic composition, historic land use, land degradation, soil characteristics (including soil organic carbon stocks for assessing climate change mitigation potential, and infiltration capacity); (ii) a monitoring and evaluation framework for assessing the processes of land degradation and the effectiveness of rehabilitation measures (recovery) over time; (iii) a unique systematic data collection method; and (iv) a stakeholder engagement approach to elucidate insights into land health, land use, and carbon stocks over time and place.

201. With the support of CIFOR-ICRAF, the project will build MoECC's capacity to monitor the impact of GGWI interventions on the short, mid and long term, by establishing relevant frameworks to monitor ecosystem health and GGWI activities impact using the LDSF methodology. The system will be piloted on the activities of the present project (up to 30 sites) and contribute to the project's overall M&E to evaluate the success of regreening interventions, for example compiling or calculating remotely sensed indicators of soil health to perform time series analysis and comparison of treatment and control areas to determine the attributable impact of the project interventions. Different indicators may be used for different land uses (vegetation cover, soil erosion; soil organic carbon, etc.).

202. Data (GIS, remote sensing) to inform this system may be drawn from the Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM – see below), contributing to building MoECC's capacities to use and manage this platform, which is planned to be migrated under MoECC on the medium to long term, based on the experience of transferring SWALIM capacities in Somaliland and Puntland. The tools managed by SWALIM are highly relevant to monitoring results under the GGWI (land degradation, regreening, water resources, etc.). The project will further support this transition phase and the ownership and functioning of these monitoring tools under MoECC by building capacities to use the tools and making the link with them under the support to GGWI.

203. The Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM) is an FAO managed project, that studies and monitors water and land resources in Somalia. SWALIM grew out of a concept paper developed in late 2001 and became operational under an establishment phase (funded by Cooperazione Italiana) implemented throughout 2002. The project has since grown through six phases, from Phase I (funded by the European Community) which was started in 2003, to the current Phase VI, which began in November 2018 and run for four years (2018-2022). Throughout its early phases, SWALIM recovered as much lost data as possible, searching for existing information sources in Somalia and around the world. In the course of its successive stages, SWALIM has re-established the necessary baseline data and supported the development of core infrastructure to enable effective water and land management. This has been supplemented by producing baseline information through wide-ranging and ongoing assessments to document the current state of natural resources. The project has also re-established data collection networks in collaboration with partner agencies to facilitate better monitoring and assessment of rainfall, river flows, and available groundwater resources, as well as land use, soil characteristics and land use suitability. At the same time, SWALIM studies and monitors natural resources degradation and has improved systems of flood and drought early warning and response management.

[122] Regreening Africa. 2022. Generating the evidence for stakeholder engagement. Insights series volume 1. World Agroforestry, Nairobi, Kenya.

204. **Knowledge products based on project activities**. The project will leverage its experience to generate knowledge on relevant techniques for ecosystem resilience and greening, based on its own integrated approach. Dedicated studies will be conducted from year 4 of project implementation, targeting initial clusters. A total of five studies will be conducted, on aspects such as the integrated regreening approach under the project, linking F/PFS with wider ecosystem restoration, the potential of NWFP VCs in Somalia, etc. The results of the studies will be consolidated in easy to share formats, and disseminated with the support of the PMU's Policy Development Specialist together with the National Consultant supporting MoECC.

B. Project benefits

205. The project aims to provide economic, social, and environmental benefits, with particular attention to the most vulnerable communities and vulnerable groups within those communities, including gender considerations, and is not foreseen to have any negative impact. IFAD, as Implementing Entity, relies on its Social, Environmental, and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP) to enhance social, environmental, and climate resilience throughout the project. The project will benefit about 35,400 people (of which at least 50% women and 50% youth) in two Federal Member States: Galmudug and South West State. The project's target groups will comprise vulnerable smallholder producers – mainly agropastoralists, pastoralists, and other vulnerable rural poor.

Economic benefits

206. The integrated implementation of land rehabilitation and sustainable land and water management activities at wider landscape scale (component 1) will ensure the sustainability of ecosystems and thus the greater resilience of pastoral and agropastoral systems and livelihoods (component 2), with a direct impact on improving food security. The project's main economic benefits are driven by: (i) the restoration and increased resilience of ecosystems, through the avoided loss and enhanced provision of ecosystem services under component 1; (ii) the direct provision of wages to highly vulnerable households through Cash for Work under output 1.2; (iii) the improved climate change adaptation of agropastoralists and pastoralists resulting in stabilized or increased incomes thanks to the implementation of activities under output 2.1; and (iv) the increased value-addition of crops and livestock productions supported under the project and income-generating opportunities associated with alternative livelihoods (under output 2.2).

207. In particular, the percentage of households earning additional income from trees is expected to significantly increase based on similar initiatives results, where the number of households doubled, while the sale of tree products increased from 8 to 20%. On the long term, P/FMNR is also expected to contribute to sustainable income from fuelwood sale (obtained through pruning and sustainable tree management). Similar projects have demonstrated a positive relationship between asset gain and income from trees, indicating the importance of additional income for asset accumulation and household resilience. Under the project, tree nurseries and Non-Wood Forest Value Chains are expected to emerge as an additional business option, catering the growing demand for superior quality and diverse plant materials following initial investment in tree genetic resources.

208. In addition to this, non-quantifiable economic benefits include the empowerment of vulnerable pastoralists and agropastoralists, and more particularly women, youth and minorities, that will benefit from inclusive planning processes and from services provided CLeFs (under components 1 and 2), not only allowing the realization of economic benefits mentioned above, but also better preparing them to face climate-change challenges.

209. Non quantifiable economic benefits will also be derived from the enhanced value of ecosystem services resulting in particular from ecosystem restoration practices supported under the first component (benefitting up to 10,000 hectares), but also from climate resilient agricultural and pastoral practices supported under the second component (on a scale of up to 1,500 hectares of farmland), including among others: reduced soil erosion and desertification, increased carbon sequestration (through afforestation, reforestation, NAR and soil conservation measures), avoided water runoff and biodiversity losses.

Social benefits

210. The project will directly benefit over 26,500 people, and indirectly touch close to 35,500 people. The project's targeting strategy will ensure that services supported are provided in a fair, equitable and

inclusive manner. The social benefits are multiple: building social capital, economic empowerment and social inclusion (especially of women, youth, vulnerable households and minorities, with women and youth respectively representing 50% of project beneficiaries).

211. The project wholly relies on participatory and bottom-up processes (notably through the establishment of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans in 10 clusters), bringing together a wide range of stakeholders to participate in dialogue, decision-making and implementation, with the aim to lead transformative processes for more resilient landscapes. Such participatory planning processes have proven to be a sustainable and democratic approach to decision-making that can help achieve common adaptation planning goals. They have the potential to convey more equitable decision-making with regards to land and resource use sustainability and will build social capital in targeted communities. Strengthening traditional conflict resolution mechanisms (*Xeer*) is a central pillar of the project, by supporting relevant bodies at local level (VDCs/CDAs and RUMCs) for a more inclusive and sustainable management of natural resources. This support is pivotal in the fragile context the project operates in, and will directly contribute to reinforcing social capital at local level.

212. Technical trainings provided under the second component will directly benefit the productivity of pastoral and agropastoral production systems, which together with access to inputs, equipment and training on business development and financial inclusion, will result in increased food security and income stability, with associated social benefits.

213. The project will put special emphasis on addressing gender inequalities and empowering women, as their role is vital to reduce the vulnerability of livelihoods and ecosystems to the negative impacts of climate change in Somalia. This will be done by recognizing gender differences in adaptation needs and capacities as part of resilient landscapes and resilient livelihoods; by supporting gender-equitable participation and influence in adaptation decision-making processes; and by facilitating gender-equitable access to benefits resulting from investments in adaptation. A detailed Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan was prepared (included under Annex 5), and outlines activities tailored to women and other vulnerable groups' needs (including youth and minorities). The project will ensure women and vulnerable groups are engaged and their needs are reflected in local adaptation planning processes, using the Gender Sensitive Climate Vulnerability & Capacity Analysis methodology. The project will ensure women and vulnerable groups involvement in all capacity building activities under the second component, to guarantee that they are also trained on climate resilient practices. This will be reinforced by the use of household methodologies such as the Gender Action and Learning System, and the identification/recognition of female role models. Gender Based Violence will be brought up and discussed during training sessions. The project will also support businesses in which women are primarily engaged (such as 10 tree nurseries, 20 NWFP cooperatives, etc.), and ensure support to diversification through inputs and equipment contributes to alleviating women's workload and prioritizes their needs.

Environmental benefits

214. IFAD is committed to enhancing environmental sustainability and climate resilience in small-scale agriculture, promoting sustainable natural resource and economic base for rural people that makes them more resilient to climate change and environmental degradation. The project's activities were designed in full alignment of the Adaptation Fund's ESPs, and IFAD's SECAP. As such, climate adaptive and environmental benefits are built into the project, mitigating the identified adverse environmental and climate risks and helping beneficiaries adapt to the projected impacts of a changing climate. In particular, the project seeks to holistically tackle risks and challenges associated with the increased occurrence of droughts, floods, and widespread ecosystem degradation.

215. In line with priorities under the GGWI, the project primarily targets the resilience of ecosystems, both at wider landscape (10,000 hectares) and at farm level (1,500 hectares), thanks to interventions supported under component 1 and 2. The rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems, and sustainable management of fragile land will yield direct environmental benefits, by contributing to the fight against desertification (Land Degradation Neutrality targets) but also the promotion of biodiversity (by fighting invasive species, allowing the return of more diversified ecosystems, and promoting the diffusion of indigenous trees, shrubs and herbaceous species both on pastoral and agricultural land). All project activities also contribute to enhancing carbon storage in the soil (land rehabilitation, reduced erosion, and revegetation).

216. More specifically, the project will produce a comprehensive landscape analysis to support communities in understanding and prioritizing investments for the restoration of ecosystems they depend on, while promoting integrated approaches for the restoration of the ecosystem, bringing short, medium and long-term benefits, through social fencing, mechanical restoration and revegetation. The combination of Soil and Water Conservation with Soil Protection and Restoration (SPR) works (stone barriers, earth bunds, semi-circular bunds or half-moons, etc.) with tree planting, reseeding and P/FMNR on collective land allows to restore its productivity through the capture and improved efficiency of water runoff for pastoral (or agricultural) purposes while reducing water and wind erosion, leading to an impact at three levels: (i) *environmental*, with the regrowth of vegetal cover, which improves carbon sequestration (increase in above- and below-ground biomass) and the creation of spaces that are conducive to increasing biodiversity; (ii) *water availability*, with better water infiltration, which, in the short term, increases the underground water table at the watershed-scale; and (iii) *production potential*, with the production of fodder and the possible development of NWFP.

217. Additionally, the project will directly benefit and promote biodiversity by implementing the ecosystem restoration and resilience activities as outlined under its first outcome (including afforestation, reforestation and reseeding with native species) and notably by supporting the elimination of invasive alien species such as Prosopis, by raising awareness and engaging local communities in conservation efforts, and by promoting the establishment of tree nurseries for the production of local species seedlings. Regreening efforts under the project should also directly encourage the return of local biodiversity. More generally, and as part of the GGWI, the project will make the link with United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) to ensure all associated benefits are captured.

C. Cost Effectiveness

218. The project is based on an integrated approach, consisting in concentrating investments within consistent landscape units (watersheds in agropastoral areas, or pastoral space used by pastoral communities), to maximize impacts, and hence cost effectiveness. Indeed, the approach both allows to guarantee multiple benefits thanks to the complementarity of interventions, and to generate downstream benefits thanks to integrated planning and management. Additionally, the project's geographic targeting will include criteria seeking complementarity with past or recent investments, notably in terms of access to water, to further optimize impacts and cost effectiveness.

219. Adaptation options under the project have been defined based on cost-effectiveness and resilience criteria including (i) location suitability; (ii) cost-effectiveness (cost/beneficiary); (iii) comparison to alternative solutions; (iv) beneficiaries' vulnerabilities and needs (direct and indirect); (v) operations and maintenance needs and arrangements feasibility; (vi) sustainability needs and arrangements (including opportunities for replication, upscaling and exit strategy feasibility); and (vii) reduced environmental and social risks.

220. Under the first component, the project will support community-based planning processes, guaranteeing the ownership and engagement of local stakeholders, further securing the sustainability of investments. The use of cash for work approaches guarantees multiple benefits, by directly alleviating poverty and providing income to most vulnerable households, while supporting the long-term resilience of local ecosystems. Soil and Water Conservation practices supported both under the first and second component have proven to be cost-efficient, which is a key incentive for the long-term adoption and sustainability of these climate-resilient practices and technologies by pastoralists and agropastoralists. In particular, climate resilient practices supported under the second component tend to show net additional incomes under the foreseen climate scenarios, meaning that farmers adopting these practices are likely to be better off in the long run. Component 3, focused on policy support and knowledge integration thanks to the operationalization of the GGWI in Somalia, also contributes to the cost-effectiveness of the project, by supporting the establishment of integrated institutional vehicles allowing to minimize duplicative efforts, enhance coordination, and streamline resource allocation and mobilization, resulting in a more cost-effective and coherent approach at national level.

221. The Economic of Land Degradation (ELD) initiative conducted an assessment of the economic impact of land degradation of Somalia[123] based on the Regreening Africa initiative project results, with

[123] Hussein, M.; Stringer, L.; Dallimer, M.; Aden, A.; and Ali, A. (2021). Economics of Land Degradation Initiative: An assessment of the economic impact of land degradation in Somaliland.

similar interventions to the present project. The assessment included a cost-benefit analysis, comparing two proposed management options against a counterfactual scenario or 'business-as-usual' (BAU). The management options evaluated included: (i) social fencing and designation of land for prescribed (agricultural or rangeland) use; and (ii) partial reseeding and soil bund construction. The analysis only captured direct use values of the provisioning ecosystems services considered and not indirect use benefits (e.g., control of soil erosion) and non-use value (e.g. cultural and biodiversity) provided by rangelands. Results demonstrated the cost-effectiveness of both Sustainable Land Management (SLM) techniques that are also used under Hal-Abuur:

i. The first option yields aggregate net benefits of roughly USD 1,283 per household per year, amounting to a 400% increase compared to the corresponding BAU scenario. The high rate of improvement in NPV reflects both the potential protective effect of social fencing, leading to activities supporting the regeneration of land cover and therefore improved productivity. The cost-benefit ratio is 9, whilst the NPV per household and NPV per day per person increases from USD 258 and 0.12 to USD 1,258 to 0.59 respectively.

ii. For the second option, the NPV improves by 60% from USD 64 million under the BAU scenario from 36.6 million to USD 102 million under restoration over a 47-year time horizon considered. The annual NPV per household increased from USD 541 to 868, corresponding to USD 0.25 and 0.40 per person per day respectively. The cost-benefit ratio also increased significantly from 5.7 to 9.8 respectively. The same figures for 10 years and 20 years range between 8.3 and 9.2 respectively under different discount rates.

222. More generally, key economic arguments for investing in SLM include:

- **Land degradation causes economic losses (cost of inaction)**. CIFOR-ICRAF and ELD conducted studies at various sites affected by land degradation, including soil degradation and loss of vegetation cover. These forms of degradation result in overexploitation and conflicts of use, leading to significant losses of ecosystem services. Additionally, the cost of land degradation, i.e., the loss of earnings in agricultural production due to soil depletion and reduction in vegetation cover is much higher than the opportunity cost.
- **SLM measures are cost-effective and increase food security and climate resilience**. Most of the options assessed in studies by CIFOR-ICRAF/ELD are financially and economically viable, making the case for large-scale adoption. Communities that have adopted SLM practices are more food secure, thanks to increased productivity and diversification of crops.
- **SLM practices are profitable within specific timeframes**. For most practices, investments require at least three to four years to start generating additional net value compared to business as usual. The benefits of agroforestry are usually longer term and require greater initial investments while vegetative strips or organic fertilisation are easy to establish and maintain and have relatively low costs.

Table 3 - Cost-effectiveness and alternatives to project

Component/ Output	Total costs (USD)	Beneficiaries	Benefits generated – losses averted	Alternative to project
Component 1. Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia				
Output 1.1. Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans developed	1,053,539	- 20 Cluster Level Facilitators trained in planning natural resources management and resilience - 35,400 persons benefit from enhanced resilience of natural resources	- 30 villages/communities in 10 clusters develop integrated Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans, based on gender inclusive methodologies. The plans are subsequently integrated into Village Level Action Plans, contributing to the mainstreaming of adaptation solutions in local planning. - 30 VDCs/CDAs are reinforced in terms of conflict resolution, governance, gender and environmental, climate mainstreaming, and financial management, contributing to the enhanced social capital of the whole community (or over 35,400 people)	- Alternatives to the project consist in implementing landscape restoration planning without relying on participatory processes - As a result, communities cannot be easily engaged in Cash for Work schemes and the project needs to resort to costlier approaches relying on companies to perform the works - At the same time, the absence of participatory process and lack of engagement of local communities in the works result in limited ownership and incapacity to maintain the investments, which deteriorate and are lost over time

Output 1.2. Priority green and resilient measures implemented	2,676,477		- 30 Resource Users and Management Committees are established and support the implementation of site management plans, including through social fencing. - An integrated approach is implemented (i) in pastoral areas: thanks to pastoral management plan including the resting of pastoral land through social fencing, completed by soil and water conservation and revegetation (reforestation, afforestation, over sowing); (ii) in agropastoral areas, thanks to a watershed approach focusing on soil and water conservation and revegetation upstream, and riverbank protection downstream, completed by sustainable pastoral management practices. These practices result in the protection of 10,000 ha of ecosystem, with direct investments for land restoration over 1,500 ha, resulting in increased resilience to drought/floods. - Further ecosystem degradation is averted over more than 10,000 ha. - 4,500 households (50% women beneficiaries) are trained on ecosystem resilience practices and benefit directly from Cash for Work schemes, supporting their enhanced resilience in the short term, and their ability to replicate practices and maintain investments in the long term.	- Use of companies instead of Cash for Work also result in loss of financial income for vulnerable local households - Another alternative would be to implement the project without adopting a landscape approach, thereby losing the opportunity to integrate investments and maximize impacts: without the integrated ecosystem management approach, investments are scattered and do not generate enhanced impact at landscape level.
Component 2. Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia				
Output 2.1. Adaptive capacity of agropastoral and pastoral systems strengthened	1,953,344	- Additional 20 CLeFs capacitated on resilient production techniques - Over 35,400 persons accessing the services on resilient agriculture and pastoral productions provided by trained CLeFs	- Increased resilience of pastoral and agropastoral practices in the 10 clusters targeted thanks to project support and continuous CLeFs engagement - 1,000 HH are trained on P/FMNR including through peer-to-peer replication, and implement P/FMNR over 5,000 ha, with direct benefits in terms of ecosystem and farm resilience. - 1,000 HH receive training on climate resilient practices through 40 P/FFS, leading to the increased resilience of up to 1,500 ha of farmland, and at least 3,500 ha of pastoral land. Such practices directly offer adaptation solutions to the expected climate impacts on the targeted production systems (heat and drought, as well as increased pests and diseases), and thus contribute to an enhanced resilience of agricultural and pastoral land, thanks (amongst others) to better soil and water conservation, fertility management, and erosion control. - The GALS methodology is mainstreamed in all P/FFS, enabling to address gender equality and Gender Based Violence. Women leader and P/FMNR champions are promoted in their communities and given support/visibility	- Alternatives to project do not take into account the climate resilience of targeted productions/do not address climate vulnerabilities of considered productions, resulting in their being impacted by climate shocks, preventing a stable and sustainable stream of income. - Alternative to project could be to focus on highly commercial value chains, leaving most vulnerable households on the side. - As a result, production would be supported essentially for commercialization outside the intervention area (or even for exportation), with fewer benefits in terms of enhanced food security at local level (meaning that support would still be needed to bridge the gap), likelihood of leaving the most vulnerable behind, and possibility of increased carbon emissions - The project could also have less focus on women led activities (such as tree nurseries), resulting in limited availability of planting material to replicate the project activities beyond its lifetime. Also, the project could choose not to support NWFP VCs, losing an opportunity to show the long-term value of trees and their products to local communities, while empowering women.
Output 2.2. Diversification of income sources for resilient	1,677,015		- 10 tree nurseries are established and serve the needs of all smallholders in the area. - Avoided loss of production (food loss and waste) thanks to	

livelihoods ensured			support to post production processes and timeliness of harvest thanks to labour saving technologies - 20 women cooperatives commercializing Non-Wood Forest Products are established	
Component 3. Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia				
Output 3.1. National Strategy and Action Plan to Implement the GGWI in Somalia elaborated	252,343		- National Strategy and Action Plan for the GGWI in Somalia elaborated - State level Strategies and Action Plans for the GGWI in Galmudug and Lower Shabelle established	- An alternative to the project would be to not engage in the GGWI altogether, losing an opportunity to join a pan African initiative and the possibility to coordinate interventions falling under the GGWI umbrella in the country - Not engaging in the GGWI may also be a lost opportunity in terms of resource mobilization - Finally the project could establish specific structures under the MoECC to coordinate the GGWI instead of establishing a multisectoral coalition, thereby burdening the work of MoECC, which is already in need of support and capacity development.
Output 3.2. National and local stakeholders' capacities to implement GGWI in Somalia reinforced	728,297	Over 100 officials capacitated	- MoECC capacitated to coordinate the GGWI in the country - Proper coordination mechanisms and tools are established - Monitoring of ecosystems resilience as part of GGWI is conducted under the leadership of MoECC	

D. Strategic alignment

223. **Background**. Somalia joined the UNFCCC in 2009 and ratified the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement in 2010 and 2016, respectively[124]. As a signatory to the UNFCCC, the Federal Republic of Somalia has submitted its Initial National Communication in 2018, its First Biennial Update Report in 2022, its First Adaptation Communication under the Paris Agreement in 2022 and its updated National Determined Contribution in 2021. It is also worth noting that the Government of the Republic of Somalia has ratified the UNCCD in 2002 and the UNCBD in 2009.

224. The project is very much aligned with the **2021 updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)**, through which the Federal Government of Somalia committed to implement a series of adaptation actions in the following areas: (i) agriculture and food security through building adaptation capacity in climate-resilient agronomic practices for smallholder farmers and improving access to agro-weather information services, (ii) water resources management through promoting rainwater harvesting and conservation of water and water use efficiency, (iii) disaster preparedness and management through establishing the meteorological networks to enhance early warning systems, increasing resilience of communities, infrastructures and ecosystems to droughts and floods and strengthening the adaptive capacity of the most vulnerable groups including women, children, elderly persons and IDP communities through social safety nets and livelihood support and, (iv) forestry and environment through increasing areas under agroforestry and reforestation of degraded forests, enhancing the participation of women and youth in activities related to adaption and environmental conservation in order to empower them and enhance their adaptive capacity, promoting climate change resilient traditional and modern knowledge of sustainable pasture and range management systems and climate change communication, education and public awareness raising. The NDC identifies priority areas for climate change adaptation in Somalia from 2021 to 2030 based on Somalia's national and sub-national development objectives and plans.

225. Somalia's **First Adaptation Communication to the UNFCCC** (2022) is a report designed to reflect the country's adaptation progress, priorities, and needs going forward. Its purpose is to: i) strengthen adaptation action and enhance resilience to the impacts of climate change; ii) increase the visibility and profile of adaptation globally and nationally; iii) improve learning and understanding of adaptation needs and responses throughout Somalia and the region; iv) enhance resource mobilization for adaptation action in the country; and v) provide input to the synthesis report of the Global Stocktake under the Paris Agreement. The document provides information on the national circumstances that underpin Somalia's adaptation efforts, the progress it has made on adaptation, its adaptation priorities

[124] https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Somalia%20First%20BUR%20report%202022.pdf

and plans, and the support it needs from the international community. It reiterated the NDC's priorities for adaptation.

226. The **Initial National Communication** report to the UNFCCC (2018) outlines the national circumstances of Federal Republic of Somalia covering geographical attributes, demographic profile, socio-economic environment and institutional set up related to climate change and environmental governance. The report identifies droughts and floods amongst key climate challenges and includes a range of adaptation actions, in particular for pastoral and agropastoral livelihoods, to which the project will directly contribute.

227. Somalia's **National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA, 2013)** to Climate Change is the first national-level document that identifies urgent and immediate climate change adaptation needs of the most vulnerable groups. Project activities directly contribute to area 1 (Sustainable Land Management) of the NAPA priority areas and adaptation measures, which includes adaption activities related to reforestation campaign with the distribution of seedlings to vulnerable communities; improved rangeland management and development and enforcement of a system for rotational grazing; awareness raising on environment, focusing on natural resource management, strengthening ecosystem services and promotion of alternative fuel/energy sources, and to a lesser extent to area 3, Disaster Management (focusing on prevention of drought and flooding).

228. The project is aligned on the **National Climate Change Policy (2020)** which has the vision to (i) promote a harmonized, articulate and effective response to challenges and opportunities that accompany climate change; (ii) deliver a framework that will guide the establishment and operationalization of interventions and action plans; and (iii) safeguard the safety and health of citizens, their prosperity and states development in the advent of climate change through enhancement of resilience and implementation of adaptive ability to climate variability. The policy captures sectoral laws and strategies that form the legislative foundation for specific activities that need to be evaluated for potential improvements to enhance their ability to tackle climate change challenges and exploit emerging opportunities. The policy enables better coordination of climate change work in the country and provides opportunities for cooperation and collaboration between the national and sub-national levels of government as well as with development partners, international and regional institutions. Likewise, the policy stipulates the country's vision and strategies that recognize the importance of climate change, international agreements, and national commitments on climate change.

229. The Federal Government of Somalia has recognized climate change adaptation as a crucial element of Somalia's development and climate agenda, and integrated it into the **National Development Plan (NDP-9) for 2020-2024**, which identifies drought and flood as the major climatic constraints for the country. The goal of NDP-9 is to reduce poverty and inequality through inclusive economic growth and employment, improved security and rule of law, and strengthened political stability. NDP-9 addresses the root causes of poverty and aims to improve the impacts of poverty experienced by households and individuals. In reference to climate change the NDP-9 acknowledges that the poor are the most vulnerable to shocks, and if Somalia is to achieve the objective of poverty reduction it must be through the ability to invest in resilience. Natural resource management, biodiversity and resilience to climate change are considered as cross-cutting policies (imperatives) together with gender, human rights and social equity. The plan prioritizes most strategic interventions with multiple benefits including economic benefits alongside environmental sustainability, conflict reduction, strengthened governance and reduced exclusion. Overall, the plan integrates environmental protection across development intervention design and implementation for the period. The project directly contributes to national priorities as set out in the NDP-9, and in particular the Economic (3) and Social Pillars (4) with respect to Agriculture, Food Security, Social and Human Development.

230. The project also directly contributes to the **Ministry of Environment and Climate Change 2023-2028 Strategic Plan**. In this plan, the Ministry addresses various needs and focal problems which are imperative for ministerial strengthening and organizational effectiveness. Among the needs addressed are adverse climate changes, environmental degradation, weak environmental governance, loss of biodiversity, wildlife and forestry, and climate resilient food systems. Five key priority areas are identified including (1) climate change, energy and weather information; (2) environmental conservation; (3) environmental governance and coordination; (4) biodiversity and wildlife conservation; and (5) climate resilient food systems. The plan also makes direct reference to the Great Green Wall Initiative in Somalia.

231. The project also contributes to the objectives and priorities set out in the following:

a) **The National Environment Strategy and Action Plan for 2021-2025** puts in place mechanisms and measures to ensure sustainable management and use of the rich natural resources in the country, and seeks to respond to urgent environment and climate change issues and improving environmental governance, as well as enhancing resource mobilisation for the effective management of natural resources and environment.

b) **The National Environment Policy (2020)** is a core document concerning the sustainable management of natural resources for Somalia. The Government, through the policy, seeks to adopt environmental conservation, and mitigation and adaptation approaches to deal with climate change. This policy recognizes that many of the natural disasters in Somalia, such as floods and drought, are climate-related and that their negative impacts cut across all key sectors of the economy. It provides the necessary government interventions towards environmental conservation and climate change response in the areas of protection of biodiversity, reduction of greenhouse gases (GHGs) emissions, waste, and clean technology.

c) **The Somalia National Action Programme for the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (2016)** recognizes desertification, land degradation, and drought caused by human activities and climatic variations as the most serious environmental challenges facing Somalia. The document provides background information, the status of land degradation, the socio-economic impacts of LD in Somalia, the Somalia National Action Programme Process and Somalia National Action Programme 2015–2030: Towards Land Degradation Neutrality. The document sets out four strategic objectives, and five operational objectives to combat desertification, amongst which (OO1) Advocacy, Awareness Raising and Education; (OO2) Policy Framework; (OO3) Science, Technology, and Knowledge; (OO4) Capacity Building; and (OO5) Financing and Technology Transfer.

d) The **National Voluntary Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Targets 2020**, developed under global initiative of the UNCCD, recognises land degradation caused by drought as a major impediment to national economic development as it adversely affects livestock and agriculture, which contributes heavily to its GDP. Some of the targets set under the document include; achievement of LDN by 2030 as compared to baseline 2015 (no net loss), an additional 10% territory has improved by 2030, an increase of National forest cover increased from 10.14% (2015) to 10.20% (2022) and maintained at 30% by 2030 through agroforestry and SLM, reduced consumption of biomass energy by half, reduced soil erosion, reduced conversion of forests and wetlands into other uses, restoration and increase of land productivity among others.

e) **The National Disaster Management Policy (2018)** aims to improve community resilience and preparedness in the face of disaster and climate emergencies in order to significantly reduce the loss of lives and property. The policy seeks to provide a legislative framework for disaster management within government institutions while also strengthening the coherence and co-ordination of humanitarian support from international partners and donor organizations. The framework provides guidelines for incorporating disaster risk reduction into the national development planning process, and outlines priority investments in disaster preparedness, early warning, mitigation, and recovery. This policy provides an entry point for exploiting synergies between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation by outlining required institutional support and developing project pipelines.

f) **The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan – NBSAP (2015)**, developed under the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2015, has direct linkages with biodiversity and climate change response in Somalia. It aims to establish an understanding of drivers of biodiversity degradation and devise response measures. The strategy highlights among other gaps in capacity, policy and resource mobilization, and coordination for effective management and monitoring of biodiversity.

g) **The National Drought Plan for Somalia (2020)** aims to set a system and mechanism in place whereby the Government of Somalia and relevant stakeholders can operate in order to mitigate the broad array and frequent impact of droughts in Somalia to enable the establishment of a resilient society that can withstand the drought shocks. The priority strategic interventions of

the Plan are: 1) Drought Monitoring and Prediction; 2) Drought Impact assessment: 3) Drought Preparedness through sustainable use of Water, Land and Natural resources; 4) Improving Emergency Drought Response.

h) **The National Rangeland Management Strategy (2022-2032)**, aims to promote sustainable rangeland resource management for improved livelihoods of the pastoral communities. The Rangeland Management Strategy outlines five strategic objectives, most of which the project will directly contribute to, as follows: SO1: Develop measures that promote sustainable rangeland resource management and improve on rangeland health for increased productivity; SO2: Revitalize pastoral production systems by supporting policies and strategies that increase resilience of the system for better livelihoods; SO3: Mainstream climate change adaptation and mitigation measures for enhanced productivity and sustainable Rangeland management; SO4: Enhance sustainable exploitation and marketing of rangeland resources for improved livelihoods of rangeland communities; and SO5: Promote sustainable alternative livelihoods in the rangelands for improved livelihoods.

i) The **Somalia Livestock Sector Development Strategy (2019)** highlights the need to improve the natural rangelands resource base, as it is critical to sustaining the production and productivity of livestock, in parallel with improving livestock productivity and value addition. The strategy notes that efforts to improve land tenure management are required to deal with grazing rights, the fast-expanding private enclosures on previously communal rangelands, and commercial crop and grasses-producing areas. In addition, the strategy highlights the need to ensure secure migration routes to maintain mobility of livestock both within the country and cross-border.

j) **The National Food Security and Nutrition Strategy (2020-2025)**, aims at providing government commitments as well as to guide its institutions (at all levels); development partners, and other key stakeholders in their efforts to address food insecurity and malnutrition. The Strategy is designed to address the triple burden of malnutrition (coexistence of overnutrition, undernutrition, and micronutrient deficiencies). In the strategy, the government aims to ensure that stability of food supply, access, and usage are safeguarded through the agriculture, livestock, fisheries, trade, health, infrastructure, social protection, and related socio-economic sectors on yearly basis while investing in natural resources management and environmental conservation for long-term stability.

k) **The Somalia National Gender Policy (2016)** includes strategies to eradicate harmful traditional practices such as FGM/C and child marriage and to improve services for the management of Gender Based Violence (GBV) cases, while **the Women's Charter for Somalia (2019)** calls for women's economic empowerment, and recognize that full participation and socioeconomic rights are cornerstones for equality and sustainable development. **The National Youth Policy of the Federal Government of Somalia (2018)** aims at promoting youth participation in all spheres of development.

232. More generally and where relevant, the project will seek alignment with the Recovery and Resilience Framework (2018), the Agriculture Development Strategic Plan 2021-2025, the National Forest Policy/Strategy (2023), the Somalia National Water Policy and National Water Resource Law (2010), the Integrated Water Resources Management Strategic Plan (2019-2023), the National Water Resource Strategy (2021-2025), the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Policy (2019).

233. **At the regional level**, the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the AU climate change strategy commits to environment and climate change mainstreaming and calls on member countries to implement the Programme on Climate Action in Africa, including a climate resilient agricultural development programme. Somalia is also a member of Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and has to align with the **IGAD's Environment and Natural Resources Strategy**. The strategy seeks to improve the coordination of environment and natural resources management activities in IGAD member states and to enhance the integration of environmental and natural resources concerns into development frameworks.

234. Additionally, the project is aligned with the **African Union Great Green Wall Initiative Strategy and Ten-Year Implementation Framework (2024-2034)**, officially launched in May 2024, and its overall objective to "*enhance the resilience of communities, ecosystems, and economies in the African*

drylands by improving the living conditions of populations, improving the state and health of ecosystems, advocating and mobilising resources, strengthening institutional collaboration and promoting policy coherence". The present project will also support the preparation of a National GGW strategy and action plan, on which initial idea it is fully aligned.

235. Finally, the project will contribute directly to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDG): **SDG 1** (No poverty), **SDG 2** (Zero hunger), **SDG 5** (Gender equality), **SDG 8** (Decent work and economic growth), **SDG 12** (Responsible consumption and production), and **SDG 13** (Climate action).

E. National Standards and Environmental and Social Policy

236. Through its SECAP, IFAD aligns its practices with the Adaptation Fund's policy to uphold environmental and social standards throughout its projects. As such, the project complies with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund, (see ESP risk assessment summary in section II. K) and has been designed to minimise any negative environmental impact, resulting in net environmental benefits.

237. The **Ministry of Environment and climate change** is mandated to draft the national Environmental policies, regulations and legislations including establishing of the Environmental Quality Standards, Sectoral Environmental Assessments (SEAs), Environment Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Environmental Audits (EAs), among others. The national framework for Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) is being developed, based on the following:

a) **The National Environment Protection and Management Act (2024)**. The objective of the Act is to promote a clean and healthy environment for all Somalis, prevent pollution, protect natural resources and promote sustainable development. The Act sets the institutional arrangements at Federal and Member state levels for proper environmental management. The law requires FMSs to establish state environmental agencies will be responsible for coordinating the formulation, implementation, review and revision of state environmental strategies, policies and laws and, environmental monitoring, protection and regulation. The Act also provides for environmental impact assessments and audits to be undertaken for all projects and programmes with likely environmental impacts.

238. Environmental protection and management is mainstreamed across the project activities. The project through outcomes 1 and 2 will primarily targets the resilience of ecosystems, both at wider landscape (benefitting up to 10,000 hectares) and at farm level (1,500 hectares). The rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems, and sustainable management of fragile land will yield direct environmental benefits, by contributing to the fight against desertification (LDN targets) but also the promotion of biodiversity (by fighting invasive species, allowing the return of more diversified ecosyste²ms, and promoting the diffusion of indigenous trees, shrubs and herbaceous species both on pastoral and agricultural land). The project is not expected to have significant environmental impacts and thus not require ESIA.

b) **The Draft Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Regulations (2023)**. The draft regulation developed under the Environmental Protection and Management Act aims to regulate the procedure and criteria as contemplated in Article 8 of the Act relating to the preparation, evaluation, submission, processing and consideration of, and decision on, applications for environmental authorisations for the commencement of activities, subjected to environmental and social impact assessment, in order to avoid or mitigate detrimental impacts on the environment and society, and to optimise positive impacts. The draft regulations identify arrangements for environmental impact assessments and approval at Federal and member states levels.

Hal-Abuur does not qualify either as Category A and Category B of projects identified for undertaking ESIA under the draft regulation, and hence doesn't require ESIA to be undertaken. The project is not expected to cause any adverse environmental and social impacts.

239. **State-specific Environmental Regulations**:

The **Galmudug State has a Ministry of Environment**, which manage environmental issues. The State Ministry of Environment is to be consulted before any infrastructure activities are implemented in their respective state with potential Environmental & Social (E&S) risks and impacts. The institutional arrangement for the E&S safeguards related matters including the

approval process are yet to be established or agreed upon. The State and municipalities have offices responsible for land adjudication matters. Galmudug State Environmental Management Law (2020): This law, awaiting final parliamentary approval, aims to decentralize environmental governance to local levels. It includes provisions for the protection of the environment, prevention of pollution, and mandates the conduct of EIAs for projects with significant adverse environmental impacts.

The **South West State has a Ministry of Environment and Tourism**, which manages environmental related issues. The Ministry of Environment and Tourism has developed and passed ESIA regulations, which are meant to govern environmental matters, including licensing of landfills, waste pits and medical waste incinerators, in addition to oversight over environmental governance. South West State has no environmental legislation in place due to capacity challenges.

240. The project will respect and adhere to the relevant federal and state level laws and codes, where they exist, as outlined below.

241. **The Federal Republic of Somalia Provisional Constitution, 2012**[125]. The overarching legal document is the Provisional Federal Constitution, which was adopted on August 1, 2012. The constitution is divided into XV Chapters, subdivided into 143 articles and 4 Schedules as follows: Declaration of the Federal Republic of Somalia (Chap. I); Fundamental Rights and the Duties of the Citizen (Chap. II); Land, Property and Environment (Chap. III); Representation of the People (Chap. IV); Devolution of the Powers of State in the Federal Republic of Somalia (Chap. V); The Federal Parliament (Chap. VI); The President of the Federal Republic (Chap. VII); The Executive Branch (Chap. VIII); The Judicial Authority (Chap. IX); The Independent Commissions (Chap. X); Civil Service (Chap. XI); Federal Member States (Chap. XII); Public Finance (Chap. XIII); Peace and Security (Chap. XIV); Final and Transitional Provisions (Chap. XV). After the Shari'ah, the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Somalia is the supreme law of the country. It binds the government and guides policy initiatives and decisions in all sections of government. There are several provisions that may be relevant for this project, as summarized below:

a) Article 11 (1 & 4) Equality: All citizens, regardless of sex, religion, social or economic status, political opinion, clan, disability, occupation, birth or dialect shall have equal rights and duties before the law. It also provides that all State programs, such as laws, or political and administrative actions that are designed to achieve full equality for individuals or groups who are disadvantaged, or who have suffered from discrimination in the past, shall be deemed to be not discriminatory.

b) Article 14 Slavery, Servitude and Forced Labour: stipulates that a person may not be subjected to slavery, servitude, trafficking, or forced labour for any purpose.

c) Article 15 Liberty and security of person: prohibits Female Genital Mutilation as it amounts to torture.

d) Article 24 Labour relations: Every person has the right to fair labour relations; right to strike; form, join and participate in trade unions; and right to engage in collective bargaining on labour related issues. All workers, particularly women, have a special right of protection from sexual abuse, segregation and discrimination in the workplace. All labor laws and practices shall comply with gender equality in the workplace.

e) Article 25 Environment: states that every Somali has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health and wellbeing, and to be protected from pollution and harmful materials. Every Somali has a right to have a share of the natural resources of the country, whilst being protected from excessive and damaging exploitation of natural resources.

f) Article 26 (section 1 and 2) Property: states that a) every person has the right to own, use, enjoy, sell and transfer property, b) the state may compulsorily acquire property only if doing so in the public interest, c) any person whose property has been acquired in the public interest has the right to just compensation from the State as agreed by the parties or decided by a court.

[125] https://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC127387/

g) Article 27 (1 & 5) Economic and social rights- right to clean portable water. Women, aged and disabled and minorities who have suffered discrimination to be supported to realize their full potential.

h) Article 43 Land: land is recognized as primary resource and the basis of the people's livelihood; b) land shall be held, used and managed in an equitable, efficient, productive and sustainable manner; c) the FGS shall develop a national land policy, which shall be subject to constant review, d) no permit may be granted regarding the permanent use of any portion of the land, sea or air of the territory of the Federal Republic of Somalia, e) the FGS, in consultation with the FMS and other stakeholders, shall regulate land policy, and land control and use measures.

i) Article 44 Natural resources: Allocation to be negotiated by FGS and FMS in accordance with the Constitution.

j) Article 45 Environment, states that the Government shall give priority to the protection, conservation, and preservation of the environment against anything that may cause harm to natural biodiversity and the ecosystem. Furthermore, all people have a duty to safeguards and enhance the environment and participate in the development, execution, management, conservation and protection of the natural resources and the environment. The FGS and the governments of the FMS affected by environmental damage shall take urgent measures to clean up hazardous waste dumped on the land or in the waters of the FGS; take necessary measures to reverse desertification, deforestation and environmental degradation, and to conserve the environment and prevent activities that damage the natural resources and the environment of the nation, among other measures.

k) Article 52 Cooperative Relationships between the Various Federal Member State Governments, listed issues related to Rangeland Management such as water resources, animal husbandry, pasture and forestry, The prevention of erosion and the protection of the environment; and Protection of environment.

l) Article 115 Civil service: outlines civil service values and protection of their rights.

242. The following Laws and Codes may apply during project implementation:

a) The **Law on Fauna (Hunting) and Forest Conservation (No. 15 of 1969)**, and in particular Book II of dedicated to forest conservation. Forest reserves may be created by declaration of the President under Chapter I. Article 53 concerns the declaration of rights in relation to land or forest produce areas to be declared as forest reserve. Chapter II concerns the protection for forest resources and forest produce. Article 60 provide for the declaration of grazing reserves for the purpose of controlling grazing in such area.

b) The **Labour Code of 1972** stipulates that all contracts of employment must include a) the nature and duration of the contract; b) the hours and place of work; c) the remuneration payable to the worker; and c) the procedure for suspension or termination of contract. Furthermore, all contracts must be submitted to the competent labor inspector for pre-approval. The employer is obligated to provide adequate measures for health and safety for protecting staff against related risks, including the provisions of a safe and clean work environment and of well-equipped, constructed and managed workplaces that provide sanitary facilities, water and other basic tools and appliances ensuring workers' health and safety. The Code further stipulates that workers have the right to submit complaints and the employer must give the complaints due consideration. Remuneration must be adequate in view of the quality and quantity of the work delivered, and must be non-discriminatory with regards to age, gender and other aspects. Maximum number of working hours per week are 8 hours per day and 6 days per week. Some work is considered dangerous and unhealthy and forbidden for women and youth (defined as 15-18 years of age). This includes the carrying of heavy weights or working at night. The Labor Code further forbids work for children below the age of 15 but allows employment of children between the age of 12-15 on the condition that the work is compatible with proper protection, health and the moral of children and in case where it is necessitated by special local conditions and technical requirements of the work. The Labor code also forbids the employment of young persons below the age of 16 in work done on flying scaffolds or portable ladders in connection with construction activities. The Code also recognizes freedom of association. Employers are

prohibited from engaging in any kind of discrimination or restriction of the right of freedom of association. Workers are allowed to join trade unions. The Labor Code stipulates the right to equal pay for women for the same work as men and paid maternity leave. Women are entitled to 14 weeks of maternity leave at half pay.

c) The **Law No. 40 of 4 October 1973 on Cooperative Development in the Somali Democratic Republic** consists of 21 articles and an Annex containing terms and regulations for cooperatives: Aims and tasks of cooperatives within the economy of the Somali Democratic Republic (Chap. I); Cooperative in agriculture (Chap. II); Cooperative development in fishery (Chap. III); Cooperative in small industries and handicrafts (Chap. IV); Consumer cooperatives (Chap. V); Cooperative legislation and registration (Chap. VI); Cooperative councils (Chap. VII); Abrogation and entry into force (Chap. VIII).

d) The **Agricultural Land Law (1975)** transfers all land from traditional authorities to the government. Individuals desiring land were to register their holdings within a 6-months period. The law does not recognize customary land holdings.

e) The **Veterinary Law Code (2016)**, which makes provisions with respect to a wide array of matters relating to animal health, animal production and animal products. The Law is divided into 17 Chapters: Introduction (1); General Provisions (2); Disease Notification and General Obligations (3); Notifiable Disease Control (4); Animal Welfare (5); Export/Import of Animals and Animal Products (6); Transport of Animals and Animal Products (7); Meat Hygiene (8); Private Veterinarians (9); Regulation of Veterinary Drugs and Related Substances (10); Fees, Penal and Other Provisions (11); Animal Disease Emergency and Response Management (12); Action During Disease Emergency (13); The Veterinary Board (14); Provision for Additional Regulations of this Code (15); Abolishing The Law (16); Legalization (17).

f) The **Pest Management Plan (PMP)** of 2020 serves to guide and help monitor and mitigate negative environmental, health and social economic impacts arising from use of pesticides to control the current Desert Locust upsurge. Response to the desert locust crisis in Somalia aims to achieve three main goals: Control the desert locust's population, through scaled up surveillance and monitoring, spraying of nymphs and hopper bands, and impact assessment, with local capacity building to carry out these operations safely and effectively; Protect livelihoods of food-insecure rural households at risk of locust invasion, by pre-positioning and delivering supplies, including back-up seed stock for immediate replanting, supplementary feed cubes for small milking animals and cash assistance where required; and Rebuild a modern and effective early warning and control system, which relied before the war on two centres in the northern regions.

243. The Federal Government is in the process of developing the following relevant policy, legal and regulatory frameworks: (i) **Draft National Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Regulations**; (ii) **Draft National Forest Management Policy**; and (iii) **Draft National Charcoal Policy**.

Table 4 - ESMP Compliance

Concern	Law Legislation	Enforcing agencies	Enforced regulation/item
Environmental Protection	Somalia's Environmental Protection & Management Act (2024)	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of natural resources, pollution control
	Galmudug State Environmental Management Law (2020)	Ministry of Environment, Galmudug State	Environmental protection, prevention of pollution, EIAs
Forest Management	Law on Fauna (Hunting) and Forest Conservation (No. 15 of 1969) Draft Charcoal Policy 2020	Ministry of Livestock, Forestry & Range MoECC	Create and protect forest reserves, control grazing areas Regular charcoal production, alternatives
Sustainable Land Management	Somalia's Environmental Protection& Management Act (2024)	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Best practices in sustainable land management
	Galmudug State Environmental Management Law (2020)	Ministry of Environment, Galmudug State	Implementation of sustainable land management practices
Animal Health and Welfare	Veterinary Law Code (2016)	Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range	Regulate animal health, control disease, ensure animal welfare
Safe Use of Pesticides	Pest Management Plan (PMP) 2020	Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation	Guide pesticide use, protect health and environment

Gender Equality and Women's empowerment	The Federal Republic of Somalia Provisional Constitution (2012), Article 11	Ministry of Women and Human rights development	Conduct Gender Assessment, develop Gender Action Plan, ensure gender-focused development
Prohibition of Forced and Child Labor	The Federal Republic of Somalia Provisional Constitution (2012), Article 14	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	Ban on forced and child labor, contractors held liable for compliance
Fair Labour Relations and Protection from Abuse	The Federal Republic of Somalia Provisional Constitution (2012), Art. 24	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	Ensure fair labor practices, protect against sexual abuse and discrimination

F. Duplication

244. The project preparation process verified that there is no risk of duplication with other projects or programmes. The project is a result of a thorough national assessment of the climate change adaptation needs and recommended course of action, in particular to operationalize the GGWI in the country. The needs assessment process conducted in the preparation of the project and the detailed analysis of the synergies and potential overlaps with other projects, as displayed in the table below, shows opportunities for synergies and learning from other relevant initiatives, with no risk of geographic overlap. Additionally, it should be noted that a number of projects in Somalia present relevant experience/lessons for the GGWI, beyond those listed below (notably in other geographic areas). These projects will be engaged during implementation and notably to prepare the GGWI Strategy and Action Plan during project implementation.

Table 5 - Analysis of risks of duplication

Other projects/partners	Summary	Geographic overlap	Identified synergies
IFAD Adaptive Agriculture and Rangeland Rehabilitation Project (A2R2) Project Cost: USD 24 Million, including GEF-7, LDCF, ASAP+ Implementer: SADAR Duration: 2023-2028	This project aims at enhancing the climate resilience of poor rural households in Somalia through sustainable natural resources management on multiple levels: improved water resources and rangelands management; eco-agriculture and climate-proof livelihoods; forest/habitat rehabilitation; improved governance and information systems for land degradation and biodiversity. The project is structured into four technical components: Component 1. Adaptive climate-resilient hydraulic infrastructure and productive livelihoods; Component 2. Landscape approach to an integrated management of rangeland and forest ecosystems for land degradation neutrality and biodiversity conservation; Component 3. Institutional strengthening to support land degradation neutrality and biodiversity protection; Component 4. Knowledge sharing for systematization and scaling up.	A2R2 targets districts of Belet Weyne (Hirshabelle State), Baydhaba, Gaalkacyo and Dhuusamarreeb (South West State), and Cabudwaaq (Galmudug State). Districts of intervention of the present project will not overlap with A2R2	The present project builds on a number of approaches supported by A2R2/SIRAP, included on rangeland management and sustainable agriculture, which themselves build on the experience from past IFAD interventions in the country, including the Resilient Livelihood Action to COVID-19 (RLAC-19), Food Security and Sustainability in Fragile Situations (FSSFS) in Puntland, Productivity Enhancing Technologies to Improve Pastoralists and Agropastoralists Livelihoods in Dry Lands (PET) in Somaliland, Building Back Better: Rural Livelihoods Recovery Initiative (BBB-RLRI) for the Greater Horn of Africa: - The community driven development approach is an efficient way of delivering public goods and improving targeting and ownership particularly in remote locations and fragile situations - Climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices have a strong potential to increase production and resilience of smallholder farmers. PET recommended that future projects should build on the wide range of existing good CSA practices, improve them and promote them across the country - Affirmative gender action in designing and implementing projects increases resilience. As women play important and diverse roles in agriculture and CCA, the project need to apply affirmative and other measures to achieve gender-sensitive actions. - There is a high potential for some counterpart contribution by
Somalia Integrated and Resilient Agricultural Productivity Project (SIRAP) IFAD/Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) USD 16 Million 2023-2027	The project development objective is to contribute to the reduction of small-scale producers' vulnerability, enhance their resilience to COVID-19 and other shocks on their livelihoods and improve their nutrition security and incomes in the project areas. SIRAP will be implemented through three Components: Component 1. Community resilience, climate and conflict risk management, which aims at increasing resilience of supported communities to manage fragility factors in their environment; Component 2. Support to sustainable agricultural productivity and livelihoods; Component 3. Support Coordination, Policy and Regulatory Framework support, and Capacity Building	The project expands A2R2 activities to additional districts of Jubaland state. There is therefore no geographic overlap with the present project.	

			beneficiaries when project interventions meet their needs - The primacy of water availability as an entry point and a prerequisite for other activities to build resilience and reduce conflict among poor populations in fragile areas with recurring drought situations No geographic overlap is foreseen.
IFAD Rural Livelihoods Resilience Programme (RLRP) USD 31.2 million 2024-2032	The RLRP Programme Development Objective is to increase the participatory decision-making and productive capacities of small-scale producers, and agropastoralists for sustainable, resilient and profitable agricultural livelihoods and food and nutrition security. RLRP covers three components: Component 1. Community development and conflict risk management; Component 2. Support to sustainable agricultural livelihoods; Component 3. Coordination and capacity building, knowledge management and M&E.	RLRP will target three regions in South West state (Bay, Bakool and Lower Shabelle) and two regions in Jubaland state (Gedo and lower Juba). Districts of intervention of the present project do not overlap with RLRP.	The project builds on RLRP approach for community development and risk management and support to sustainable agricultural livelihoods with a view to ensure consistency among IFAD interventions in the country
Adaptive NbS solutions for flood and drought climatic shocks UNEP/Adaptation Fund Project (innovation window) USD 5 million Implementer: SADAR 2024-2028 (under review)	The overall objective of the project is to enhance adaptive capacity of communities in the Hirshabelle watersheds through the effective replication, upscaling and/or innovating NbS and hybrid measures that reduce exposure of productive assets and livelihoods to floods and droughts. The interventions will consist of 1) awareness building 2) NbS intervention and sustainability 3) Capacity building and engagement with government and conflict prevention 4) Systems approaches around early warning and the DRM cycle and how to build this into learning and evidence building for larger scaled approaches The project will scale up a menu of 10 different Nature Based Solutions that have been modelled by UNEP.	The project targets Hirshabelle watersheds and possibly 3 districts (Jowhar in the Middle Shabelle, and Wanla Weyn and Agooye in the Lower Shabelle). Identified districts of intervention do not overlap.	The two projects will coordinate to seek geographic complementarity, and in case similar areas are prioritized for new districts, synergies will be established between support provided. Interventions in close areas can also reinforce the landscape approach, by seeking to concentrate support to maximize impact. Hal-Abuur aligns on the watershed/landscape approach adopted by the UNEP project.
World Bank Water for Agropastoral productivity and resilience (II), “Barwaaqo” Project USD 70 Million 2022-2028	The Barwaaqo project builds on the investments under the Biyoole project Water for Agro Pastoral Productivity and Resilience I). The project comprises four interlinked components: (1) Development of Multiuse Water Sources; (2) Development of Agriculture and Livestock Services around Water Points; (3) Development of Environmental Catchment Services in Project Areas; and (4) Project Management, Community Development and Enhancing Livelihoods Planning.	The project targets Somaliland, Puntland, Galmudug, and South West States (supported by previous project), and expands to Hirshabelle and Jubaland FMS. Synergies will be established in both regions of intervention of the present project.	The project will seek complementarity with Barwaaqo and the previous phase (Biyole) and particularly areas supported with sand dams, to leverage interventions around access to water. Additionally, the project will engage with Barwaaqo teams and stakeholders to document relevant activities as part of the GGWI national Strategy and Action Plan. The project draws from Biyole and Barwaaqo lessons including amongst others: - The critical importance of guaranteeing ownership through locally led participatory planning processes - The adoption of a “landscape approach” based on watershed sub-units - The integration of activities at local level to maximize impact
Climate-resilient livelihoods to Boost Food production	The project aims at improving sustainable food production and contribute to the resilience of food systems in Somalia. The project includes the following outcomes: (i) Outcome 1:	Jubaland, South West and Hirshabelle	The present project will build on CLIMB experience in supporting targeted VCs, in particular training on Good Agricultural Practices. More specifically, the project draws

and Nutrition outcomes (CLIMB) EU funded project Implementer: FAO USD 7.5 USD million 2023-2026	Increased agricultural production through improved productivity and improved community productive infrastructure such as irrigation canals, (ii) Outcome 2. Sustainable Value Chain development and strengthening of market linkages to promote income generation and, (iii) Outcome 3: Managing climatic and economic shocks to strengthen resilience.	Possible common areas of intervention in the Lower Shabelle region	on CLIMB and other FAO lessons in supporting resilient agriculture in the lower Shabelle, namely: FAO interventions around climate smart agriculture in Somalia include access to drought tolerant sorghum seeds, promotion of intercropping, delivery of trainings on good agricultural practices, etc. Farmers are also provided with post-harvest techniques and equipment to reduce loss and waste, with training on sun drying and proper storage in airtight containers. FAO in Somalia has internally established 9 modules looking at Good Agricultural Practices, Integrated Pest Management, Irrigation Management, Post Harvest, etc. Synergies and complementarity may be sought thanks to the support to access to water and VC development under CLIMB if both projects are present in the same area.
FAO/GCF: Climate Resilient Agriculture in Somalia Implementer: FAO and MoECC USD 91 Million 7 years Project currently under GCF review	The project will promote a shift to, and scale-up of the sustainable landscape management approach to increase resilience to climate change and its extreme events that affect agriculture and other livelihoods by repairing degraded ecosystems, improving agriculture and livestock sectors, and developing value chains. It will directly benefit 323,000 people and consists of three technical components: (i) Increase sustainable natural productive capital for climate change resilience, (ii) Promotion of climate resilient livelihoods, and (iii) Enable conducive environment for sustainable landscape management and climate resilient agriculture. The Project's additionality and transformative dimension is marked by placing landscape management approach at the centre of a major operation using nature and healthy ecosystems to reduce the impacts of climate change.	The project targets the following regions (i) Southwest: Lower Shabelle region, (ii) Hirchabelle: Middle Shabelle (iii) Jubaland: Lower Juba, and additional areas where the agropastoral system prevails; (iv) Puntland: Nugal region, (v) Somaliland: Todgheer region, (vi) Galmudug: Mudug and (vii) Galmudug: Galguduud.	Geographic overlap could happen, as this project's districts of intervention are not identified yet. With the support of MoECC, both projects will coordinate closely to avoid overlap and guarantee synergies. This project will also be engaged to document relevant activities as part of the GGWI national Strategy and Action Plan. As part of this, close synergies will also be established for cross learning on best practices for sustainable landscape management and resilient livelihoods in Somalia.
European Union, Swedish and Italian cooperation: Joint Programme for Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods (PROSCAL) (1st phase completed, 2nd phase under preparation) Implementer: UNDP, FAO, UNEP USD 10.5 Million 2016-2023	The PROSCAL program promotes energy security and more resilient livelihoods through a gradual reduction of unsustainable charcoal production, trade and use. Its objectives are: (i) to mobilize key stakeholders in the region and build institutional capacity among government entities across Somalia for the effective monitoring and enforcement of the charcoal trade ban, the development of an enabling policy environment for energy security and natural resources management, (ii) to support the development of alternative energy resources, (iii) to facilitate – for stakeholders in the charcoal value chain – transition towards livelihood options that are sustainable, reliable and more profitable than charcoal production and, (iv) to start reforestation and afforestation throughout the country for the rehabilitation of degraded lands	All country	While limited geographic overlap is expected, in areas where PROSCAL I/II is implemented, the present project may build on already existing nurseries and afforestation/reforestation actions to be further supported/consolidated/learn from, including in terms of choice of tree species and best practices. In these areas, the project will also benefit from the decreased pressure on forest resources brought about by PROSCAL, enabling to consolidate ecosystem resilience actions. The project builds on lessons from the previous phase of PROSCAL in establishing nurseries and shifting practices around forest resources management.

G. Learning and Knowledge Management

245. Effective Knowledge Management (KM) – including the collection, generation and dissemination of information – is an important component of climate change adaptation. Learning from adaptation activities and being able to transform knowledge into products that are targeted at various audiences is essential to effective climate change adaptation.

246. As a flagship for the Somalia Great Green Wall Initiative, this project will play a critical role both to operationalize the initiative in the country, and for the Global Initiative to learn from the experience of Somalia. As such, robust learning and knowledge management systems will be key to further showcase relevant activities under the GGW umbrella for the country (as supported under the project), thus facilitating accelerated scaling-up and resource mobilisation. Additionally, Somalia's GGW opens a new learning space for the African Union, and lessons from the project may be up taken throughout the continent.

247. Under its third component and as part of the direct support to MoECC, the project will leverage its experience to generate knowledge on relevant techniques for ecosystem resilience and greening, based on its own integrated approach. Dedicated studies will be conducted on aspects such as the integrated regreening approach under the project, linking F/PFS with wider ecosystem restoration, the potential of NWFP VCs in Somalia, etc. The results of the studies will be consolidated in easy to share formats, and disseminated with the support of the PMU's Policy Development Specialist together with the National Consultant supporting MoECC. More specifically and through its M&E system the project will thoroughly document:

a) Success stories and mechanisms for true bottom-up approaches in locally led ecosystem restoration.
b) The potential for regreening and ecosystem resilience of the array of sustainable land management & restoration practices promoted under Component 1.
c) Best practices of climate resilient agriculture as supported under Component 2, together with the role of agropastoralists and pastoralists in the conservation and sustainable management of the ecosystem they depend on (e.g. through P/FMNR).

248. In line with other IFAD projects in the country and building on Sadar current experiences and systems, the KM system, integrating planning, M&E and communication will have the following objectives: (i) continuous information to improve project performance; (ii) identification, analysis, documentation and dissemination of best practices; (iii) interactive and inclusive communication with all stakeholders; and (iv) visibility for policy dialogue and advocacy. To this end the project will establish an overall results-based M&E/KM strategy. The project will also support the MoECC in its capacity to track, coordinate and monitor the results from all relevant projects under the GGW in Somalia. As part of this, MoECC's capacity to monitor ecosystem resilience throughout the country will be reinforced, notably by implementing the Land Degradation Surveillance Framework methodology, and building MoECC staff to use SWALIM, in view of its future migration under the overall leadership of the Ministry.

249. The overall responsibility for KM and communication will rest with the project M&E Assistant, under the supervision of Sadar's M&E Specialist, who will coordinate with other members of the PMU, local Government counterparts and other project stakeholders to identify case studies that illustrate the impact that the project has had on improving rural livelihoods and centralize key information generated. More generally the M&E Assistant together with the rest of the PMU will process the knowledge generated into an appropriate format for the general public and disseminate it. This will be done through workshops and seminars, electronic/digital media (radio, television, and internet – emails and websites); social media (YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, etc.), and print media (flyers, brochures, reports, working papers, monographs, manuals).

250. The project will also document lessons learnt and disseminate knowledge products through annual performance reports (APRs), briefing notes, infographics & flyers, knowledge platforms, project performance reports (PPRs), the mid-term evaluation report and terminal evaluation report, project stories and project videos.

H. Consultative Process

251. The formulation of the Hal-Abuur project was conducted in two phases: the preparation of the Concept Note from September to November 2023, and the preparation of the project proposal from

April to July 2024. The Concept Note preparation consultations (involving Federal Ministries, Technical and Financial Partners, NGOs, beneficiaries from ongoing IFAD projects and resource persons) were conducted remotely, owing to the security conditions in the country. The project proposal preparation was done in a hybrid manner. A number of remote consultations were conducted by the international formulation team (with Federal Ministries, Technical and Financial Partners, NGOs, projects and resource persons), while field level consultations in targeted states and regions were conducted by Sadar (with State level Ministries, Village Committees and Elders, vulnerable groups, VSLAs, agropastoralists, pastoralists, riverine producers and private sector stakeholders), and a final validation workshop was held on 13 July 2024. Throughout this process, a wide range of stakeholders was consulted, both at Federal and State/Regional and local level. In total, around 295 stakeholders were consulted, of which around 41% female (42 stakeholders of which 13 women were from UN, NGOs, bilateral institutions, etc., around 20 of which 5 women from government institutions and 233 of which 102 women and 133 youth and vulnerable groups from local communities). Special attention was given to ensure a gender and youth focus in these consultations. As such, institutions dealing with gender and youth issues, both public and from the civil society, were consulted. Male and female potential beneficiaries and stakeholders were consulted both separately and in mixed groups. Moreover, the appropriateness of time and location of consultation meetings, especially for women, was taken into account.

252. The field consultation process included a total of ten Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and ten Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) across Southwest State and Galmudug State. Each FGD was composed of 12 members, ensuring a broad representation of the local communities. The FGDs were inclusive, encompassing local community members and leaders, village development committees, agropastoralists, pastoralists, VSLAs, women's cooperatives and groups, and vulnerable and youth groups. The team made a conscious effort to include minorities and vulnerable groups in these discussions to ensure their voices were heard and their unique needs addressed. The KIIs involved representatives from state-level ministries and institutions, technical services, and the private sector. These interviews provided valuable insights into the institutional and infrastructural aspects of climate adaptation and resilience building. The consultative process (including lists of stakeholders consulted) is detailed in Annex 2.

253. All stakeholder consulted confirmed the relevance of the project and its approaches. The main issues emerging from consultations were related to droughts and other climate disasters such as floods. In Galmudug, communities noted that key impacts from climate change resulted in increased heat, prolonged droughts leading to water shortages for livestock, and a lack of pasture. This has resulted in reduced livestock numbers, erosion of roads, and the formation of sinkholes. These changes have severely affected the livelihoods and sustainability of the community. In the Lower Shabelle, observed climate change impacts include crop failures and heavy floods, leading to increased water stress and a rise in pests and diseases. The need for capacity building is evident, particularly in establishing demonstration farms to help producers address climate adaptation challenges effectively. The table below summarizes key concerns raised by type of stakeholder, and project responses.

Table 6 - Summary of consultation findings and project responses

Type of stakeholder	Concern	Project response
Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	• Expectations for project framing (climate problem, priority areas, GGWI, etc.)	• Definition of clear criteria for geographic targeting and validation of priority districts • Complementarity of components between concentrated local level investments and institutional support to launch GGWI • Tailoring of activities under component 3 • - Leveraging CIFOR-ICRAF support for component 3 and synergies with K4GGWA
Other technical Ministries at Federal level	• Identification of relevant policies and strategies • Lessons learned and best practices for types of activities planned under the project	• Project alignment on and contribution to relevant policies/strategies and standards outlined in Part II.D and II.E. • Project components fully account for lessons from past and ongoing experiences in the country
State level Ministries of Environment and of Agriculture	• Confirmation of climate problems to be addressed by the project (droughts, water scarcity, unpredictable rainfall, etc.) leading to environmental degradation, crop	• Project outputs directly address identified climate problem • Project builds on existing entities and institutional set up

	failure, loss of livestock, displacement, etc. • Need for concrete adaptation measures • Inputs on State level capacities and existing entities/institutions	
Technical and Financial Partners	• Lessons learned and best practices for types of activities planned under the project • Recommendations in terms of approach and implementation arrangements • Analysis of ongoing or upcoming initiatives to ensure synergies	• Project components fully account for lessons from past and ongoing experiences in the country • Project approach and implementation arrangements reflect lessons from partners in the country • Duplication table and project approaches ensure synergies with relevant initiatives
Village committees and elders	• Observed climate drivers/ impacts • Need for community resilience and caution regarding climate change impacts • Conflicts over resources managed through community engagement and customary institutions.	• Community engagement, conflict resolution mechanisms and gender mainstreaming (Output 1.1.). • Ecosystem restoration and improved water retention/infiltration and pasture health (Output 1.2). • Pastoralists Field Schools and P/FMNR (Output 2.1).
Vulnerable groups	• Reduced rainfall and drought leading to challenges such as lack of livestock trading, reduced mobility due to heat, unemployment, and limited opportunities. • Significant challenges in daily life due to lack of necessities. • Limited access to land, extension services, finance, and markets.	• Improving access to services through the capacitation and sensitization of CLeFs (transversal) • Technical support and awareness campaigns (Output 2.1, Activity: Community mobilization and awareness raising). • Ecosystem restoration and improved water retention/infiltration and pasture health (Output 1.2). • Supporting resilience-building activities (Output 2.1, Activity: Pastoralists and Farmers' Field Schools).
Women groups	• Participation in planning activities hindered by childcare and household responsibilities. • Participation in small businesses and non-wood forest products collection.	• Awareness campaigns and inclusion in planning activities (Output 1.2: GCVCA; Output 2.1GALS). • Facilitating women's participation (Output 1.2: GCVCA; Output 2.1GALS). • Support for women led businesses and non-wood forest products (Output 2.1).
Riverine producers	• Increased droughts and floods affecting crop production • Persistent pest issues requiring effective measures and support. • Need for climate-resilient improvements to increase agricultural production.	• Pest control support (Output 2.1, Activity: Integrated Pest Management). • Enhancing agricultural production methods (Output 2.1, Activity: Promotion of early maturing drought-resistant and climate-resilient crops).
Agropastoralists	• Severe challenges due to climate change including decreased crop production and pasture availability during droughts, and crop destruction by floods.	• Pasture and farms resilience (Output 1.2, Activity: Restoration of vegetative cover). • Organizing cooperatives for sustainable land management (Output 1.2, Activity: Establishment of Resource Users and Management Committees). • Training on resilient agriculture and pastoralism (Output 2.1). • Livelihood diversification through access to inputs and equipment (Output 2.2)
Pastoralists	• Challenges due to lack of pasture, devaluation of livestock, and difficulty in exchanging livestock for food.	• Rehabilitation of degraded land (Output 1.2,). • Pastoralists Field Schools and P/FMNR (Output 2.1).
Private sector	• Observed climate changes affecting crop production and increasing food prices over the past ten years.	• Adjusting services and products to cope with climate impacts (Output 2.1, Activity: Promotion of early maturing drought-resistant and climate-resilient crops)

I. Justification for funding

254. The justification for the requested funding lies in the comprehensive assessment of the full cost of adaptation associated with implementing the present project. The project is focused on the climate resilience of most vulnerable populations in one of the most fragile and vulnerable countries: Somalia.

255. Least Developed Countries, and Somalia in particular, are indeed most vulnerable to the damaging effects of climate change, since their economic development and food security highly depend on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture. Thanks to Adaptation Fund supporting the full cost of

adaptation of activities planned under the project, the present initiative will bring about a paradigm shift by which Somalia will establish a consistent framework for ecosystem and livelihood resilience based on the specific needs of its various agroecosystems, and in line with the vision of the Great Green Wall Initiative. Thanks to project support and showcased best practices, Somalia will become a flagship country under the GGWI, and will be in a position to streamline investments towards this resilience-enabling initiative. The table below highlights the baseline and alternative adaptation scenario under the project.

Table 7 - Baseline and alternative adaptation scenario the Adaptation Fund will help materialize

Business as usual scenario	**Adaptation Fund additionality**
Component 1. Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia	
The drought and flood cycles continue to accelerate environmental degradation in the regions of Mudug and Lower Shabelle, resulting in the former in widespread desertification, loss of pastoral land, loss of livestock lives, loss of livelihoods, food security and human lives. In the latter (Lower Shabelle), flash floods break river embankments and carry away the topsoil that has been fragilized by drought cycles resulting in decreasing soil fertility, while environmental degradation also accelerates in upland (rainfed areas), resulting in loss of livelihoods and maladaptive practices associated with charcoal production and conflicts.	- 4 district diagnostics are conducted and enable to prioritize most relevant sites of interventions - 20 Cluster Level Facilitators mobilized and trained to support communities in planning natural resources management and resilience. They provide services to their communities (6,000 HH) in terms of prioritization and planning of investments and over the long term facilitate resource mobilization for possible replication. - 30 villages in 10 clusters develop integrated Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans, based on gender inclusive methodologies. The plans are subsequently integrated into Village Level Action Plans, contributing to the mainstreaming of adaptation solutions in local planning. - 30 VDCs/CDAs are reinforced in terms of conflict resolution, governance, gender and environmental, climate mainstreaming, and financial management, contributing to the enhanced social capital of the whole community (or over 35,400 people). - 30 Resource Users and Management Committees are established and support the implementation of site management plans, including through social fencing. - An integrated approach is implemented (i) in pastoral areas: thanks to pastoral management plan including the resting of pastoral land through social fencing, completed by soil and water conservation and revegetation (reforestation, afforestation, oversowing); (ii) in agropastoral areas, thanks to a watershed approach focusing on soil and water conservation and revegetation upstream, and riverbank protection downstream, completed by sustainable pastoral management practices. These practices result in the protection of 10,000 ha of ecosystem, with direct investments for land restoration over 1,500 ha, resulting in increased resilience to drought/floods. - 4,500 households (50% women beneficiaries) are trained on ecosystem resilience practices and benefit directly from Cash for Work schemes, supporting their enhanced resilience in the short term, and their ability to replicate practices and maintain investments in the long term.
Component 2. Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia	
With climate change extreme events such as droughts and floods become increasingly frequent and intense, growing periods become shorter, and pests and diseases increasing, agropastoral systems are put at risk, with decreasing fertility and increasing pressure on resources (land and water). Vulnerable households, pastoralists and agropastoralists continue practicing agriculture and pastoralism following the same business as usual models (no adapted varieties, no soil and	- 20 Cluster Level Facilitators are mobilized to provide training on NAR, and resilient agriculture and pastoral practices, and provide technical support to the whole community in project areas (up to 6,000 HH). - 80% of targeted households report the adoption of environmentally sustainable and climate resilient technologies and practices, directly contributing to their enhanced climate resilience. - 1,000 HH are trained on P/FMNR including through peer-to-peer replication, and implement P/FMNR over 5,000 ha, with direct benefits in terms of ecosystem and farm resilience. - 1,000 HH receive training on climate resilient practices through 40 P/FFS, leading to the increased resilience of up to 1,500 ha of farmland, and at least 3,500 ha of pastoral land. Such practices directly offer adaptation solutions to the expected climate impacts on the targeted production systems (heat and drought, as well as increased pests and diseases), and thus contribute to an enhanced resilience of agricultural and pastoral land, thanks (amongst others) to better soil and water conservation, fertility management, and erosion control. - The GALS methodology is mainstreamed in all P/FFS, enabling to address gender equality and GBV. Women leader and P/FMNR champions are promoted in their communities and given support/visibility - 80% of household targeted have stable and sustainable sources of income (increasing their adaptive capacity). Income stability under the project will be attained thanks to the promotion of resilient and sustainable practices for the

water conservation, etc.) and resort to maladaptive practices (accelerated charcoal production), resulting in decreasing yields, accelerated environmental degradation, loss of livelihoods and possible outmigration/conflict.	targeted production systems (agropastoralism and pastoralism). At the same time, stability of income under the project increases the adaptive capacity of targeted households, as it positively influences the capacity and dispositions of smallholders towards the adoption of climate resilient agricultural practices, and their support to sustainable landscape management. The project will thus promote a virtuous cycle by which support to resilient production enhances income stability, thereby increasing the likelihood of producers to adopt resilient practices at farm and landscape level, further guaranteeing the stability of their incomes. - 20 CLeFs are trained on business management and financial inclusion and provide services to over 1,000 HH - 10 tree nurseries cooperatives are established and serve the needs of all smallholders in the area, accelerating the restoration of local ecosystems. - 20 women cooperatives commercializing Non-Wood Forest Products are established, thereby supporting a shift in the relation to trees and their conservation. - 500 cooperatives (corresponding to a minimum of 2,000 HH with 50% women beneficiaries) receive inputs/equipment helping to diversify their production and increase their resilience - Dedicated support to women, youth and minorities is provided under the leadership of the Gender and Social Inclusion Officer, as women and youth are key drivers of change, and their meaningful inclusion in project activities is a powerful way to further ensure climate adaptation. The project will follow a strict strategy in this regard.
Component 3. Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia	
Somalia does not operationalize the GGWI and does not establish the tools and mechanisms to implement it. No coordination occurs between initiatives that could fit under the GGW, and no additional funding is drawn to support the initiative.	- National Strategy and Action Plan for the GGWI in Somalia elaborated, including mechanisms for coordination and resource mobilization for future replication - Roadmaps for State level GGWI Strategies and Action Plans elaborated and at least 60 FMS staff capacitated - One national GGWI coalition established, allowing coordination of all relevant initiatives under the GGW in Somalia, consolidation, uptake and scaling up of lessons from Hal-Abuur and other relevant projects - 80 GGWI focal points in Somalia receive training on relevant GGWI aspects - LDSF established for Somalia and tested on all project sites, enabling to demonstrate the effectiveness of project approaches in terms of ecosystem resilience - 5 studies on project activities conducted (including with focus on gender aspects) and 20 knowledge products prepared, thoroughly documenting successes and facilitating their uptake/replication

J. Sustainability

256. The project is based on, and is driven by, sustainability principles that are promoted throughout its activities by i) emphasising the active participation of communities in the implementation and management of project interventions, as a means to also ensure ownership of the project and its outcomes by all relevant stakeholders (social sustainability); ii) strengthening the community-level technical capacity to ensure stakeholders have adequate knowledge and skills to maintain the benefits of the project interventions (operation and maintenance); iii) promoting the adoption of cost-effective, environmentally friendly and long-lasting solutions to help restore, improve and/or protect the ecosystem (economic and financial sustainability); iv) training communities on climate-resilient agricultural techniques and setting up businesses to ensure the continuity of access to adapted seedlings (technical sustainability), v) promoting tree products value chains as a means for communities to perceive the long-lasting value of trees and further engage in their preservation (environmental sustainability), and vi) supporting the establishment of integrated institutional vehicles allowing to streamline resource allocation and mobilization towards similar GGWI investments, thus ensuring the sustainability and replicability of the project (institutional sustainability). Additionally, the project is fully aligned on the priorities highlighted in relevant national policies and strategies.

257. **Environmental sustainability** is embedded in the project, notably through the adoption of an ecosystem regreening approach both at production systems (farm) and wider landscape level, respectively through the promotion of the integrated planning of sustainable land management and ecosystem restoration measures under the first component, and the promotion of climate resilient practices under the second component. The project will rely on participatory approaches to fully address

issues that affect the long-term sustainability of natural resources management and the welfare of local communities.

258. **Operation and maintenance**. The project's participatory and community-based approach will ensure the ownership of investments by local stakeholders. By using the cash for work modality, through which local households are directly engaged to conduct landscape rehabilitation works, the project guarantees that they are trained and master the techniques to prepare, maintain and replicate land restoration techniques. This modality enables to engage communities in the works through the short-term benefit of cash, while the participatory planning and creation of Resource Users and Management Committees ensures that everyone sees the medium to long-term benefits of ecosystem restoration, thereby guaranteeing the commitment to maintain and replicate works. Additionally, the project will support the establishment of nurseries that will sustainably provide the planting material needed for ecosystem restoration.

259. **Institutional sustainability**. Hal-Abuur is fully aligned on the priorities highlighted in relevant national policies and strategies, and is anchored in the engagement of all relevant instances from the local to the national level. Participatory processes will be conducted with the entire communities and representatives of local authorities, with the aim to mainstream the results of Climate-Resilient Landscape Investment Plans into Village Level Action Plans (VLAPs). At the same time, the project strives to support the establishment of integrated institutional vehicles with the preparation of a federal level GGW Strategy and Action Plan and with support to all five States in establishing roadmaps to develop their own GGW Strategies and Action Plans. This will allow to streamline resource allocation and mobilization towards similar GGWI investments, and further contributes to the institutional sustainability of the project.

260. **Economic and financial sustainability**. The project will promote the adoption of cost-effective, environmentally friendly and long-lasting solutions to help restore, improve and/or protect fragile ecosystems. The cost effectiveness of investments, based on easy replicability of techniques using local equipment and material is at the core of the project's economic sustainability. At the same time and as mentioned above, the project will support the creation of an enabling environment in which relevant policies, strategies and planning processes are in place to facilitate the mobilization of resources to further the implementation of resilient greening techniques. Under its second component, by supporting the enhanced climate resilience of pastoral and agricultural practices, while developing post-harvest management and business skills, the project will reinforce the economic and financial sustainability of its beneficiaries' production systems. At community level, business skills trainings will improve local financial inclusion.

261. **Social sustainability**. Hal-Abuur fully relies on participatory and inclusive processes, ensuring that all stakeholders (and in particular women, youth and minorities) are aware of the project and its interventions, and actively contribute to key processes, starting with the prioritization of actions through the cluster level Community Climate-Resilient Investment Plans, but also through the establishment of cooperatives and RUMCs, and the reinforcement of VDCs/CDAs. Through these participatory processes, the project both guarantees the ownership of interventions by local communities, and the development of social capital at local level. Sufficient social capital influences the quality and set of options (or constraints) that households face when threatened by climate change. Indeed, adaptation is a dynamic social process, as the ability of societies to adapt is determined, in part, by the ability to act collectively. Increased social capital is at the core of the project's social sustainability and will be further reinforced by conflict resolution mechanisms mainstreamed throughout implementation.

262. The **sustainability of project outcomes beyond project lifetime** is embedded in the project's approach as outlined in previous paragraphs. Indeed, participatory processes under the project will guarantee that Somali stakeholders at all level are directly engaged in project activities, thereby ensuring their ownership of all project results (e.g. local communities are at the centre of planning processes, vulnerable smallholders implement restauration measures themselves through Cash for Work, resource users and management committees are established to ensure the management of resources and performance of O&M beyond project lifetime, etc.). Additionally, project activities are fully anchored within existing or planned processes from the local to the national level (e.g. Community Investment Plans, Village Level Action Plans, Great Green Wall Initiative Federal and State level Strategies and Action Plans, etc.) while engaging and reinforcing established entities for the ownership of these processes (e.g. Village Development Committees, Community Development Associations,

VSLAs, cooperatives, Federal Member States, Ministries and in particular the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, etc.). Thanks to this and as part of supporting the operationalization of the GGWI, the project will contribute to more streamlined resources allocation beyond its lifetime, therefore allowing continued financial and resource support to the management, operation and maintenance of established facilities, rehabilitation works, installations, etc.

263. **Scaling-up** will be further ensured by a strong ownership of local stakeholders, starting with the capacitation of cluster level stakeholders, in particular Cluster Level Facilitators, who will remain after the project ends and continue to advise their communities. In addition to developing the social capital of targeted communities, the project will encourage peer-to-peer exchanges and learning, as part of the larger Great Green Wall Initiative. The local level planning will allow to identify further investment needs, while giving communities the tools to replicate actions themselves. At the same time, support to operationalize the GGWI at national level will enable Somalia's GGW coalition to better coordinate investments under the GGW umbrella, while facilitating resource mobilization towards the initiative.

K. Environmental and Social Impacts and Risks

264. The environmental and social screening presented in the table below provides a brief overview of the risk assessments detailed in the ESMP (Annex 3) and evidences the minor risks related to the project, and for which dedicated mitigation measures have been integrated into the project, which has therefore been identified as **AF Category B** with regards to socio-environmental aspects (**Moderate risk** based on IFAD's SECAP – screening tool, equivalent to category B in the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Safeguards).

265. Hal-Abuur aims to scale-up the climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods in Somalia by operationalizing the Great Green Wall Initiative in the country. The project is in line with national policies and legislative frameworks of the government of Somalia and aims to implement the National development plans (NDP-9) by strengthening resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods as well as strengthening relevant institutional frameworks to scale up the GGWI in Somalia. The project is thus poised to make significant positive contributions towards enhancing the environmental and socioeconomic resilience of Somalia's ecosystems and communities The planned activities, such as sustainable land management and regreening actions are expected to restore degraded lands, increase biodiversity, and stabilize the soil, thereby improving water retention and reducing erosion. This holistic approach not only aims to restore the natural landscape and its capacity to withstand shocks, but also supports the livelihoods of local communities by introducing climate-resilient agricultural and pastoral practices and diversifying income through sustainable value chains like nurseries and non-wood forest products. Moreover, the participatory approach in developing Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans ensures that the interventions are well-aligned with the needs and priorities of the most vulnerable groups, including women, youth, and minorities, thereby fostering community ownership and sustained engagement.

266. **Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs)**. The nature of project activities has been formulated to the extent that pre-identification of environmental and social risks is possible. Project intervention regions and districts have also been screened to identify all site-specific environmental and social risks (in particular with regards to ESP 9, 10 and 14). As such, and even if exact site locations for project activities cannot be determined at design stage, the project is not considered to include USPs. In any case, the ESMP plans for additional screening of the project supported CCRIPs against the 15 AF ESP.

Table 8 - Overview of the ESP risk assessment

ESP	Potential Impacts and Risks	Mitigation Efforts	Screening and ESMP
ESP 1	**Compliance with the Law**. **Positive impact**: the project, as it is formulated, complies with all national and FMSs relevant laws. **Risk**: the project will be executed by Sadar Institute on behalf of MoECC; the risk of non-compliance to the law (especially with regards to laws related to environment, forest and land resources, livestock, agriculture, gender, and labour) could come from service	All interventions will be compliant with national and international law. Compliance by service providers will be ensured through contractual arrangements including provisions with reference to relevant Laws.	Not needed

	providers that will be contracted during implementation		
ESP 2	**Access and Equity**. **Positive impact**: the project's participatory and inclusive approach will enable fair and equitable access to project benefits to all participants, including marginalised and vulnerable groups, who meet the project eligibility criteria. **Risk**: There is a low/medium risk that the project would find difficulty in including some of the most vulnerable groups such as women due to traditions and norms.	Participation of the project target groups will be closely monitored through the M&E system. The Grievance Redress Mechanism is also an avenue in case individuals and/or communities who feel excluded or marginalized from project benefits. The identified risk is low and fully mitigated by the project's approach, including its targeting strategy and its gender strategy and action plan, building on the experience of IFAD and other partners in the country. Moreover, project staff, Cluster Level Facilitators and implementers will be trained on issues related to conflict, diversity, equity and inclusion.	No screening needed. Through the ESMP, the project will ensure transparency and mechanisms for fair and equitable access to project benefits, and the monitoring thereof.
ESP 3	**Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups**. **Positive impact**: interventions will target marginalised and vulnerable groups, including vulnerable pastoralists and agropastoralists, women and youth, and minorities and IDPs based on self-targeting approaches. Sadar will carry out project level assessments to identify the presence of minorities in the project intervention areas and where found social inclusion plans will be carried out before implementing key activities. Pathways to achieve gender equality and women empowerment under the project are outlined in the Gender Assessment, Strategy and Action Plan (Annex 5). **Risk**: There is a risk that the project would leave out some of the most vulnerable groups such as women and minorities due to traditions and norms in rural areas.		No screening needed. Through the ESMP, the project will ensure meaningful participation of marginalised and vulnerable groups to the project, and the monitoring thereof.
ESP 4	**Human Rights**. **Positive impact**: The project affirms the rights of all people and does not violate any pillar of human rights. No activities will be proposed that could present a risk of non-compliance with either national requirements relating to Human Rights or with International Human Rights Laws and Conventions. **Risk**: Past experiences suggest that establishing digital identity systems paves the way to expanding surveillance regimes.	The project will refrain from using biometrics in its activities.	Not needed
ESP 5	**Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**. **Positive impact**: three strategic pathways for gender equality and women's empowerment will be followed: (i) promote economic empowerment to enable rural women and men to have equal opportunities to participate in and benefit from profitable economic activities; (ii) enable women and men to have an equal voice and influence in rural institutions and organizations; and, (iii) achieve a more equitable balance of workloads and the sharing of economic and social benefits between women and men. Women will make up 50 % of the beneficiaries.	The Project has undertaken a Gender Assessment that is presented in Annex 5. To address the identified gender issues, the project has taken proactive measures to integrate gender focused development strategies that will ensure it will not pose a risk to the principle of gender equality and women's empowerment. The participation of women will be monitored. The implementation of the gender strategy and action plan will be monitored. Complaints if any will be addressed through the Grievance redress mechanism.	Not needed

ESP 6	**Core Labour Rights**. **Positive impact**: all interventions will meet the applicable core labour standards identified by the International Labour Organization, as well as national standards.	The project will ensure respect for international and national labour laws and codes, as stated in IFAD's policies, including through provisions in contracts with service providers (e.g. adherence to workers code of conduct and sensitization on GBV). Complaints if any will be addressed through the Grievance redress mechanism.	Not needed
ESP 7	**Indigenous Peoples – not applicable**	Minorities will be engaged in all project activities through its participatory processes, and their specific needs and concerns (specifically in the Lower Shabelle) will be identified, including potential unequal distribution of project benefits. Their engagement will be monitored throughout project implementation.	Not needed
ESP 8	**Involuntary Resettlement – not applicable**.	The project will not engage in resettlement activities	Not needed
ESP 9	**Protection of Natural Habitats** **Positive impact**: The project will implement several measures benefitting natural habitats, including rehabilitation of degraded lands, anti-gullies infrastructure, riverbank protection and stabilization, NAR, reforestation and afforestation efforts, and other regreening activities, together with sustainable rangeland rehabilitation and management. These proactive steps and in particular temporary grazing bans (enclosures/ex-closure) will help ensure the protection and enhancement of natural habitats within the project areas, thereby supporting biodiversity and ecosystem resilience. Besides the Hobyo grassland and shrubland ecoregion which will not be included in intervention areas, no other protected or proposed protected areas have been identified in the targeted regions. The project is hence not expected to have any negative impact on critical natural habitats including those that are (a) legally protected; (b) officially proposed for protection; (c) recognised by authoritative sources for their high conservation value, including as critical habitat; or (d) recognised as protected by traditional or local communities.	Project activities are designed to not negatively affect any natural habitats. During implementation and as part of the ESMP, the project will verify that no new critical habitat is present in its intervention areas, and should such habitats be present, that the project implementation will not encroach or affect them in any way. This will be mapped and reported in the PPR.	The project will not intervene in these areas, the CCRIPs will be screened to ensure none of the suggested investments risks degrading natural habitats.
ESP 10	**Conservation of Biological Diversity**. **Positive impact**: Hal-Abuur will promote biodiversity by implementing ecosystem restoration and resilience activities under its first outcome (including afforestation, reforestation and reseeding with native species) and notably by supporting the elimination of invasive alien species such as Prosopis, by raising awareness and engaging local communities in conservation efforts, by promoting the	As part of the ESMP, the project will identify if new critical biodiversity areas and monitor that the project implementation will not encroach or affect them in any way. This will be mapped and reported in the PPR. The project will also ensure that nurseries and agroforestry activities focus on indigenous tree species and avoid the introduction	Through the ESMP the project will identify if any new critical biodiversity areas are included its sites. In the unlikely event that this may be the case, the project will describe the location of the critical habitat in relation to the project and if absolutely necessary explain why it

	establishment of tree nurseries for the production local species seedlings, and by monitoring and reporting on the impact of project activities on biodiversity (including promoting the use of LDSF). By adhering to these measures, the project will contribute to the protection and promotion of biodiversity in the Lower Shabelle and Mudug regions of Somalia. The activities of this project will not adversely impact the conservation of biological diversity, and no critical biodiversity area has been identified in regions of intervention.	of potentially invasive species that could harm local biodiversity.	cannot be avoided, as well as its characteristics and critical value, and how any impacts may be avoided or offset. Any species used for afforestation/restoration activities and in nurseries will be screened to ensure that they will not become invasive and/or compete with other protected species in the area. Sites of natural regeneration will be regularly monitored to ensure invasive species are not affecting their regeneration.
ESP 11	**Climate Change**. **Positive impact**. The Hal-Abuur project is designed to enhance resilience and sustainability in agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems. The project activities, such as land restoration, Naturally Assisted Regeneration, afforestation, reforestation, and the promotion of climate-resilient pastoral and agropastoral practices, are expected to contribute to carbon sequestration and reduce GHG emissions. The project will not generate any significant emissions of greenhouse gases and will not contribute to climate change in any other way. Support to pastoralism in particular is not expected to contribute to additional GHG emissions based on approaches promoted (reducing herd size).	The project will implement best practices in sustainable pastoralism and agropastoralism, promote low-emission technologies, and ensure that any increase in emissions is offset by the substantial carbon sequestration benefits of ecosystem restoration and regreening efforts. In particular, good pastoral practices include reducing the size of herds by eliminating unproductive females, older animals and those affected by diseases, thereby reducing associated emissions.	Not needed
ESP 12	**Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency**. **Positive impact**: Release of pollutants to the environment in significant quantities is not expected to result from the project, as fertilizers and pesticides are not widely used in these areas. The project will actively promote the adoption of climate resilient practices and efficient water use. Site specific risks are very limited, and can be easily identified and effectively addressed. **Risk**: Targeted communities use pesticides and other chemical inputs to mitigate climate impacts	The project will support the restoration of degraded land using anti-erosive practices, afforestation, reforestation, and naturally assisted regeneration (NAR), enhancing the availability of ecosystem services, including carbon sequestration, and mitigating the impacts of extreme climate events. The project will not promote pesticide use but will instead support the adoption of agroecology and other climate-resilient practices. A Pest Management Plan will be established to mitigate any possible risk and sensitize communities	A Pest Management Plan will be established to mitigate any possible risk and sensitize communities
ESP 13	**Public Health**. **Positive impact**: The project is expected to have an overall beneficial impact on public health with the restoration of the physical environment, enhanced food security thanks to climate resilient agropastoral and pastoral practices, possible diet diversification thanks to increased	N/A	Not needed

	incomes and NWFP value chains providing nutritional benefits, and reduced risk of zoonosis thanks to improved animal health resulting from the adoption of good pastoral practices and enhanced veterinary services. The project will improve all the determinants of health presented in the screening table below and as listed by the World Health Organization (WHO).		
ESP 14	**Physical and Cultural Heritage**. **No risk**: The project is not expected to have negative impacts on the physical and cultural heritage of Somalia. The Hobyo grassland and shrubland ecoregion has been introduced in February 2024 in UNESCO World Heritage Convention Tentative List for Somalia but will not be included in intervention areas, and no other existing or proposed heritage site has been identified in the targeted regions.	As part of the ESMP, the project will verify that no new national cultural heritage sites are included in its areas of intervention, and should this be the case, propose measures to avoid any alteration, damage, or removal of physical cultural resources, cultural sites, and sites with unique natural values.	Through the ESMP the project will identify if any new national or cultural heritage are included in the project zones. In the unlikely event that this may be the case, the project will describe the location of the heritage in relation to the project, and if absolutely necessary, explain why it cannot be avoided and what measures are being taken to minimize negative impact.
ESP 15	**Lands and Soil Conservation**. **Positive impact**: the project is designed to enhance soil health and promote sustainable land management practices. By using and implementing a resilient landscape approach, rehabilitation of degraded land, soil and water conservation techniques such as semi-circular bunds, stone lines, and planting pits (zai), the project will prevent soil erosion and improve soil fertility. These practices will not only protect the soil from degradation but also increase its capacity to retain water and nutrients, which is essential for ecosystem restoration, agricultural productivity and overall resilience to climate change. The project will promote sustainable land management practices at landscape (ecosystem) and production systems (agricultural/pastoral) level.	Grazing bans will be implemented to reinforce the return of vegetation for highly degraded sites.	Not needed

Part III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

A. Implementation Arrangements

267. **Implementing Entity**. IFAD is an accredited Multilateral Implementing Entity (MIE) for the AF. In its capacity as MIE, IFAD will be in charge of the project cycle management, overseeing overall project progress, including financial oversight, monitoring and evaluation support, as well as technical backstopping and reporting to the AF. IFAD will also undertake the oversight and quality control of the proposed project ensuring that the Gender Policy and Environmental and Social Policy are respected through its SECAP.

268. **Project oversight**. The overall responsibility for the project's oversight, political guidance and implementation will rest with a specific Project Steering Committee (PSC). In consultation with IFAD and SADAR, the PSC will create tasks forces at Federal and State level. At Federal level, the PSC task force will be chaired by MoECC and include representatives from the Ministry of Finance, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range, and the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, all representing the FGS. In addition, the PSC will establish

task forces in the South West and the Galmudug respectively, which will coordinate with the task force at federal level. The PSC will approve the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) and review the periodic progress, financial, audit and supervision and implementation support reports. The PSC will also review the status and adequacy of the implementation of recommendations from the auditors and IFAD supervision or implementation support mission reports.

269. **Third-party implementation arrangements (Executing Entity)**. At the request of the FGS, Sadar Development and Resilience Institute (SADAR) will be the Project's Executing Entity on performance and result based principles, on behalf of the MoECC. As such, SADAR will perform the functions and responsibilities of the PMU described below. SADAR will establish the PMU. Every position in the PMU will be selected on a competitive basis and be subject to IFAD no-objection. Under the guidance of the PSC and the supervision of IFAD, and in close coordination with the MoECC and other sectoral ministries, SADAR will be responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the three technical components of the Project. SADAR will also manage and coordinate project activities, and ensure reporting to the MoECC, the PSC and IFAD; and following the reporting requirements of the Adaptation Fund.

270. SADAR is a Horn of Africa region-based organization focused on economic empowerment, climate-smart agriculture, and holistic development. SADAR is specialized in implementing multifaceted Resilience programming, conducting extensive research and fostering innovation in pastoral, agropastoral, urban sustainable development, as well as disaster and climate resilience. SADAR presence extends across all regions in Somalia and Djibouti.

271. Day-to-day management and implementation of the project will rest with the **Project Management Unit** (PMU), established by SADAR with the oversight of the PSC. The PMU will be responsible for: (i) overall management of the project; (ii) coordinating project implementation; (iii) development of the AWPB and undertaking project M&E and KM activities; (iv) meeting all reporting obligations on the implementation progress and results of the project to IFAD, Adaptation Fund and the PSC; and (v) coordination with the IFAD Country Team to ensure accountability for programme coordination and the effective and efficient utilisation of the project funds for their intended purposes.

272. The PMU will include an office in Mogadishu, with the objective of closely supporting the launch of the GGWI in Somalia, while two regional offices will be set up in the districts of intervention (see detailed composition below). The project will acquire 2 field vehicles for the team members based in the districts. One additional vehicle will be acquired for the project central coordination unit. Economies of scales will be granted with other SADAR supported operations, with the provision of office space, material and logistical means (including additional vehicles when needed).

273. The PMU will be vested with financial and technical autonomy. Its proposed staffing will be selected competitively (for new staff) and will include:

- In Mogadishu:
    - Part time staff supported by SADAR: (i) a National Project Coordinator; (ii) Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist; (iii) a Finance Manager; (iv) a Finance Officer; (v) an Accountant and (vi) a Procurement Specialist.
    - Recruited staff: (i) a National Resource Management Specialist; (ii) a Gender and Social Inclusion Officer; (iii) a Policy Development Specialist; (iv) an M&E assistant; (v) an Assistant Accountant and (vi) an Assistant Procurement Officer. The project will also engage a national consultant with expertise on Governance, Policy and Partnership Building to help MoECC operationalize the GGWI.
- At regional level, two teams will be established, respectively in the Mudug and Lower Shabelle regions, and will each include: (i) a community development officer acting as team leader; and (ii) an agro/pastoralism officer. One driver will also be mobilized at each regional office.

274. Additionally, the PMU operations in the field will be supported on a continued basis by teams of Cluster Level Facilitators at cluster level. Ad-hoc technical support from the district/regional level will be mobilized in the person of and Environment Specialist and an Agro/Pastoralism Expert for each region.

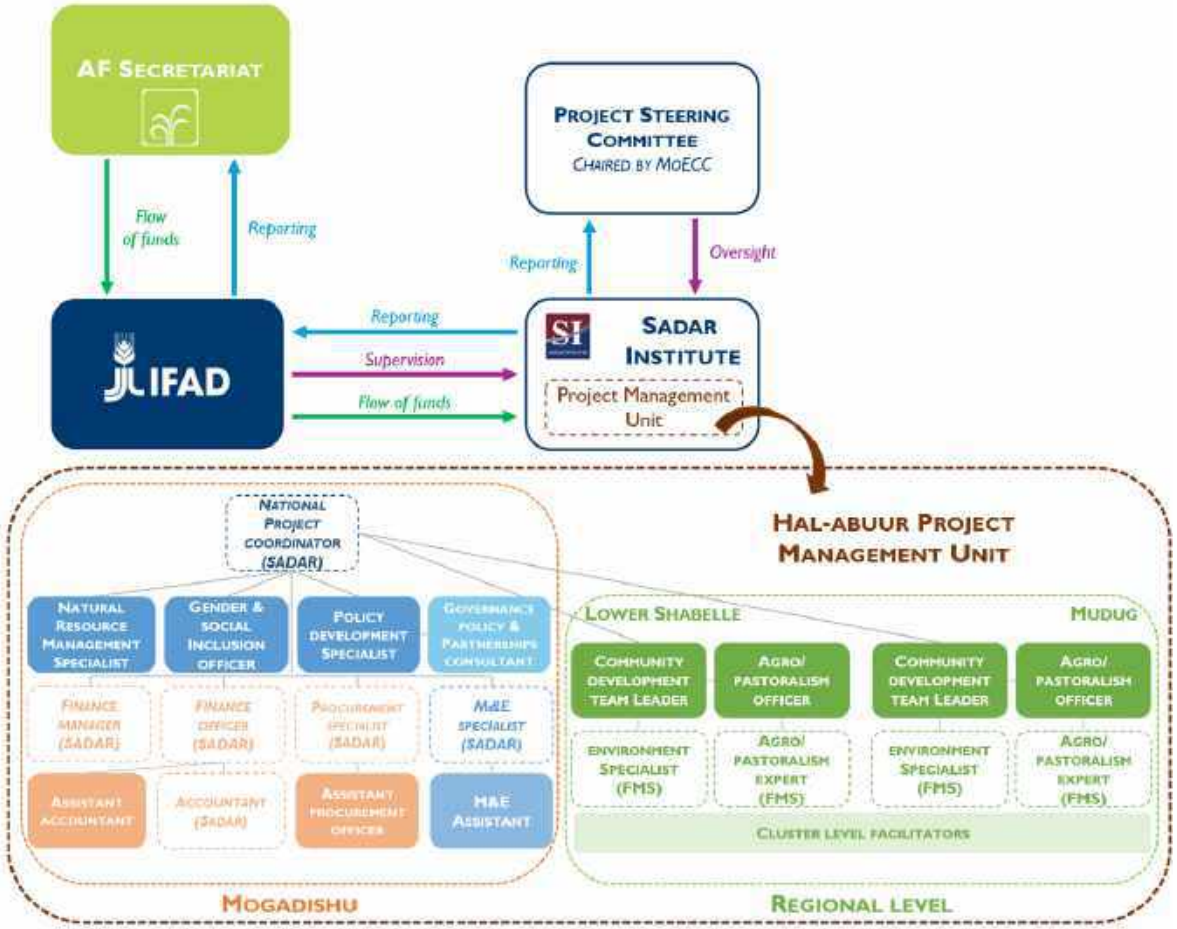

Figure 17 - Project Organisational Flowchart

275. The PIM will provide clear descriptions of tasks and responsibilities for the individual team members of the PMU and include procedures to carry out annual performance evaluations for all key staff. Contracts for the PMU members will be renewable annually, upon satisfactory performance. Appointment of seconded staff will be contingent to IFAD no-objection on proposed profiles, and seconded staff will have to assure full-time availability for the project. For the seconded staff, additional salary compensation will be financed from the project budget as per standard practice.

276. Additionally, Hal-Abuur's implementation will rely on the partnership established with Cluster Level Facilitators, allowing for the intense participatory process on which the project is based. Facilitators will be identified within the community and receive direct training to deliver the activities. A total of 4 Facilitators will be mobilized in each cluster of intervention, with one pair involved in the landscape planning process and the other focusing on support to production systems under the second component. As activities progress in selected clusters, the first pair of facilitators will also be capacitated to build capacities of the community in terms of business development. Their involvement of the project will be a guarantee of sustainability of the investments and they will be compensated for the support provided.

277. **Planning**. A rigorous planning process – that clearly identifies the concrete outputs (or physical targets) to be produced in a 12 months period in pursuit of overall project objectives, the activities to be implemented to deliver these outputs and the financial resources (or financial targets) required – will be the starting point for the sound management and monitoring of the project's execution. To this end, the PMU will use a pre-defined AWPB template. Although the results framework and the cost-tables shall not constitute a rigid blueprint, they will be a key reference for the preparation of the AWPBs.

278. While the first AWPB will be updated during the start-up workshop, the preparation of subsequent AWPBs shall follow an iterative process, starting around the month of September with the organization of district-level annual planning workshops. On this basis, a draft consolidated AWPB will be prepared by the PMU, identifying under each Component: (i) outputs and related physical targets to be achieved; (ii) key activities, sub-activities and inputs required; (iii) timetable for implementation of key activities; (iv) staff/persons responsible for each activity and sub-activity; and (v) financial resources required. The AWPB shall also include a Procurement Plan (PP). Both documents shall be submitted to IFAD for no-objection no later than 60 days before the end of the fiscal year. Once the AWPB is approved by the PSC, the PMU will submit it to IFAD for no-objection. It will constitute a binding document that will govern, through the year, IFAD's decisions on funds' release or procurement matters. The AWPB and PP may be amended during the year at the PMU request, along with proper justification and upon IFAD's no-objection.

279. **Specific implementation arrangements for each component**. Detailed implementation arrangements for the project will be described in the PIM. The project will rely on good practices from IFAD and other partners in the country, which have demonstrated their efficacy and relevance. The specific arrangements for each component are described briefly as follows:

- **Under component 1**, the identification of climate investment priorities under CCRIP (output 1.1) will rely on the direct facilitation by PCU members (community development officers with the support of the NRM specialist and gender and social inclusion officer), as well as the engagement of Cluster Level Facilitators. Under output 1.2, ecosystem restoration measures will be implemented using the Cash for Work modality, with the support of service providers (local or international NGOs such as CARE, selected based on a competitive process). Additional support to community participatory planning and management of natural resources under output 1.2 will be handled directly by the PMU with support from the CLeFs. Direct support pertaining to women, youth, and social inclusion, will be under the supervision of the Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist, with possible ad-hoc trainings or support from expert service providers.
- **Under component 2**, activities will be under the coordination of the regional level agro/pastoralism officers (under the supervision of the community development officers). They will rely on the capacitation of additional CLeFs by national or international service providers, and the delivery of continuous capacity support for agropastoral and pastoral production (including P/FMNR and P/FFS) to the communities. The component will also rely on the participatory approach adopted throughout the project with peer-to-peer adoption of

good practices. Direct support pertaining to women, youth, and social inclusion, will be under the supervision of the Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist.

- **Under component 3**, a convention will be established with CIFOR-ICRAF to perform the bulk of the activities supporting MoECC operationalization of the GGWI in Somalia. The project will also recruit a policy development specialist with knowledge of the GGWI, and a national consultant with expertise on Governance, Policy and Partnership Building to further support MoECC.

280. **Phasing**. The project follows a phased approach, both in terms of geographic targeting and implementation of activities. The project will concentrate initial efforts in five initial clusters, and two districts of intervention. From mid-term, an additional five clusters will be phased in, either in the same districts or in new ones. This will allow for all stakeholders to get familiar with proposed approaches, learn lessons from the experience and quickly scale up to new districts and clusters. At the same time, project activities in each cluster will follow a process based on the initial participatory identification of priorities of investments to build local resilience, both at ecosystem and production system level. Based on this, the project will finance landscape restoration activities and subsequently initiate support to resilient productions and livelihood diversification. The operationalization of the GGWI in the country under the third component will also be phased, starting with the preparation and validation of a national Strategy and Action Plan, and followed by the consolidation of relevant mechanisms for coordination, monitoring, as well as the decentralization of the strategy at FMS level.

281. **Implementation Arrangement Alignment with AF Gender Policy**. Gender and Social Inclusion aspects of the project will be managed by the National Gender and Social Inclusion Officer, who will be responsible for gender and social inclusion issues (overseeing the implementation of the gender strategy, building the capacity of staff and helping colleagues to address considerations related to gender equality and women's empowerment in their operations, including knowledge management, M&E, indicators and measurement of results). Dedicated budget has been allocated to address these issues, as well as to ensure the mainstreaming of gender considerations into all project activities. The following arrangements will guarantee that gender is taken into account in the implementation of the project:

- A dedicated staff will be recruited for gender and social inclusion aspects.
- A strategy and project-type action plan will be established at project start-up.
- Budget has been allocated for specific gender- and youth-related activities
- Quotas have been set for women (50%) and youth (50%) as a percentage of beneficiaries, and all collected and analysed data will be disaggregated by sex and gender.
- Information campaigns and outreach events targeting women and youth will be carried out during project implementation.
- Female and young trainers will be mobilized.
- Studies undertaken by the project will include a gender and age perspective.
- Gender parity in the PMU will be encouraged.
- Responsibility for gender mainstreaming will be included in the terms of reference of all key project staff and service providers.
- Under all component's accommodations will be made to ensure widespread women participation. This may include scheduling engagements separately with women, men and marginalized groups in places acknowledged as safe spaces for sharing information; confirming that meeting times are convenient for participants; recognizing and accommodating those with other responsibilities such as child-care.
- In all project activities, compliance with IFAD's policy on preventing and combating sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse will be sought. This will be reflected in the terms of reference of all key project staff and service providers.

B. Financial and project risk management

Financial risk

282. **Fiduciary and financial risks at Country Level**. The country risk is rated as *High*. This is in line with the scoring provided by Transparency International on the Corruption Perception Index at country level, which ranked Somalia 180th out of 180 countries with a score of 11 out of 100 and a slight

deterioration in rating from the previous year. Based on its CPI score, Somalia is perceived as being a highly corrupt environment. Despite recent progress, Somalia faces significant challenges, including those stemming from economic, social, security, and climate risks. According to the 2023 Somalia Poverty Report by the National Bureau of Statistics, in 2022 more than 54 % of the population lived below the national poverty line of US$2.06 per day and food security remained a serious concern at country level. Security challenges are also elevated, amid the gradual withdrawal of the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS). Growth in 2022 was 2.4 %, weighed down by drought and weak remittances that continued to subdue economic activity in 2023. Nonetheless, Growth in 2023 is expected pick up modestly to 2.8 %, supported by the recovery in agriculture and domestic revenues that have been stronger than expected in 2023. Inflation moderated to 5.4 % in September 2023, as food and fuel prices have been easing. Total public debt is projected to decline to US$706 million, or 6.1 % of GDP at end-2023 from US$3.9 billion or 37.4 % of GDP at end-2022. The majority of total public debt is external. Post-HIPC Completion Point, Somalia is assessed to be at moderate risk of debt distress, both for external and overall public debt.

283. **Fiduciary risks at IFAD Portfolio level**. SADAR Institute is one of the key stakeholders for the implementation of IFAD projects in Somalia, alongside the Somalian Government. In fact, SADAR Institute implements on behalf of the Somalian Government both the RISE emergency project (10 million USD from CRI) and the A2R2 project (financed by ASAP+ and GEF for a total of 24 million USD), currently in its start-up phase. The recent IFAD mission for the RISE project assessed that SADAR Institute has sufficient human resources and capacities to carry out existing projects. Nonetheless, its team will need to be further strengthened to manage new projects in the pipeline. Several key recommendations like the creation of an internal audit function, the purchase of a new accounting software, the adoption of IPSAS-cash accounting standards and the finalisation of a revised Finance Manual are currently being implemented. Some key mitigating actions have also been recommended concerning SADAR's governance structure and in particular the separation of the CEO and Board Chair position. The overall FM inherent risk is assessed to be High for A2R2 and Substantial for RISE mainly due to the risks related to the country context as well as the specific complexities of the project A2R2 compared to RISE.

284. Additional portfolio risks are related to the country context where a high level of corruption and a volatile security situation may lead to both (i) misuse of funds and (ii) inability of IFAD to visit project areas and fully supervise project activities as well as their financial and physical progress. In order to mitigate these risks IFAD will ensure that the internal control environment at the level of each project is solid enough to mitigate the risk of corruption and fraud. Also, IFAD may rely directly on third party implementation partners engaged through performance-based contracts to conduct periodic programmatic monitoring and reporting in hard-to-reach areas to enhance IFAD supervision activities. Finally, the relatively weak banking system at country level prevents the projects from processing payments directly through bank transfers. This risk is mitigated by the use of cheques instead of cash.

285. **Fiduciary and financial risks at Project Level**. Aside from the fiduciary risks that are common at country and portfolio level, Hal-Abuur will face some specific financial risks that are embedded in its activities. In particular, a substantial part of the budget will be devoted to activities related to distribution of equipment and goods to beneficiaries, which will need to be carefully documented trough exhaustive distribution lists and other supporting documents. Activities related to Cash for Work also carry a certain degree of fiduciary risk, which will be mitigated by the development of a dedicated manual describing all the steps related to this activity and providing templates of minimal supporting documentation. The external auditor will also be charged of additional checks related to Cash for Work and distribution activities to ensure that the main project FM risks are further mitigated.

286. Additional risks are linked to the secondment of most of the FM team from Sadar, which may result in excessive workload for some team members, to be mitigated by the possibility for future IFAD missions to recommend SADAR to reinforce its FM team. Additionally, the newly recruited internal audit function may prove to lack capacities and effectiveness. IFAD will mitigate this risk by providing support and training to the internal audit team.

287. **Financial management arrangements**: The Hal-Abuur project will be implemented by SADAR and will rely on its structure and personnel, which will be further strengthened to ensure effective project management and coordination.

288. **Organisation and Staffing** The financial management functions of the project will be carried out centrally by the different departments and divisions already existing within SADAR structure. The FM team will be mainly composed of existing SADAR personnel, and a new assistant accountant will be recruited to work full time on the project. The FM team will be composed of:

i. A Finance Manager, in charge of the oversight of the overall project FM function. The Finance Manager will not only supervise the work of the finance officer, but also support in the analysis of project performance in order to equip project management with all needed tools for decision making;
ii. A Finance Officer, in charge of the integrity project accounting and of the respect of project procedures on a daily basis. The Finance officer will supervise the project accountant and will ensure that all expenditures are duly justified, that accounting entries are correct and reconciled with bank statements, that project budget is duly captured in the accounting software allowing for an accurate analytical accounting. Furthermore, the finance officer will be in charge of the preparation of all project financial statements;
iii. An accountant, in charge of the collection of the supporting documents and of the accounting entries in the accounting software;
iv. An accounting assistant in charge of the archiving (both electronical and physical) of supporting documentation as well as the preparation of payment vouchers and other tasks that will be described in SADAR manual.

289. **Budgeting**. Each year the project will prepare an Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB), that will be submitted to IFAD for no-objection no later than the 31st of September of N-1 each year. The AWPB will be consolidated by the Finance Officer under the supervision of the Finance Manager and will include information per source of financing, categories, components (outcomes) and subcomponents (outputs). The AWBP will be inputted in the accounting software and will constitute the basis of project analytical accounting. A budget follow-up statements will be prepared at least quarterly along with the Interim Financial reports.

290. **Flow of Funds and disbursement Arrangements**. One designated account denominated in US Dollars will be opened at a credible commercial bank and will be mobilised directly by the project to pay for eligible project expenditures. Withdrawal and disbursement from grant account will be based on a six-months cash forecast which will be included in the project's quarterly Interim Financial Reports (IFRs). A template of the IFRs will be included in the Project's Implementation Manual and will constitute the basis for project disbursement. The project will generate, approve and submit to IFAD its Withdrawal Applications (WA) using the IFAD Client Portal (ICP).

291. **Internal Controls**. An acceptable level of segregation of duties within the PMU will be assured by the division of tasks between the different team members of the FM team. An internal audit function exists within SADAR and will include Hal-Abuur in its workplan. Finally, IFAD supervision and support mission as well as external audits will further strengthen the internal control environment of the project. All project expenditures will be duly justified with a specific attention to distribution activities as well as Cash for Work activities where funds will need to be traced until the final beneficiary.

292. **Accounting and financial reporting**: The project will maintain its accounts in accordance with IPSAS/Cash standards. However, an exception to IPSAS-cash will be recommended to effectively track any advance to staff, vendors or implementing partners. Additional financial information, aside from all financial statements that are mandatory under IPSAS cash, will be prepared by the project in accordance with the *IFAD Handbook for Financial Reporting and Auditing of IFAD-Financed Projects*. The project will submit its annual unaudited financial statements to IFAD within 4 months from the end of each fiscal year for IFAD review.

293. Hal-Abuur accounts will be kept by using an accounting software which will be able to automatically generate both financial reports and budget monitoring information. Within 45 days after the end of each quarter, the project will submit to IFAD a set of interim financial reports which will also serve as basis for disbursement for the project.

294. **External Audit**: The project will submit an external audit report to IFAD within six months after the end of each fiscal year. The audit report package will include a single opinion on the project financial statements as well as a management letter. The audit Terms of Reference will be revised and cleared by IFAD before their submission to the private audit firm competitively selected.

295. **Procurement**. As part of the initial design of the Hal-Abuur Project, IFAD undertook (i) country procurement assessment; and (ii) defined arrangements for procurement to be followed during the Project implementation. The outcomes of the assessment have shown that although the "Public Procurement, Concessions and Disposal Act" (PPCDA), dated 23rd November, 2015 covers most of the areas of transparency of arrangements, the degree of emphasis on open and competitive procedures, the monitoring of procurement results, and the extent of access to appeal and redress arrangements, there is no evidence that the requirements of the procurement Act are adhered to by public institutions. While procurement methods are clearly provided for in the Act, there is no focus on the capacity building of the public officials involved in public procurement. The Public Procurement authority (PPA) does not have adequate capacity to fulfil all its obligations as stipulated in the Act. The private sector faces many challenges and its growth is slow. The bid review mechanism is independent, but the extent of bidders' trust in it is not evident. Internal control and audit framework exist, but it is not focused on procurement. Except for the provisions in the Act, there are no anti-fraud and corruption measures in place to prevent and fight corruption in public procurement. The code of ethics specific to procurement does not exist. There is no electronic procurement yet. Until such time that the PPA is operationalized, and the documents reviewed and found satisfactory by the IFAD, Procurement of goods, works and services shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the IFAD Project Procurement Guidelines[126]

296. SADAR will establish and will perform the functions and responsibilities of the PMU, fully abiding by the provisions of the Financing Agreement, Project Design Report, Procurement Arrangement Letter, and IFAD Project Procurement Guidelines as well as with IFAD Procurement Handbook. SADAR will endeavour to recruit, train and sustain procurement staff in the required numbers and qualifications as specified in the Project Design. SADAR will ensure that any procurement staff is well versed with this Manual and with national procurement rules and IFAD Project Procurement Guidelines as well as with the IFAD Procurement Handbook.

297. **Fraud prevention**. Fraud risks will be addressed in accordance with provisions of the IFAD Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption in its Activities and Operations. IFAD applies a zero-tolerance policy with regard to any fraudulent, corrupt, collusive or coercive actions in the projects it manages. This entails not only pursuing all allegations of fraudulent practices and applying appropriate sanctions but also promoting preventive control measures such as assessments of national and project-specific financial management, auditing and procurement systems. Where it is determined that fraudulent, corrupt, collusive or coercive practices have occurred in projects financed through its loans and grants, IFAD applies a range of sanctions, including disciplinary measures for IFAD staff; and pursues the recovery of any losses in accordance with the provisions of the applicable IFAD rules and regulations and legal instruments. The Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption has been integrated into IFAD's legal framework (Project Procurement Guidelines, General Conditions for Agricultural Development Financing, IFAD's Code of Conduct) and applies to all recipients of IFAD financing.

Project risk

Table 9 - Main potential risks to project success and mitigation strategies

Risk	Initial risk assessment	Proposed mitigation measure	Final risk assess-ment
Rekindling or intensification of insurgency in target areas	High	IFAD will collaborate with the UN and the rest of the international community to promote security. The project features a conflict-sensitive approach to minimize the risk of the project aggravating tensions between communities, but also to minimize the risk of conflict resurgence affecting the desired outcomes (improved NRM governance, capacity development, etc.) The project will be implemented by at state and level district through SADAR, a third-party implementing partner. IFAD will focus on empowering communities and promoting strong stakeholder ownership.	High

[126] Any reference to IFAD Project Procurement Guidelines includes also the IFAD Procurement Handbook. Compliance with both the Guidelines and the Handbook is mandatory. For both the Guidelines and the Handbook, the latest versions shall always apply.

Weak institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability (as a result of prolonged conflict)	High	The key part of the project implementation strategy is to provide operational support to MoECC, FMS, and community organizations for effective delivery. This will contribute to rebuilding institutional capacity and facilitate national ownership and sustainability thereby guaranteeing the impact of project activities. Where necessary, the PMU will rely on service providers (i.e. local national and international NGOs with local contacts and a credible track records), with the aim to handover to the Government when capacities improve.	Moderate
Weak national policy framework	Moderate	The project will be implemented in the framework of Government development and sectoral strategies (NDP-9), contributing concretely to the achievement of its objectives and building its credibility. The project also contributes directly to policies and strategies outlined in Part II. D. In addition, the project specifically aims operationalizing the GGWI in Somalia and will accordingly build relevant institutional capacities in the country, in particular at MoECC level.	Moderate
Absence of strong national system for procurement	High	The project will follow IFAD's project procurement guidelines, procurement handbook, and the standard bidding document sin the absence of strong national systems. Regular implementation support missions will be planned, with targeted training and support on preparation of bidding activities in compliance with IFAD's requirements.	High
Climate risks (risk of climate disasters such as droughts and floods affecting project outcomes)	High	The project's primary objective is to build the resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods to climate impacts, and relevant adaptation practices are promoted throughout its components. Specific targeting of women, youth and other vulnerable groups will strengthen their resilience to climate change through dedicated support and diversification of livelihoods.	High
Delays in implementation of key activities cascade due to the phased approach (interdependency of activities result in cumulated delays if the first activities' implementation starts late or is slowed)	Moderate	The project is thought in a way that enables a parallel process to be initiated if key activities are delayed (e.g. landscape restoration measures following the participatory planning can be conducted in parallel to other activities under component 2 if important delays are observed)	Low

C. Environmental and Social Risk Management

298. IFAD-funded projects and programmes are designed in a participatory manner, taking into account the concerns of all stakeholders. IFAD requires that projects are carried out in compliance with its policies, standards and safeguards. Moreover, IFAD's Strategic Framework calls for ensuring that projects and programmes promote sustainable use of natural resources, build resilience to climate change and are based upon ownership by rural women and men themselves in order to achieve sustainability. As shown in Annex 3 (ESMP) the project design was assessed in compliance with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social as well as Gender Policies, and was additionally assessed through IFAD's SECAP (which are fully aligned with the AF Environmental and Social as well as Gender Policies). Following the ESP screening in Annex 3 (ESMP), the project has been categorised as a **Category B** (equivalent to the IFAD/SECAP "moderate risk" category) with regards to environmental and social aspects (also refer to section II. K).

299. The risk screening conducted in the ESMP in Annex 3 identifies that Hal-Abuur will not have any adverse environmental and social impacts: the expected impact of the project on the environment will be positive given its specific orientation to launch the Great Green Wall Initiative in Somalia. The landscape approach to climate resilience, based on participatory planning, will encompass

complementary activities for the restoration of agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems: (i) mechanical works supported through Cash for Work thereby providing short term relief to local populations, (ii) revegetation using a mix of NAR, afforestation/reforestation and reseeding, and the (iii) implementation of temporary grazing bans, all supported by (iv) participatory management plans and committees. Additionally, direct support to the resilience of pastoral and agropastoral systems through participatory capacity building based on P/FFS, and support to the diversification of livelihoods as well as the mainstreaming of gender and social inclusion approaches and principle, and the mainstreaming of conflict resolution mechanisms, will all contribute to a reduced exposure to social and environmental consequences of climate changes.

300. Annex 3 proposes a methodology for the development of Environmental and Social Impact (ESI) screening and ESMP of the project. The ESMP will include mitigation and monitoring actions and the institutional responsibilities for implementing them clearly. The project will notably minimize environmental and social risks by integrating a safeguarding system in:

- **Institutional processes**: Project staff, communities, CLeFs and service providers will be guided by the PMU to identify, assess, manage and/or mitigate environmental and social risks. Processes are in place for the Environmental and Social Risks to be assessed and respective ESMPs designed and applied for the mitigation of risks related to the 15 ESPs, at the level of each Community Climate Resilient Investment Plan.
- **Implementation of hard interventions**: Cash for Work and regreening activities will directly benefit the physical environment. Each of these activities will fully comply with relevant Federal and State laws and regulations and the objective criteria for resource allocation will be communicated transparently to all stakeholders.
- **Execution of 'soft' project activities**: Proposed 'soft' project activities have been screened for environmental and social risks during the project formulation by consultations involving local stakeholders and a multidisciplinary team of Somali and international specialists with a thorough understanding of the specific context in each of the targeted districts.

301. Social risks will be reduced by following the targeting strategy that has been developed, with a strong focus on women and youth empowerment. It is based on successful targeting strategies of IFAD and other partners in the country in the country. The participatory processes adopted throughout implementation will take social risks into account and be reinforced by the establishment of solid conflict-resolution mechanisms and household methodologies. Participatory approaches will be used and inclusion will be closely monitored through the M&E system and using specific tools.

302. Grievance and redress mechanisms (GRM**)**. The project will utilize the existing IFAD grievance mechanism to allow those affected to raise concerns that the project is not complying with its social and environmental policies or commitments, first by establishing a grievance mechanism at project level, drawing from the existing mechanisms used by IFAD in Somalia. The consultative process with the community and beneficiaries aims to ensure prevention of grievances that might arise from the project activities. Grievance mechanisms will consider the complexities related to rural locations, traditional decision-making structures and existing social tensions. However, if there are any grievances, the below redress mechanism is proposed:

- **Community level GRM**. Some communities already have their own community-based system for grievance. These structures are within the village structure through the existing village leadership and the Elders/clan Council. The legitimacy of village leadership involvement is the vast amount of knowledge they have about land ownership and proximity to affected households. However, not all grievance cases are resolved within the traditional system, so other superior authorities need to be involved to follow up on open cases. It is worth noting that all possible community-based approaches are prioritized, and efforts are made to ensure that complaints are resolved at that level. The judicial system is used as a last resort. Project support to conflict resolution mechanisms will empower communities to better handle grievances and resolve conflicts before they escalate.
- **Project level GRM**. The guiding principles to follow when resolving a complaint include, but are not limited to: fairness, respect for human rights, compliance with national regulations, consistency of standards, equality, honesty of transparency, and above all respect for each other. Grievance redress mechanism should be shared with the community during the project

inception workshop and subsequent meetings with the beneficiaries and follows these principles: (i) As part of the grievance redress mechanism, the contact details of the project partners (Project Coordinator and Field Officers) should be made available to stakeholders including project beneficiaries and the communities. Contact numbers would be displayed at common or predominant places along–with the project details. This is expected to promote social auditing; (ii) complaints must be put forward by at least two people who are both nationals of the country concerned and/or living in the project area; (iii) complaints from foreign locations or anonymous complaints will not be taken into account; and (iv) complaints must concern projects currently under design or implementation. Complaints concerning closed projects, or those that are more than 95 % disbursed, will not be considered.

All written or verbal complaints received will be registered in the PMU database by the project representative. After registration, the complaint will be assessed and forwarded to the relevant teams. After that, the parties will investigate the legitimacy of the complaint and plan future directions. Fact-finding will be conducted with the petitioner, village/community leader, and PMU officer. Suggestions on how to resolve the complaint will be discussed and the complainant will be advised accordingly. Once the petitioner approves and the remedy is implemented, the complaint is approved as resolved.

Grievances are aimed to be addressed at the field level by the project team which will be the first level of redress mechanism. If the grievance is not resolved at the field level, it will be escalated to the PMU and then to IFAD who will be responsible for addressing grievances related to violation of any of the provisions of Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund. All grievances received and actions taken them will be put up before the PMU and Steering Committee and will also be included in progress reports for monitoring purposes.

- **IFAD level "SECAP Redress Service" GRM**. The IFAD Enhanced Complaints Procedure complements project-level grievance redress mechanisms if the PMU or any governmental body overseeing the lead agency do not respond adequately, or if the complainants feel they may be subject to retaliation from these entities. IFAD guarantees confidentiality if requested by the complainants. Complaints can be submitted in the language of the complainants by letter, email (SECAPcomplaints@ifad.org) and/or the web form available at https://www.ifad.org/en/accountability-and-complaints-procedures.
- **The Ad hoc Complaint Handling Mechanism (ACHM) of the Adaptation Fund** can be directly used in cases where the Parties have failed to reach a mutually satisfactory solution through the implementing entities' grievance mechanism within a year. The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat independently manages all aspects related to the ACHM, under the oversight of the Ethics and Finance Committee of the Board. Guidance to ACHM are available at this link: Ad Hoc Complaint Handling Mechanism - Adaptation Fund.

D. Monitoring and Evaluation

303. **Project Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)** will be under the oversight of the PMU at Sadar Development and Resilience Institute, currently executing other IFAD-funded programmes in Somalia. It will be led by the M&E assistant who will work closely with the implementing partners under the supervision of Sadar's M&E Specialist. The M&E system should: (i) produce, organize and disseminate the information needed for the strategic management of the project, (ii) document the results and lessons learned for internal use and for public dissemination on the achievements and (iii) respond to the information needs of Adaptation Fund, IFAD and the FGS on the activities, immediate outcomes and impact of the project. A monitoring and evaluation manual describing a simple and effective system for collecting, processing, analysing and disseminating data will be prepared during the first year of project implementation.

304. A computerized database will be developed to enable the generation of dashboards, leveraging existing systems established by SADAR (notably the web-based GIS tracking tool for land degradation and biodiversity assessment). The system will be regularly fed from data collected in the field by the regional level teams, CLeFs, service providers and contractors and the various studies, mappings and policy products carried out as part of the projects' implementation. The monitoring and evaluation system will be coupled with a GIS that will allow mapping and spatio-temporal analyses. Geo-coordinates (with at least 10-meter accuracy) and pictures will be collected for pasture infrastructure,

water infrastructure, rehabilitation, nurseries and vegetation improvements. Trainings will be organized to strengthen the capacities of the various stakeholders involved in the monitoring and evaluation system.

305. The M&E assistant will have relevant GIS and remote sensing expertise, and his role will also entail: (i) overseeing the mapping of project interventions using GIS (e.g. the area under afforestation, pasture rehabilitation or dune fixation); (ii) aggregating data to measure spatial logframe indicators, such as the area under climate resilient practices; and (iii) using remotely sensed land health indicators to measure the impact of the project on reversing land degradation. This expert will develop guidelines for the use of GIS and earth observation for M&E as part of the M&E plan. The guidelines will establish data standards and procedures for GIS data collection, analysis and use. The impact evaluation of land health measures will include time series analysis and the comparison of treatment and control areas to determine the attributable impact of the project interventions. The remote sensing expert will use different remotely sensed land health indicators to detect change for different land uses. The PMU and in particular the M&E staff and field level officers will receive training on (i) GIS supported M&E; and (ii) admin training on merging maps for offline data collection and tiles; and (iii) remote sensing trainings for environmental monitoring (e.g. Wapor, Google Earth Engine).

306. Day to day monitoring of implementation progress will be the responsibility of the PMU, based on the project's Annual Work Plan and its indicators. During the first months of the project, the project team will complete and fine-tune the list of indicators, their definition and measurement methods. Specific targets for the first year of implementation, progress indicators, and their means of verification will be established at the Inception Workshop (below).

307. **Project Inception Workshop**. A project inception workshop will be conducted within two months of project start up with the full project team, relevant government counterparts and IFAD. The inception workshop is crucial to building ownership for the project results and to plan the first-year annual work plan. A fundamental objective of the Inception Workshop will be to present the modalities of project implementation and execution, and assist the project team to understand and take ownership of the project's goals and objectives.

308. **A Project Inception Report** will be prepared immediately following the Inception Workshop. It will include: (i) a detailed First 18-months/Annual Work Plan divided in quarterly time-frames detailing the activities and progress indicators that will guide implementation during the first year of the project; (ii) the detailed project budget and procurement plan for the first 18 months of implementation, prepared on the basis of the Annual Work Plan; (iii) an M&E plan for the duration of the project, (iv) the outline and scope of the baseline study; (v) a detailed narrative on the institutional roles, responsibilities, coordinating actions and feedback mechanisms of project related partners; (vi) a section on progress to date on project establishment and start-up activities and an update of any changed external conditions that may affect project implementation.

309. **Baseline study**. A baseline study will be conducted within the first year with the objective to collect data at the onset of a project to establish the pre-project conditions against which future changes amongst the target population can be measured, and as a comparison and planning base for monitoring and evaluations. The study will include the target group and a control group which will be essential to determine the attribution of results to project activities.

310. **Quarterly Progress Reports** will be prepared by all project implementing partners and service providers and submitted to the PMU who will consolidate them to ensure continuous monitoring of project activities and identify challenges to adopt necessary corrective measures in due time.

311. **Technical reports** (such as a best practices and lessons learned reports and policy briefs, as well as studies conducted under component 3) will also be completed, as determined during the project inception report. In particular, soil and land management best practices may be highlighted on the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT) platform[127] for further visibility, and GIS maps informed by the LDSF overlaying improved practices with vegetation cover imagery will be highlighted in technical reports to inform the update of the National GGWI Strategy and Action Plan and the State level Strategies.

[127] WOCAT is a global network on Sustainable Land Management (SLM) that promotes the documentation, sharing and use of knowledge to support adaptation, innovation and decision-making in SLM.

312. **Annual Project Performance Report (PPR)**. The project will submit a PPR each year to chart progress achieved in meeting the project's Annual Work Plan objectives, and assess performance of the project in contributing to intended outcomes through outputs and partnership work, using the Adaptation Fund template. The PPR includes among others, (i) an analysis of project performance over the reporting period (tracking project indicators), including outputs produced and, where possible, information on the status of the outcome; (ii) lessons learned and constraints experienced in the progress towards results and the reasons for these; (iii) risk assessment; (iv) information related to financial data and procurement (expenditure reports, bids and contracts list); (v) ratings on implementation progress (Highly Satisfactory to Highly Unsatisfactory); (vi) clear recommendations for future orientation in addressing key problems in lack of progress; (vii) review of compliance with Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy. In addition, it includes a results tracker that needs to be filled i) at inception where baseline-related information will be submitted, and planned targets at project completion indicated; ii) at mid-term; and iii) at project completion when the final PPR will serve as a project completion report; but also include the final evaluation report and final audited financial statements.

313. **Supervision** will be organized by IFAD (under its direct Supervision framework and guidelines), with a Supervision mission mobilized at least once per year. Additional implementation support from IFAD on specific identified issues will be mobilized if considered necessary by FGS and IFAD or recommended by the Supervision mission. The composition of the Supervision missions will be based on an annual supervision plan. The supervision report will highlight, in addition to the routine supervision tasks (fiduciary, compliance and project implementation), the main thematic or performance areas that require strengthening and would imply deployment of additional inputs for capacity building, in-depth analytical studies or review of existing policies.

314. **Mid-term Review** (MTR). The MTR will be carried out during the second half of year three. It will assess operational aspects such as programme management and implementation of activities as well as the extent to which the objectives are being fulfilled and corrective actions needed for the programme to achieve impact, and include a midline survey. Corrective actions will be decided upon for the programme to achieve impact. Depending on the achievements the programme and the resources available, the possibility of scaling up the activities to other districts or regions will also be considered in consultation with the government.

315. **A Final Evaluation** will be conducted three months before project closure and will include the project completion survey (below).

316. **The Project completion survey** will be conducted with the objective to collect data at project end to measure the level of achievement towards the desired outcomes and impacts on the target population. Possibly a panel data collection will be adopted by surveying the same samples of beneficiary households as for the baseline study. Moreover, the analysis will be disaggregated by type of beneficiary, location and gender of household head. As part of the evaluation, stories, lessons learned and best practices will be collected for upscaling and dissemination.

317. **Environmental and Social risks**. Section IV of Annex 3 outlines the project's Environmental and Social Management Plan, clarifying indicators, focal points and means of verification, while section V. includes an implementation schedule for the ESMP. The monitoring and reporting of the ESMP will be commensurate with the limited measures required to mitigate project risks. ESP compliance for risks identified in the ESMP will be reported on through the annual PPR and supervision missions to verify that all relevant mitigation measures are being effectively implemented based on identified means of verification.

318. **Gender and youth.** The M&E system will give strong emphasis to monitoring of targeting performance. All implementing partners will be required to provide disaggregated data on women and youth participation, in relation to overall project targets. The M&E system will collect and analyse information about programme outreach, effectiveness of the targeting strategy and specific benefits for women and youth. This will require solid coordination and collaboration between the M&E officer and the Gender and Social Inclusion Officer. Other participatory monitoring tools such as quarterly progress reports, environmental and social safeguard monitoring, and regular tracking of vulnerable groups with their problems and progress will be adopted to ensure that the target groups are effectively participating and getting progress on their livelihood improvement pathways. Lessons learned on gender and climate

change will be produced and included as part of key relevant reports. Additionally, technical reports such as a best practices and lessons learned reports will also be developed. Impact will be assessed on the basis of baseline, mid-term and completion surveys which will use representative samples of the gender and youth composition in target groups, thereby enabling to disaggregate and estimate specific impact on these groups.

Table 10 - Budgeted M&E plan (breakdown by source of funding)

Breakdown of M&E Supervision	Responsibility	Timeframe	Budget (USD)
Contribution of project budget to M&E (AF)			
Baseline study	PMU	First year	25,250
Mid-Term review (survey)	PMU	2027	26,270
Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB)	PMU	Annual	31,856
Project records and consolidation	M&E Officer and other PMU members	Trimestral	144,000
Semi-annual progress report	M&E Officer and other PMU members	Semi-annual	
Annual project report	M&E Officer and other PMU members	Annual	
Project completion survey	PMU	2030	27,878
Completion process	PMU	2030	11,151
Total			**266,405**
Contribution of IE Fees to M&E			
Inception workshop report	PMU	After workshop	20,000
Supervision visits	IFAD, PMU, Government	Biannual	60,000
Mid-term review	IFAD, external consultants	2027	20,000
Final evaluation	IFAD, external consultants	2030	20,000
Total			**120,000**
Grand total			**386,405**

E. Results framework

Table 11 - Results framework

Objective and expected outputs	Indicators	Unit	Targets				Means of verification			Assumptions
			Ref.	Year 1	Mid-term	Year 6	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
Project objective. Scale-up the climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods in Somalia by operationalizing the Great Green Wall Initiative in the country	Ha of land protected or under improved practices	Hectares	-	-	5,750	11,500	Completion survey, GIS and remote sensing analysis, LDSF surveys and project M&E records	At mid-term and completion	M&E Specialist & M&E assistant	Initial and continued political commitment and support to project implementation. Good governance. No major natural disasters and/or epidemics. Security and political situation stable. Improvement of macro-economic conditions
	Number of households with an increased resilience to climate change	HH	-	-	2,250	4,500				
	Number of beneficiaries (direct/indirect)	Total	-	-	13,275/ 17,700	26,550/ 35,400				
Component 1. Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia										
Outcome 1. Improved resilience of agro-sylvo-pastoral ecosystems	Number of hectares of ecosystem protected	Hectares	-	-	2,500	10,000	Project impact survey, GIS and remote sensing analysis & LDSF surveys	At mid-term and completion	PMU NRM Specialist, community development officers, and M&E assistant	Local communities are well informed about the impacts of climate change on water resources and understand the importance of climate resilience-building measures to be implemented. State/district authorities and community leadership support land restoration approaches and associated requirements including equitable NRM.
	5. Ecosystem services and natural resource assets maintained or improved under climate change and variability-induced stress (AF 5.)	Assets	-	-	15	30				
Output 1.1. Community Climate Resilient Investment plans developed	Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans developed	Plans	-	5	5	10	CCRIP documents	Annually		
Output 1.2. Priority green and resilient measures implemented	5.1. No. of natural resource assets created, maintained or improved to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by type and scale) (A F5.1)	Assets	-	-	15	30	Reports from CfW implementation, GIS tracking & LDSF surveys	Annually		
	Surface under social fencing	Hectares	-	-	5,000	10,000				
	Surface under revegetation	Hectares	-	-	750	1,500				
	Surface under mechanical recuperation	Hectares	-	-	750	1,500				
	Number of households benefitting from Cash for Work	HH	-	-	2,250	4,500	Reports from Cash for Work operations	Annually		
	Number of Resource Users and Management Committees established	Committees	-	-	15	30	Committee by-laws	Annually		
Component 2. Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia										
Outcome 2. Enhanced resilience of agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods to climate change	% of households reporting adoption of environmentally sustainable and climate resilient technologies and practices	% of HH	-	-	50%	80%	Project impact survey	At mid-term and completion	PMU Agro/ Pastoralism officers and M&E assistant	Households are willing to change their coping strategies, and targeted agropastoralists and pastoralists are committed to integrate adaptation technologies / practices to
	% of smallholders reporting an increased stability of income (production/commercialization)	% of H	-	-	50%	80%				

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	Number of hectares of land protected or under improved practices	Hectares	-	-	1,400	6,000	Project impact survey, LDSF surveys			improve resilience of their livelihoods. Local institutions support the dissemination of climate resilient technologies and practices Cluster Level Facilitators provide information on climate resilient practices to all households in targeted clusters Local communities are sensitized and committed on the socio-economic and environmental interest to sustainable manage tree products (nurseries, NWFP)
Output 2.1. Adaptive capacity of agropastoral and pastoral systems strengthened	Number of households accessing information on resilient practices	HH	-	-	1,500	3,000	Project impact survey	At mid-term and completion		
	Number of households participating to P/FFS	HH	-	-	500	1,000	Quarterly reports	Annually		
	Surface under P/FMNR	Hectares	-	-	700	5,000	GIS tracking and LDSF surveys	Annually		
	Surface of farm under resilient management	Hectares	-	-	750	1,500	GIS tracking and LDSF surveys	Annually		
Output 2.2. Diversification of income sources for resilient livelihoods ensured	Number of HH benefitting from business development support	HH	-	-	500	1,000	Quarterly reports	Annually		
	Number of NWFP cooperatives supported	VC	-	-	10	20	Quarterly reports	Annually		
	Number of tree nurseries established	Tree nurseries	-	-	5	10	Quarterly reports	Annually		
	Number of HH benefitting from resilient technologies (inputs/equipment)	HH	-	-	1,000	2,000	Report from allocation and distribution	Annually		
Component 3. Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia										
Outcome 3. Great Green Wall initiative framework operationalized in Somalia	Number of policies, strategies and investments influenced by project experience	Policy document	-	-	1	1	Document of the strategy	At mid-term and completion	PMU Policy development specialist & M&E assistant	Continued political commitment to operationalize the Great Green Wall Initiative.
	GGWI coalition is operational	Coalition	-	-	1	1	Documents formalizing the coalition			
Output 3.1. National Strategy and Action Plan to Implement the GGWI in Somalia elaborated	GGWI Strategy and Action Plan developed	Policy document	-	-	1	1	Document of the strategy	Annually		
	Number of FMS staff trained	Individuals	-	-	60	60	Training reports	Annually		
	Number of FMS GGWI roadmaps established	Roadmap	-	-	-	5	Roadmap document	Annually		
Output 3.2. National and local stakeholders' capacities to implement GGWI in Somalia reinforced	Number of persons trained on GGWI	Individuals	-	-	50	80	Training reports	Annually		
	Number of coordination workshops conducted	Workshops	-	-	4	9	Workshop report	Annually		
	LDSF framework operational	Framework	-	-			LDSF framework	Annually		
	Number of persons trained on LDSF	Individuals	-	-	50	80	Training reports	Annually		
	Number of studies conducted	Studies	-	-	-	5	Documents of the studies	Annually		
	Number of knowledge documents prepared	Documents	-	-	10	20	KM documents	Annually		

F. Alignment with Adaptation Fund Result Framework

Table 12 - Alignment with Adaptation Fund Result Framework

Project Outcomes	Project Outcome indicators	Adaptation Fund Outcome	Fund Outcome Indicator	AF Grant Amount (USD)
Component 1. Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia				
Outcome 1. Improved resilience of agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems to climate change	Number of hectares of ecosystem protected	**Outcome 5**: Increased ecosystem resilience in response to climate change and variability-induced stress	**5**. Ecosystem services and ~~N~~natural resource assets maintained or improved under climate change and variability-induced stress	3,730,016
Component 2. Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia				
Outcome 2. Enhanced resilience of agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods to climate change	% of households reporting adoption of environmentally sustainable and climate resilient technologies and practices; % of smallholders reporting an increased stability of income (production/commercialization); Number of hectares of land protected or under improved practices	**Outcome 6**: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas.	N/A	3,630,359
Component 3. Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia				
Outcome 3. Great Green Wall initiative framework operationalized in Somalia	Number of policies, strategies and investments influenced by project experience; GGWI coalition is operational	**Outcome 7**: Improved policies and regulations that promote and enforce resilience measures	**7**. Climate change priorities are integrated into national development strategy	980,640
Project Outputs	Project Output Indicators	Fund Output	Fund Output Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
Component 1. Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia				
Output 1.1. Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans developed	Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans developed	**Output 5**: Vulnerable ecosystem services and natural resource assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	**5.1**. No. of natural resource assets created, maintained or improved to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by type and scale)	1,053,539
Output 1.2. Priority green and resilient measures implemented	Surface under social fencing; Surface under revegetation; Surface under mechanical recuperation; Number of households benefitting from Cash for Work; Number of Resource Users and Management Committees established			2,676,477
Component 2. Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia				
Output 2.1. Adaptive capacity of agropastoral and pastoral systems strengthened	Number of households accessing information on resilient practices; Number of households participating to P/FFS; Surface under P/FMNR; Surface of farm under resilient management	**Output 6**: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability	**6.2.1**. Type of income sources for households generated under climate change scenario~~N/A~~	1,953,344
Output 2.2. Diversification of income sources for resilient livelihoods ensured	Number of HH benefitting from business development support; Number of NWFP cooperatives supported; Number of tree nurseries established; Number of HH benefitting from resilient			1,677,015

	technologies (inputs/equipment)			
Component 3. Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia				
Output 3.1. National Strategy and Action Plan to Implement the GGWI in Somalia elaborated	GGWI Strategy and Action Plan developed; Number of FMS staff trained; Number of FMS GGWI roadmaps established	**Output 7**: Improved integration of climate-resilience strategies into country development plans	**7.1**. No. of policies introduced or adj²usted to address climate change risks (by sector)	252,343
Output 3.2. National and local stakeholders' capacities to implement GGWI in Somalia reinforced	Number of persons trained on GGWI; Number of coordination workshops conducted; LDSF framework operational; Number of persons trained on LDSF; Number of studies conducted; Number of knowledge documents prepared			728,297

Table 13 - Table for reporting Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicator "Number of beneficiaries"

Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicator "Number of Beneficiaries"				
Date of report				
Project title				
Country				
Implementing Agency				
Project duration				
	Baseline *(absolute number)*	Target at project approval *(absolute number)*	Adjusted target first year of implementation *(absolute number)*	Actual at completion *(absolute number)*
Direct beneficiaries supported by the project				
Female direct beneficiaries				
Youth direct beneficiaries				
Indirect beneficiaries supported by the project				
Female indirect beneficiaries				
Youth indirect beneficiaries				

Table 14 - Table for reporting Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicator "Natural Assets Protected or Rehabilitated"

Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicator "Number of Beneficiaries"				
Date of report				
Project title				
Country				
Implementing Agency				
Project duration				
	Baseline	Target at project approval	Adjusted target first year of implementation	Actual at completion
Natural Asset or Ecosystem *(type)*				
Change in State *Ha or km protected/rehabilitated, or*				

Effectiveness of protection/rehabilitation – Scale (1-5)				
Total number of natural assets or ecosystems protected/rehabilitated				

G. Project Budget

Table 151513 - Detailed budget of the project per activity

Item/Activity	Note	Total AF (USD)
Component 1. Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia		
Outcome 1. Improved resilience of agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems to climate change		
Output 1.1. Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans developed	Two regional community development officers	198,000
	Vehicle/transportation & logistics	139,848
	Driver	28,380
	Learning exchange	13,494
	District diagnostic	103,040
	Cluster Level Facilitators for land restoration activities	191,111
	Communication campaign	53,086
	Support to VDCs/CDAs (including on conflict resolution mechanisms)	107,578
	Training on gender and social inclusion	52,561
	CCRIPs preparation (planning process)	166,441
Subtotal output 1.1.		**1,053,539**
Output 1.2. Priority green and resilient measures implemented	Natural Resources Management Specialist	198,000
	Two Environment Specialists (FMS) (ad-hoc support)	48,000
	Management plan for site restoration	89,227
	Social fencing (grazing bans)	159,228
	Land restoration (Cash for Work)	1,593,331
	Plant material for regreening (seedlings & seeds)	477,999
	Establishment/training of RUMCs (including on conflict resolution)	110,692
Subtotal output 1.2.		**2,676,477**
Total Cost Component 1		**3,730,016**
Component 2. Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia		
Outcome 2. Enhanced resilience of agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods to climate change		
Output 2.1. Adaptive capacity of agropastoral and pastoral systems strengthened	Two regional agro/pastoralism officers	180,000
	Gender and Social Inclusion officer	165,000
	Two agro/pastoralism and rural development officers (FMS) (ad-hoc support)	48,000
	Vehicle/transportation & logistics	139,848
	Driver	28,380
	Cluster Level Facilitators for agropastoral activities	192,973
	Training on the GALS methodology	30,603
	Implementation of P/FMNR	267,658
	Implementation of P/FFS (including GALS)	701,479
	Ad-hoc support from district level veterinary services (FMS)	61,757
	Communication and diffusion of results (including female role models and exchange visits)	137,646
Subtotal output 2.1.		**1,953,344**
Output 2.2. Diversification of income sources for resilient livelihoods ensured	Cluster Level Facilitators for Business Development	98,015
	Business skills and financial inclusion trainings	154,934
	Mainstreaming gender considerations into business development (GALS methodology)	21,230
	Support to nursery creation/development	263,804
	Support to NWFP VC creation/development	210,202
	Livelihood diversification through access to inputs/equipment	928,830
Subtotal output 2.2.		**1,677,015**
Total Cost Component 2		**3,630,359**
Component 3. Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia		
Outcome 3. Great Green Wall initiative framework operationalized in Somalia		
Output 3.1. National Strategy and Action Plan to Implement the GGWI in Somalia elaborated	Development of National GGWI strategy and Action Plan	100,000
	Capacitation of Federal Member States to initiate the preparation of GGWI Strategies and Action Plans	152,343

Subtotal output 3.1.		**252,343**
Output 3.2. National and local stakeholders' capacities to implement GGWI in Somalia reinforced	Policy Development Specialist Consultant supporting MoECC National level coordination Capacitation of GGWI focal points Establishment of LDSF for monitoring Studies	180,000 127,407 47,095 73,585 252,292 47,918
Subtotal output 3.2.		**728,297**
Total Cost Component 3		**980,640**
Total project activity cost		**8,341,015**
Execution Costs		
Salaries and Allowances	Coordinator (Sadar) – compensation M&E Specialist (Sadar) – compensation M&E Assistant Procurement specialist (Sadar) – compensation Assistant procurement officer Finance manager (Sadar) – compensation Finance officer (Sadar) – compensation Accountant (Sadar) – compensation Assistant accountant	12,000 12,000 132,000 11,000 132,000 12,000 12,000 12,000 144,000
Subtotal salaries and allowances		**479,000**
Equipment and Goods ~~(vehicle, laptops~~Laptops, printers/scanners, office furniture, accounting software actualization~~)~~ Vehicle		~~49,995~~34,845 15,150
Baseline survey, Project Completion (final) survey and completion process		90,549
Startup workshop, planning of AWPB, staff training and workshops, supervision support and communication campaign		119,050
Operating Costs (offices utility and other operating costs, audit fees, office and IT supplies, vehicle O&M, and other operating costs)		136,981
Total Project Execution Costs		**875,575**
Total project costs		**9,216,590**
Project Cycle Management Implementing Entity Fee		
Financial Management (General financial oversight, support audits and quality control, manage, monitor and track AF funding including allocating and monitoring expenditure based on agreed work plans; financial management compliance with AF requirements; financial reporting compliance with AF standards; procurement support and compliance with Government procurement rules).		156,682
Programme Support (Technical support in project implementation; methodologies, identification of experts; troubleshooting and support implementation missions as necessary; portfolio management, reporting; Independent Environmental and Social Audits and policy programming and implementation support services).		368,203
Technical support (Supervision missions and implementation support, risk management, programming; guidance in establishing performance measurement processes; technical support on methodologies, TOR validation, identification of experts, results validation, and quality assurance; troubleshooting, and support evaluation missions as necessary; support on technical issues in programme implementation).		258,525
Total Project Cycle Management Implementing Entity Fee		**783,410**
Amount of Financing Requested		**10,000,000**

H. Disbursement Schedule

Table 161~~6~~14 - Disbursement schedule

	Amount disbursed by year (USD)						
	First disbursement	**One year after project start**	**Year 2**	**Year 3**	**Year 4**	**Year 5**	**Total (USD)**
Milestone	Upon signature of agreement	Approval of PPR1 by AF	Approval of PPR2 by AF	Approval of PPR3 by AF	Approval of PPR4 by AF	Approval of PPR5 by AF	
Project Activity Costs	681,242	1,926,307	1,547,026	2,264,871	1,581,843	339,726~~6~~	8,341,015
Project Execution Costs	210,649	124,178	151,251	125,801	126,637	137,059	875,575
Implementing Entity Fee	75,811	174,291	144,353	203,207	145,221	40,527	783,410
Total	**967,702**	**2,224,776**	**1,842,630**	**2,593,879**	**1,853,701**	**517,312**	**10,000,000**

Part IV: ENDORSEMENT

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the Government[128]

H.E. Amb. Khadidja Mohamed Almakhzoumi Minister, Environment and Climate Change Federal Republic of Somalia	Date: 27th July 2024

B. Implementing Entity Certification

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.	
Implementing Entity coordinator:  Pierre-Yves GUEDEZ Lead Multilateral Climate & Environmental Funds (AF, GCF, GEF)~~Ms Janie Rioux~~ ~~Senior Technical Specialist – Climate Change- AF coordinator~~ ~~ECG division~~	email: p.guedez@ifad.org~~j.rioux@ifad.org~~
Mr Juan Carlos Mendoza Casadiegos, Director, Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Division	
Date: 25 November 2024~~02 August 2024~~	e-mail: juancarlos.mendoza@ifad.org
Project contact person: Mr Walid Nasr, Regional Lead Environment and Climate Specialist	e-mail: w.nasr@ifad.org
Ms Rasha Omar, Country Director for Somalia	e-mail: r.omar@ifad.org

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[128] Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

Annex 1: Letter of endorsement by the Government

JAMHUURIYADDA FEDERAALKA SOOMAALIYA
Wasaaradda Deegaanka
& Isbeddelka Cimilada
Xafiiska Wasiirka

جمهورية الصومال الفيدرالية
وزارة البيئة والتغير المناخي
مكتب الوزير

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF Somalia
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE
Office of the Minister

Ref: MOECC/0198/2024 **Date: 27-07-2024**

To: **The Adaptation Fund Board**
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: afbsec@adaptation-fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement for the Green and Resilient Ecosystems for Somali Livelihoods Hal abuur

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in the Federal Republic of Somalia, I confirm that the above national project proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the Federal Republic of Somalia.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and executed by Sadar Development and Resilience Institute (SADAR).

Sincerely,

H.E. Amb. Khadija Mohamed Almakhzoumi
Minister, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
Federal Republic of Somalia.

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Annex 2: Stakeholder consultation process

1. **Approach**. The formulation of the Hal-Abuur project was conducted in two phases: the preparation of the Concept Note from September to November 2023, and the preparation of the project proposal from April to July 2024. The Concept Note preparation consultations (involving Federal Ministries, Technical and Financial Partners, NGOs, beneficiaries from ongoing IFAD projects and resource persons) were conducted remotely, owing to the security conditions in the country. The project proposal preparation was done in a hybrid manner. A number of remote consultations were conducted by the international formulation team (with Federal Ministries, Technical and Financial Partners, NGOs, projects and resource persons), while field level consultations in targeted states and regions were conducted by Sadar (with State level Ministries, Village Committees and Elders, vulnerable groups, VSLAs, agropastoralists, pastoralists, riverine producers and private sector stakeholders), and a final (mixed format) validation workshop was held on 13 July 2024. Throughout this process, a wide range of stakeholders was consulted, both at Federal and State/Regional level. Special attention was given to ensure a gender and youth focus in these consultations. As such, institutions dealing with gender and youth issues, both public and from the civil society, were consulted. Male and female potential beneficiaries and stakeholders were consulted both separately and in mixed groups. Moreover, the appropriateness of time and location of consultation meetings, especially for women, was taken into account.

2. **Stakeholders consulted**. A wide range of stakeholders (Regional, Federal and State level institutions, village committees, vulnerable and marginalized groups, women, youth, private sector stakeholders, technical and financial partners, NGOs, projects and resource persons, etc.) were consulted, both at Federal and State national, as further documented below.

3. **Principle of choice**. Types of consultations conducted can be separated in:

- Consultations of Federal and State level representatives, to verify alignment to national and local priorities and assess environmental and social risks and compliance with national standards of proposed project activities;
- Consultation of relevant technical experts and specific stakeholders (NGOs, other UN agencies or bilateral donors) to verify the relevance, technical feasibility, environmental and social risks and compliance with national standards of proposed project activities;
- Consultation with local stakeholders including from the project target group to identify their specific needs and concerns, together with specificities of local contexts (including landscape) to ensure a full assessment of the potential environmental and social risks and impacts against the 15 ESPs. The consultation process benefitted greatly from Sadar's support and knowledge of the context, which facilitated the identification of groups of stakeholders, including marginalized groups, and their willingness to have open conversations about approaches and activities aimed at upscaling the current intervention.

4. The consultations aimed at the following:

i. Verifying alignment with national and sub-national priorities: throughout the project preparation phase, and notably thanks to the active support of Sadar who facilitated the liaison with relevant stakeholders, IFAD worked with focal points within MoECC, and other stakeholders mandated to work on aspect touched by the project (climate adaptation based on land restoration/regreening). The proposed project activities and targeted areas have been prioritised / selected with these stakeholders, and in line with national priorities.

ii. Avoiding duplication with other projects and initiatives: systematic screening for other relevant ongoing or past initiatives was conducted when meeting stakeholders, to ensure complementarity, synergies and relevance of project interventions.

iii. Identifying specific needs and possible concerns of vulnerable groups. In line with AF ESP and GP policies, consultations with local stakeholders, targeted communities and specific groups representatives (especially women, youth, and most vulnerable producers) took place to identify specific needs and possible concerns regarding the proposed project activities.

iv. Identifying potential environmental and social risks and impacts. Related to above and in line with AF ESP and GP policies, consultations took place to identify potential risks and impacts of proposed project activities.

5. **Consultation techniques (including gender-balanced consultative process)**. The field consultation process included a total of 10 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and 10 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) across Southwest State and Galmudug State. Each FGD was composed of 12 members, ensuring a broad representation of the local communities. The FGDs were inclusive, encompassing local community members and leaders, village development committees, agropastoralists, pastoralists, VSLAs, women's cooperatives and groups, and youth groups. The team made a conscious effort to include minorities and vulnerable groups in these discussions to ensure their voices were heard and their unique needs addressed. The KIIs involved representatives from state-level ministries and institutions, technical services, and the private sector. These interviews provided valuable insights into the institutional and infrastructural aspects of climate adaptation and resilience building.

6. Specific consultation techniques with local stakeholders included: (i) use of semi-structured interviews to ensure coverage of key themes (listed above), including in relation with the 15 ESPs; (ii) organization of focus groups, and subsequent division into sub-groups to ensure separate consultation with more vulnerable/marginalized individuals (women, youth) and give them the time and space to express their specific needs.

7. Special attention was given to ensure a gender and youth focus in these engagements. It must be recognised that given the specific context in Somalia, it was not always easy to mobilise women and youth. Nevertheless, special efforts were made to ensure their involvement in the consultations. As such, male and female potential beneficiaries and stakeholders were consulted both separately and in mixed groups. Moreover, institutions dealing with gender and youth issues, both public and from the civil society, were consulted. These included, for example, the Ministry of Women and Human Rights, UN Women and CARE International. Finally, the appropriateness of time and location of consultation meetings, especially for women, was systematically taken into account.

8. The consultative process during design and implementation has and will follow the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and do no harm principles. Adherence to the FPIC principle needs to be assured before supporting any development intervention that might affect the land access and use rights of communities, IFAD will ensure that their free, prior and informed consent has been solicited through inclusive consultations based on full disclosure of the intent and scope of the activities planned and their implications.

The table below indicates the consultation techniques used for separate stakeholders:

Stakeholder	Consultation techniques
Federal and State level representatives, technical experts and development partners	• Semi-structured interviews (virtual); correspondence; one-on-one meetings; formal meetings; workshop
Local stakeholders (pastoralists, agropastoralists, riverine producers, etc.)	• Field consultations organized by Sadar in local language • Focus group discussions • Interviews with key informants
Women and youth	• Field consultations organized by Sadar in local language • Focus group discussions: o mixed, as well as women/youth-only o where possible, discussion led by female or young facilitator • Semi-structured interviews with local women groups (e.g. VSLAs)

9. **Safeguards process and outcomes**. The stakeholder consultation process included a thorough screening against the 15 Adaptation Fund ESPs as part of the semi-structured interview process. In depth discussions on relevant laws and regulations took place with Federal and State level representatives and the national environmental expert who was part of the formulation team.

10. The social principles were discussed both with stakeholders from the target group (grouped and individual discussions), and with relevant stakeholders at Federal/State Level and with public and civil

society institutions dealing directly with these issues. The environmental principles were also discussed with both stakeholders from the target group, (and with relevant stakeholders including: national experts and Federal/State level representatives). Outcomes from these consultations include recognition and appreciation for the relevance of proposed project activities in the face of compounded climate, environmental and socio-economic threats, including respectively: (i) risks related to droughts, floods and land degradation; (ii) the environmental impacts resulting from climate threats; and (iii) the marginalization of and limited opportunities offered to vulnerable groups. Direct inputs from expert organisations (CARE in particular) enabled to further identify approaches to promote the inclusion of vulnerable groups through self-targeting.

11. **Concerns raised and consultation findings**. The main issues emerging consultations are identified in the tables below:

CONSULTATION FINDINGS: FIELD CONSULTATIONS		
Stakeholder	**Concern**	**Project response**
Galmudug state stakeholders		
Ministry of Agriculture	• Droughts, water scarcity and increased water stress. • Increased temperatures, unpredictable rainfall patterns, rising sea levels. • Increased incidence of pests and diseases. • Need for research on climate adaptation and empirical evidence.	• Sustainable Land Resource Management projects (Output 1.1, Activity: District diagnostic and selection of project sites). • Training and capacity building for drought-resilient crops (Output 2.1, Activity: Promotion of early maturing drought-resistant and climate-resilient crops).
Ministry of Environment	• Recurrent droughts, and water scarcity. • Significant environmental degradation. • Limited implementation of agro-resilience mapping • Need for demonstrating drought-resilient crop varieties	• Ecosystem restoration (Output 1.1, Activity: Development of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans). • Enhancing resilience of rural communities (Output 1.2, Activity: Sustainable rangeland rehabilitation and management).
Village committee and elders	• Environmental degradation in Ceel-Dibir Ambayash, Galbarwaaqo, and Dhambayl areas. • Increased heat, prolonged droughts, water shortages for livestock, and lack of pasture. • Reduced livestock numbers, road erosion, and formation of sinkholes.	• Ecosystem restoration and improved water retention/infiltration and pasture health (Output 1.2). • Pastoralists Field Schools and P/FMNR (Output 2.1).
Vulnerable groups	• Reduced rainfall and drought leading to challenges such as lack of livestock trading, reduced mobility due to heat, unemployment, and limited opportunities. • Perception that climate change is provoked by deforestation.	• Technical support and awareness campaigns (Output 2.1, Activity: Community mobilization and awareness raising). • Ecosystem restoration and improved water retention/infiltration and pasture health (Output 1.2). • Guidance on climate adaptation practices (Output 2.1, Activity: Pastoralists and Farmers' Field Schools).
Women groups (VSLAs)	• Limited role in local finance and challenges balancing economic activities with household responsibilities. • Participation in small businesses and non-wood forest products collection. • Involvement in cash for work schemes and participatory planning activities, facing childcare and household responsibilities.	• Awareness campaigns and inclusion in planning activities (Output 1.2: GCVCA; Output 2.1GALS). • Support for women led businesses and non-wood forest products (Output 2.1).
Agropastoralists	• Severe challenges due to climate change including decreased crop production and pasture availability during droughts, and crop destruction by floods. • Limited response capabilities for pests and diseases. • Need for rainwater harvesting support, better infrastructure for water management, and livestock health.	• Training on resilient agriculture and pastoralism (Output 2.1). • Pasture and farms resilience (Output 1.2, Activity: Restoration of vegetative cover). • Organizing cooperatives for sustainable land management (Output 1.2, Activity: Establishment of Resource Users and Management Committees).

Pastoralists	• Challenges due to lack of pasture, devaluation of livestock, and difficulty in exchanging livestock for food. • Seasonal variations in milk yields and livestock diet.	• Rehabilitation of degraded land (Output 1.2,). • Pastoralists Field Schools and P/FMNR (Output 2.1).
Private sector	• Observed climate changes affecting crop production and increasing food prices over the past ten years.	• Adjusting services and products to cope with climate impacts (Output 2.1, Activity: Promotion of early maturing drought-resistant and climate-resilient crops)
South West State stakeholders		
Ministry of Agriculture	• Significant climate change impacts include crop failures, heavy floods, increased water stress, and rise in pests and diseases.	• Ecosystem restoration and improved water retention/infiltration and pasture health (Output 1.2). • Testing fodder seeds for resilience (Output 2.1, Activity: Promotion of early maturing drought-resistant and climate-resilient crops). • Capacity building through demonstration farms (Output 2.1, Activity: Pastoralists and Farmers' Field Schools).
Ministry of Environment	• Strong storms and decreased crop yield due to climate change.	• Knowledge for Great Green Wall Action Output 3.1 • Capacity building Output 3.2.
Village committee and elders	• Need for community resilience and caution regarding climate changes. • Conflicts over resources managed through community engagement and customary institutions.	• Community engagement (Output 1.1, Activity: Development of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans). • Ecosystem restoration and improved water retention/infiltration and pasture health (Output 1.2). • Customary institution involvement in conflict resolution (Output 1.1, Activity: Mainstreaming conflict resolution mechanisms and gender inclusion in project activities).
Vulnerable groups	• Significant challenges in daily life due to lack of necessities. • Limited access to land, extension services, finance, and markets. • Participation in planning activities hindered by childcare and household responsibilities.	• Supporting resilience-building activities (Output 2.1, Activity: Pastoralists and Farmers' Field Schools). • Improving access to services through the capacitation and sensitization of CLeFs (transversal) • Facilitating women's participation (Output 1.2: GCVCA; Output 2.1GALS).
Women group (VSLAs)	• Limited role in local finance, involvement in businesses like selling vegetables, clothes, and milk.	• Enhanced support for women's economic activities (Output 2.1, Activity: Promotion of Non-Wood Forest Products). • Awareness campaigns and inclusion in planning activities (Output 1.2: GCVCA; Output 2.1GALS).
Riverine producers	• Increased droughts and floods affecting crop production, particularly sesame. • Persistent pest issues requiring effective measures and support. • Need for climate-resilient improvements to increase agricultural production.	• Pest control support (Output 2.1, Activity: Integrated Pest Management). • Enhancing agricultural production methods (Output 2.1, Activity: Promotion of early maturing drought-resistant and climate-resilient crops).
Agropastoralists	• Recurring droughts and floods, crop failures, and pest challenges.	• Farmer Field Schools on resilient agriculture (Output 2.1) • Livelihood diversification through access to inputs and equipment (Output 2.2)
Private sector	• Observed significant climate changes and adapted by changing seed varieties to suit evolving climate conditions.	• Farmer Field Schools on resilient agriculture (Output 2.1)

CONSULTATION FINDINGS: VIRTUAL CONSULTATIONS		
Stakeholder consulted and date	**Topics/Concerns**	**Project response**
Project Proposal Stage Consultations (18 April – 25 June 2024)		
Launch of the formulation process with MoECC Her Excellency, Ms Khadija Almakhzoumi, Minister of Environment and Climate Change of Somalia; Dr Hassan Badal, focal point for GGWI in Somalia, and for this project with MoECC; Najeb A. Ali, consultant with MoECC supporting the NDA office; Ms Faiza Ali Yusuf, Director of Biodiversity, Forestry and Wildlife. *Thursday 18 April 2024*	- Criteria for geographic targeting - Engagement of the new NDA office established under MoECC - Somalia's needs with regards to GGWI - Best approaches for maximizing impact	- Definition of clear criteria for geographic targeting and validation of priority districts - Complementarity of components between concentrated local level investments and institutional support to launch GGWI
GGWI Somalia Stakeholders meeting Dr Elvis Paul Tangem, African Union Great Green Wall Initiative Coordinator; Dr Hassan Badal, focal point for GGWI in Somalia, and for this project with MoECC; other GGWI partners for Somalia (including CIFOR-ICRAF) *Tuesday 23 April 2024*	- Priority needs of Somalia with regards to GGWI - Possible support from various stakeholders - Engagement of CIFOR-ICRAF through K4GGWA	- Tailoring of activities under component 3 - Leveraging CIFOR-ICRAF support for component 3 and synergies with K4GGWA
UNEP Chris Odder *Thursday 2 May 2024*	- Update on AF/UNEP project - Confirmation of relevance of project approaches and needs to seek complementarity on access to water/charcoal management - Recommendations for gender aspects	- Project identified for complementarities (Barwaaqo/PROSCAL) - Tailoring of gender inclusion activities
CIFOR-ICRAF Mieke Bourne and Ibrahim Toure (co-lead for the programme support to GGW); Sammy Carsan (agroforestry component of K4GGWA) *Thursday 2 May 2024*	- Presentation of CIFOR-ICRAF activities in Somalia and on GGWI (Regreening Africa, K4GGWA) - Sharing of documentations and lessons - Recommendations for GGWI operationalization	- Project regreening activities all build on CIFOR-ICRAF experience in Somalia - Component 3 improved to reflect recommendations (coalition, LDSF, etc.)
VSF Germany Maurice Kiboye (VSFG Country Director Kenya & Somalia) *Friday 3 May 2024*	- Confirmation of relevance of project activities based on VSF-G experience in Somalia - Need to include flexible implementation arrangements to adapt to security context if needed	Project is conceived to allow for adaptive management throughout
MoECC (project area of intervention) Ahmed Yusuf, Director General of MoECC; Hafsa Omar, Director of Climate Change Department; Liban Mohamed, Senior Advisor; Sharmarke Dubow, NDA Primary Focal Point; Ibrahim Alosh, Technical Advisor to the Minister of MoECC; Maslah Ali, National Project Coordinator, GCF Readiness Project; Dr Badal Hassan, GGWI and Hal-Abuur Design Focal Point *Saturday 4 May 2024*	- Validation of geographic targeting and priority districts - Agreed approach for consultations (virtual consultations and field mission in priority districts, as well as validation workshop with all sectoral ministries)	- Priority districts of Hobyo and Baraawe, and adaptive approach to phase in new districts at mid term - Consultation process in line with agreed approach
SomReP Nishant Das (World Vision: Chief of Party of Somalia Resilience Programme – SomREP); Sabina Kamau (Regional Programme Coordinator for SomReP in Somaliland and Puntland); Abdirahman Dubad (Livestock and Natural Resources Management advisor for SomReP) *Monday 6 May 2024*	- Confirmed relevance of proposed approaches - Information on areas of interventions and difference between agropastoral areas (villages) and pastoral areas (communities) - SomReP experience with gender and social inclusion	- Implementation approach differentiated between pastoral and agropastoral areas (pastoral resources VS watershed approach) - Gender approaches leveraged for better gender and social inclusion (GCVCA)
UN Working Group on Env/Climate *Thursday 9 May 2024*	- Current support on climate finance planning and corresponding policies, strategies and plans (and need to coordinate)	Reflected in context analysis and strategic alignment sections

	- Existing structures supporting Government on climate aspects	
FAO Somalia – GCF project Rym Benzid *Tuesday 14 May 2024*	- Update on FAO/GCF project status and approaches - Sharing of relevant documentation and contacts	- Alignment on FAO/GCF approaches - Documents used to tailor activities (especially for maize VCs vulnerability in the Lower Shabelle)
World Bank (Barwaaqo) James Origa (Water Specialist for the World Bank Water Practice based in Nairobi, co-team leader for the WB Barwaaqo project) *Thursday 16 May 2024*	- Update on WB/Barwaaqo project and confirmation of presence in all districts and possibility of synergies - Confirmation of project approach relevance and complementarities - Recommendations for implementation arrangements	- Confirmed synergies with Barwaaqo - Tailoring of CCRIP approach based on WB Community Investment Plans preparation process - Adaptation of implementation approach with ad-hoc mobilization of district/regional level expertise
IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC) Guleid Artan (Director of IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Center - ICPAC); Ahmed Amdihun (Project Coordinator for IGAFDR Programme); Mohamed Omar (Thematic Lead: Human Mobility in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change) *Friday 17 May 2024*	- Role of the centre and specific experience on ecosystem resilience in Somalia - Confirmed relevance of project activities and approaches but need to contain number of project sites to facilitate implementation - Recommendation to establish regional offices for efficient implementation	- Implementation approach adapted to concentrate investments
FAO Livestock experts Abdi Kunow (FAO Livestock sector coordinator in FAO); Ahmed (FAO livestock specialist) *Friday 17 May 2024*	- Overview of pastoral systems and their evolution in Somalia - Need to better reflect support to pastoralism in the project (esp. component 2), e.g. through PFS	- Component 2 revised to fully include support to pastoralism with PFS and PMNR
SWALIM Ugo Leonardi (Technical advisor of SWALIM) *Sunday 19 May 2024*	- Update on SWALIM migration to MoECC: slow process with a longer time horizon than planned	- Reduced focus on SWALIM in component 3
CEFA & VSF-G Maurice Kiboye (VSFG Country Director Kenya & Somalia); Riccardo Costagli (CEFA Regional Coordinator Kenya & Somalia) *Friday 24 May 2024*	- Experience of CEFA and VSF-G in Somalia and recommendations for implementation arrangements (CfW, distribution of goods, etc.) - Relevance of pastoral field schools - Recommendation to include NRM committees - Need for adaptive management considering security risks	- Tailoring of implementation approaches based on lessons shared - Inclusion of Pastoral Field Schools - Inclusion of RUMCs - Project conceived with embedded adaptive management principles
Confirmation of activities for Component 3 Dr Hassan Badal, focal point for GGWI in Somalia *Friday 24 May 2024*	- Implementation approaches and arrangements for Component 3 - Need to plan for in country training - Priority to establish LDSF	- Activities confirmed and involvement of CIFOR-ICRAF foreseen - Inclusion of national consultant and project staff to support MoECC operationalization - Inclusion of LDSF
CIFOR-ICRAF Mieke Bourne (co-lead for the programme support to GGW); Sammy Carsan (agroforestry component of K4GGWA) *Monday 27 May 2024*	- Identification of activities under component 3 which CIFOR-ICRAF could support - Recommendations for closer alignment to GGWI approach based on lessons (e.g. support to coalition)	- Recommendations reflected in Component 3
CARE Ummy Dubow (Country Director, CARE Somalia), Kenneth Marimira M&E lead advisor, CARE Somalia), Abdikadir Abdusalam (Programme Manager, CARE Somalia), Kamal Farah (CARE Somalia) *Thursday 30 May 2024*	- CARE experience in Somalia: best practices, recommendations and lessons learned especially on Cash for Work approaches and Gender inclusion in adaptation planning - Recommendations for best targeting practices (including self-targeting) - Presence of minorities and approaches to ensure their involvement in project activities - Good experience supporting communities upscale through crowdfunding	- Inclusion of the Gender-Sensitive Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (GCVCA) in planning processes - Tailoring of project targeting approaches based on CARE's experience and recommendations - Project plans for involvement of minorities (including IDPs) in its activities - Upscaling mechanisms reflected
Final Validation Workshop Participants list included under Appendix 3	- Presentation of the final version of the project after sharing final draft - Dedicated session on the GGWI by Dr Tangem on global best practices and opportunities for collaboration	- Answers to questions were provided, clarifying implementation mechanisms and the setting up of a cross-sectoral steering committee as well as support

	- Consensus on the critical role of the Hal-Abuur project in enhancing Somalia's resilience to climate change - Questions on involvement of Ministry of Livestock Forestry and Range in the project - Clarifications on seeds to be used for reseeding	to the establishment of a GGWI coalition under component 3 - Edits to the document regarding use of seeds for pastoral reseeding
Concept Note Stage Consultations (28 September – 28 November 2023)		
SADAR Institute team Yussuf Abdi Maalim, Ismail Adan, Hussein Adan *Thursday 28 September 2023* With participation of **Adaptation Fund NDA representative in Somalia** Dr. Hassan Badal (Ministry of Environment and Climate Change) **African Union Great Green Wall Initiative Coordinator** Dr Elvis Paul Tangem *Tuesday 3 October 2023* *Tuesday 10 October 2023* *Thursday 12 October 2023* With participation of **Adaptation Fund NDA representative in Somalia** Dr. Hassan Badal (MoECC)	<u>Project inception meeting:</u> Recommendations in terms of relevant ongoing/past/needed ecosystem restoration approaches, identification of national relevant policies and strategies <u>Geographic targeting brainstorm</u> Confirmed relevance of pre-screened areas and provision of additional sources of information <u>Geographic targeting and project structure brainstorm</u> Confirmed choice of intervention area Discussion on possible project structure and confirmation of relevance of proposed approaches <u>Project activities brainstorm</u> Confirmed alignment of activities with national policies and strategies, in particular the NDC under revision and MoECC strategy under preparation Agreement with proposed activities and relevance of support to NWFP value chains	
UNEP Somalia Christophe Matthew Hodder *Tuesday 31 October 2023*	- Synergies with UNEP AF project under preparation for Somalia - Menu of Nature based Solutions under identification - Recommended stakeholders to consult with	- FAO interventions taken into account (see Duplication section)
UNDP Somalia Saif Rhman, Hassan Abdirizak Ahmed *Tuesday 31 October 2023*	- Mapping of relevant UNDP interventions (including PROSCAL) - Importance of cash transfer mechanisms to enhance resilience - UNDP study on the economics of land degradation - Recommendation to concentrate interventions to maximize impact (considering project budget and high operational costs in Somalia)	- UNDP interventions taken into account (see Duplication section)
Adaptation Fund NDA representative in Somalia Dr. Badal MoECC **African Union Great Green Wall Initiative Coordinator** Dr Elvis Paul Tangem *Thursday 2 November 2023*	- Project alignment on global Great Green Wall Initiative and examples of best practices (community-based approaches, integration of agro-sylvo-pastoral practices, etc.) - Standard GGW approach (national strategy and action plan, at federal and state level), GGWI strategy under preparation - Opportunity to use mobile banking for cash transfer	- Alignment on GGW standard approach reflected in the project and component 3 in particular
FAO Somalia Ezana Kassa (Senior Programme Officer) Rym BenZid (Senior Environment Advisor) *Thursday 2 November 2023*	- Mapping of FAO interventions and possible synergies - FAO has a primary focus on water catchment activities (re land restoration) - Replication of common land restoration practices from West Africa is relevant to Somalia but needs to be well tailored to the context - Cash for work is the best way to implement labour intensive activities	- FAO interventions taken into account (see Duplication section)

	and FAO has a wealth of experience on the topic - FAO SWALIM platform planned to be migrated under MoECC	
Resource person Jaap Van Der Pol (World Bank projects formulator) *Friday 3 November 2023*	- Village level community-based processes have proven their relevance and should be facilitated and supported - Plan to include support to sustainable grazing - Sand dams are impressive and effective investments (but high cost)	- The project has adopted this approach - Activities to improve grazing management have been included - Project to seek synergies with other initiatives supporting enhanced access to water resources (including around sand dams)
UN Women Somalia Sadiq Sayed *Friday 3 November 2023*	- Background information on the situation of women in Somalia - Mapping of UNWomen interventions and relevant initiatives	- Information used for the initial gender assessment
Local stakeholders' consultation *Monday 6 November* Mr Faarax Maxamed Maxamuud (Agropastoralist, Puntland) Ms Xawo Maxamuud Cabdi (Agropastoralist, Puntland) Ms Iqro Jalani Axmed (Fisherfolk, Galmudug) Mr Abshir Ali Axmed (Fisherfolk, Galmudug) Ms Luul Mohamed Abdi (Pastoralist, Galmudug) Mr Ibrahim (Pastoralist, Galmudug) Ms Lul Abdi Hassan (Riverine producer, Hirshabelle) Mr Abdullahi Omar Macalin (Riverine producer, Hirshabelle)	- Recognize increased frequency of climate change related events (floods and droughts) and their impact on ecosystems and livelihoods - Information on local context and mecanisms - Support provided by the project has increased the resilience (equipment and training relevant to targeted value chain) - Importance of integrated project interventions combining access to material/equipment with provision of training - Importance of engaging women at various steps of project activities so they can share their needs and have a voice	Lessons from the consultation are reflected in the project document
SomRep NGO Consortium Mr Nishant Das (Chief of party of SOMREP) Mr Daniel Kanyerere (regional programme coordinator for SOMREP in Southern Somalia, and agriculture technical advisor) Mr Abdirahman Dubad (index-based livestock insurance and natural resources management advisor) *Monday 6 November 2023*	- SomReP recommends the adoption of a watershed management approach to support land restoration practices in an integrated manner - One of the key challenges, proposed as project entry point, is to support the change of mindset at community level - List of ecosystem restoration measures shared and relevance of Cash for Work for ecosystem restoration confirmed - Importance of establishing local governance structure in addition to works	- Watershed management approach adopted by the project - Community based participatory approaches at the core of the project - Presented measures integrated in project activities - Recommendations taken into account in project
WFP Somalia Andreia Fausto (leading the Climate Smart Food Systems approach) Beth Mbote (Integrated Climate Risk Management interventions) Abdikafi Abdullahi (Programme Officer – crisis response) *Monday 6 November 2023*	- Mapping of WFP interventions - Relevance of support to professionalisation in the agricultural sector - Description of implementation approach for cash transfer and cash for assets - Need of clear market options for pastoralists in case of crisis	- Lessons from WFP work on cash for assets integrated in the document
FAO Somalia (Cash transfer) Baktha Boualam, Rym BenZid, Angel Marende, Aneel Memon, Ishaku Mshelia *Tuesday 7 November 2023*	- Detailed explanation on the implementation of Cash for Work by FAO in Somalia	- Lessons from FAO's experience are reflected in the document
FAO Somalia (Value Chains) Mr Laxman Reddy (FAO Somalia Agriculture sector coordinator), Mr Mohamed Abukar Hussein (FAO Officer), Mr Teshale Endalamaw Beyene (value chain market and development specialist) *Tuesday 7 November 2023*	- FAO detailed experience supporting resilient agriculture and value chain development in the Lower Shabelle	- Proposed interventions based on FAO experience

CEFA and VSF Germany Concetta Bianco (FSSFS Consortium Coordinator), Francesca Rampoldi (CEFA Regional Coordinator Kenya & Somalia), Mark Gathii (M&E Expert), Abdikani Said Yussuf (Puntland Area Manager), Kassim Abdallah Yussuf (Livestock Expert), Vivian Malit (M&E Expert), Mohamed Eidle (Livestock Expert), Maurice Kiboye (VSFG Country Director Kenya & Somalia) *Thursday 9 November 2023*	- Confirmed relevance of proposed interventions based on experience in the country and ongoing IFAD activities supported by CEFA and VSF Germany - Confirmed relevance of Cash for Work approach for landscape rehabilitation	- Elaboration of project activities based on ongoing experience of IFAD in the country
World Bank Chantal Richey (Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist) *Thursday 9 November 2023*	- Mapping of World Bank interventions and possible synergies, especially around access to water - World Bank Barwaaqo project stakeholders to be engaged at full proposal stage - Information on the efficacy and relevance of sand dams - Relevance of water catchment geographic targeting - High-capacity building needs of MoECC	- Synergy with other projects supporting access to water to be further established at full proposal stage (including with WB/Barwaqo around Sand dams) - Water catchment approach used for smallest geographical unit targeting - Capacity building for MoECC planned under component 3
Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation Mr. Ahmed Keinan (Advisor) *Tuesday 21 November 2023*	- Geographic targeting: relevance of targeted areas but operational risk of spreading interventions - Concern with wide scope of activities under component 1 - Importance to consider "community interest groups" as possible entry point for the project (to guarantee engagement and ownership) - Confirmed relevance of component 3 to build MoECC capacities based on existing tools and mechanisms	- Component 1 approach based on a menu of interventions and not deployment of all interventions in each area - Community based approach fully embedded in the project
Ministry of Women and Human Rights Mr. Mohamud Ali *Tuesday 28 November 2023*	- Importance to consider women challenges associated to food loss and waste in specific value chains - Recommendation of in-depth Gender assessment at next stages - Consider possibility of targeted activities for most vulnerable women including IDP - Confirmed that NWFP sector is led by women and highly relevant	- Food loss and waste is covered by project second component - Gender Assessment planned for project proposal stage - Activities tailored for women including most vulnerable ones are included (envisage possibility of home gardens for IDP women) - NWFP cooperatives are included

Appendix 1 – Field consultations schedule

Date	Target Group	Remarks
21 May 2024	Pastoralists (Galkayo Town, Galmudug)	Consultation with Pastoralists in Galkayo Town.
22 May 2024	Village Committee and Elders (Galkayo Town, Galmudug)	Consultation with Village Committee and Elders in Galkayo Town.
25 May 2024	Ministry of Agriculture (Galmudug)	Consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture in Galmudug.
25 May 2024	Ministry of Environment (Galmudug)	Consultation with the Ministry of Environment in Galmudug.
25 May 2024	Agropastoralists (Hobyo Town, Galmudug)	Consultation with Agropastoralists in Hobyo Town.
26 May 2024	Ministry of Agriculture (South West State)	Consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture in Southwest State.
26 May 2024	Ministry of Environment (South West State)	Consultation with the Ministry of Environment in Southwest State.
26 May 2024	Micro Finance and Woman Groups (Barawe, South West)	Consultation with Micro Finance and Woman Groups in Barawe.
26 May 2024	Micro Finance Group (Wisil, Galmudug)	Consultation with Micro Finance Group in Wisil.
26 May 2024	Youth and Vulnerable Groups (Barawe, South West)	Consultation with Vulnerable Groups in Barawe.
26 May 2024	Youth and Vulnerable Groups (Wisil, Galmudug)	Consultation with Vulnerable Groups in Wisil Village.
27 May 2024	Village Committee and Elders (Ambareeso Barawe, South West)	Consultation with Village Committee and Elders in Ambareeso Barawe.
28 May 2024	Riverine (Mudul Baraawe, South West)	Consultation with Riverine in Mudul Bayaqawe.
28 May 2024	Agropastoralists (Bungabo, South West)	Consultation with Agropastoralists in Bungabo.

Appendix 2 – List of persons consulted during field consultations

Meeting Topic: Pastoralists					
Place: Gaalkacyo Town (Galmudug)					
Date & Time: 21-05-2024					
No	**Name and Surname**	**Age**	**Gender**	**Profession**	**Contact (email or phone)**
1	Cabdihi Maxamuud Maxame	51	M	Pastoralist	0616258105
2	Jamac Faarax Maxamul	62	M	Business	0614987741
3	Qalif Axmed Barre	53	M	Pastoralist	0618277786
4	Xuseen Maxamuud C/Laahi	34	M	Pastoralist	0617881128
5	Khalif Doray Absheir	49	M	Pastoralist	0615866944
6	Maxamad Cabdi Muuse	45	M	Pastoralist	0617887891
7	Cali Cabdi Faarax	38	M	Pastoralist	0619673252
8	Xuseen Faarax Looshyte	46	M	Pastoralist	0614884016
9	Cabdihi Geesay Xasan	51	M	Pastoralist	0616779100

Meeting Topic: Village Committee and Elders					
Place: Gaalkacyo Town (Galmudug)					
Date & Time: 22-05-2024					
No	**Name and Surname**	**Age**	**Gender**	**Profession**	**Contact (email or phone)**
1	Maxamed Kaahiye Warsame	57	M	Elder	0615938471
2	Sullaan Ali Abdullahi	63	M	Village Leader	0614352238
3	Mire Jama Faarax	48	M		0617986666
4	C/qani Maxamed Maxamed	52	M		0615997419
5	Siiciid Quriye Axmed	43	M	Elder	0615527191
6	Muxyidiin Axmed Faaqiye	38	M	Business	061495786
7	Axmed Weheliye Maxamul	41	M	Elder	0618204891
8	Bootan Jama Warsame	54	M	Elder	0617743154
9	Farah Cabdi Muuse	60	M	Village Leader	0618742153
10	C/laahi Kaahiye Axmay	71	M	Village Member	0619789071

Meeting Topic: Agropastoralists Group					
Place: Hobyo Town (Galmudug)					
Date & Time: 25-05-2024					
No	**Name and Surname**	**Age**	**Gender**	**Profession**	**Contact (email or phone)**
1	Mideey Cilmi	55	M	Pastoralist	615495014
2	C/bashir Xuseen	43	M	Farmer	615006199
3	Fuad Axmed	30	M	Farmer	617820087
4	Xassan Xuseen	31	M	Pastoralist	615091059
5	Cabdi Cumar	32	M	Farmer	61574967
6	Mohamed Cabdulqadir	24	M	Farmer	61782133
7	Cabdulqaadir Fahmi	40	M	Mini business	615802456
8	Casha Weheliye	50	F	Mini business	617705978
9	Xaawo Goobe	40	F	Farmer	617805534
10	Xabiibo Geed	38	F	Farmer	615430204
11	Salaad Gal Umer	45	M	Farmer	615551223

Meeting Topic: Micro Finance and Woman Groups					
Place: Barawe (South West)					
Date & Time: 26-5-2024					
No	**Name and Surname**	**Age**	**Gender**	**Profession**	**Contact (email or phone)**
1	Shariifo Mohamed Ali	26	F	Business	0616707010
2	Muxubbo Cumar Abdalle	24	F	Business	0616347695
3	Afnan Ciqaadir Axmed	30	F	Unemployed	0615979452
4	marwo Cumar Ibraahim	26	F	Student	0613506364
5	Madiino Abukar Nuur	26	F	Unemployed	0612526034
6	Shukri Aadan C/raxman	22	F	Unemployed	0614720584
7	Yariito C/raxmaan Maxaed	21	F	Student	0618249952
8	Xafso Cabaas Saciidmaa	20	F	Business	0613967383
9	Qadiijo Ciqaadir Jaama	19	F	Unemployed	0616146918
10	Caafiyo Maxed Yuusif	23	F	Unemployed	0612141570
11	Yonis C/raxmaan Maxaed	20	F	Unemployed	0611861207
12	Taaqi Abuu Sheeg	30	F	Labor	0618399406
13	Luul Sulkaan Cali	27	F	Labor	0615864373
14	Faadumo Abuu Xuseen	37	F	Unemployed	0618190350

Meeting Topic: Micro Finance Group					
Place: Wisil (Galmudug)					
Date & Time: 26-05-2024					
No	**Name and Surname**	**Age**	**Gender**	**Profession**	**Contact (email or phone)**
1	Asli Maxamed Jaamac	30	F	Veterinary	615047466
2	Xamdi Cali	33	F	Veterinary	65314078
3	Ciato Saciid	45	F	Consultancy	615450533
4	Xasmo Nuur	39	F	Mini business	61549549
5	Maymuun Saciid	30	F	Unemployed	61264122
6	Khadro Xassan	28	F	Mini business	615795491
7	Casha Keynan	34	F	Vulnerable	613371122
8	Sahado Omer	38	F	Mini business	613645437
9	Nalufo Maxamed	35	F	Unemployed	615493339
10	Xeelwo Awer	31	F	Farmer	6154723291

Meeting Topic: Youth and Vulnerable Groups					
Place: Barawe (South West)					
Date & Time: 26-5-2024					
No	**Name and Surname**	**Age**	**Gender**	**Profession**	**Contact (email or phone)**
1	Shaakir Cumar Abdalle	24	M	Business	0616347695
2	Abdulqadir Mohamed Ali	26	M	Teacher	0616707010
3	Shukri Cabdlaahi Nuur	31	M	Business	0615021994
4	Xawo Siid Cali Cumar	38	F	Unemployed	0613866299
5	Khadiijo Cumar Axmed	30	F	Unemployed	0615737621
6	Khadiijo Aadan Cusmaan	26	F	Unemployed	0618614596
7	Qadiijo Sheekina Sheeq	39	F	Unemployed	0615527034
8	Madiino Abukar Nuur	32	F	Farmer	0615729034
9	Aamino Xasan Maxamed	38	F	Farmer	0615846373
10	Luley Suldaan Cali	25	F	Farmer	0615214725
11	Shukri Aadan C/raxmaan	23	F	Unemployed	0614720584
12	Maxameed Absam Xaqji	34	M	Unemployed	0617573355

Meeting Topic: Youth and Vulnerable Groups					
Place: Wisil Village (Galmudug)					
Date & Time: 26-05-2024					
No	**Name and Surname**	**Age**	**Gender**	**Profession**	**Contact (email or phone)**
1	Axmed Cilmi	45	M	Pastoralist	618759403
2	C/laahi Ciqaadir	28	M	Pastoralist	617381945
3	Shamso Cali	30	F	Business	615308556
4	Ikran Cabdi	19	F	Jobless	613904791
5	Sahro Xassan	27	F	Jobless	615094544
6	C/isaaq Axmed	24	M	Jobless	615170788
7	Axmed Cilmi	48	M	Farmer	615781985
8	Geedi Guuleed	20	M	Farmer	615401951
9	Caasho Cali	25	F	Jobless	618405415
10	C/ Cali Axmed	30	F	Jobless	617505410
11	Cabdiisaaq Cali	25	M	Jobless	617445111

Meeting Topic: Village Committee and Elders					
Place: Ambareeso Barawe (South West)					
Date & Time: 27-5-2024					
No	**Name and Surname**	**Age**	**Gender**	**Profession**	**Contact (email or phone)**
1	Abdulqadir Mohamed Ali	26	M	Teacher	0616707010
2	Shaakir Cumar Abdalle	24	M	Doctor	0616347695
3	Maxamed Xirsi Maxamed	38	M	Elder	0612741759
4	Bakar Shaami Ali	42	M	Elder	0615160604
5	Ciiraaq Maxamed Cali	36	M	Elder	0615741882
6	Cali Faarax Shuriye	40	M	Elder	0615178935
7	Cilaahi Faarax Axmed	49	M	Elder	0615216489
8	Shuriye Maxamed Shuriye	53	M	Elder	0618615936
9	Riuw Abulfar Nuur	35	M	Elder	0618703906
10	Qulki Maxamed Bare	43	M	Elder	0615427030
11	Cali Cumar Cali	49	M	Elder	0616506015

Meeting Topic: Riverine					
Place: Mudul Bayaqawe (South West)					
Date & Time: 28-5-2024					
No	**Name and Surname**	**Age**	**Gender**	**Profession**	**Contact (email or phone)**
1	Safiyo Cumar Abdalle	24	F	Farmer	0616347695
2	Abdulqadir Mohamed Ali	26	M	Farmer	0616707010
3	Cumar Cali Sidii	51	M	Farmer	0615322209
4	Xasan Maxamed Axmed	45	M	Farmer	0615977541
5	AbshirO Macalin Xasan	38	F	Farmer	0618614902
6	Muumino Saciid Axmed	33	F	Farmer	0618244011
7	Jamaad Maxamuud Mumin	52	F	Farmer	0612741788
8	Maxamed Aweys Bakar	41	M	Farmer	0611292341
9	Najiib Maxamed Nuur	37	M	Farmer	0615553356
10	Geedi Cusmaan Geedow	43	M	Farmer	0615001537

Meeting Topic: Agropastoralists					
Place: Bungabo (South West)					
Date & Time: 28-5-24					
No	**Name and Surname**	**Age**	**Gender**	**Profession**	**Contact (email or phone)**
1	Abdulqadir Mohamed Ali	26	M	Farmer	0616707010
2	Shaakiro Cumar Abdalle	24	F	Farmer	0616347695
3	Bakar Ciqaadir Cumar	39	M	Farmer	0615135515
4	Xasan Cabdale Nuur	36	M	Farmer	0612332860
5	Caasho Aweys Cabdi	45	F	Farmer	0618615921
6	Maxamed Cabaas Nurraami	38	M	Farmer	0618615349
7	Maxamed Cabaas Saciid	49	M	Farmer	0618142129
8	Shuuro Maxamed Shuriye	58	F	Farmer	0617818117
9	Faarax Sheekh Saciid	62	M	Farmer	0615770021
10	Caydii M. Axmed Caydi	54	M	Farmer	0618173860
11	Sheekh Yuusuf Ali	47	M	Farmer	0618244996

Appendix 3 – Final validation workshop – attendance list

Sn	Full name	Gender	Institution	Title	EMAIL
1.	Mohamed A Ali	Male	Federal Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy	Head of Sector	mohamudboya@gmail.com
2.	Hashi Osman Nohamed	Male	Federal Ministry of Livestock Forestry and Range	Director-Forestry & Range	hashi145@hotmail.com
3.	Abdulkadir Said	Male	Federal Ministry of Livestock Forestry and Range	Rangeland Officer	abdulkadir723@hotmail.com
4.	Abdisamad Said Dirie	Male	Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Climate Educationist	deria@moecc.gov.so
5.	Dr Badal Ahmed Hassan	Male	Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Advisor	badal.hassan@moecc.gov.so
6.	Fatuma Abdullahi	Female	Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Advisor	fatuma19700@hotmail.com
7.	Said Hassan	Male	Somali National University	Academic	Said.abdirshmsn@snu.ed.so
8.	Abdulkadir Ziyad	Male	Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Head of Section	ziyad@outlook.com
9.	Ahmed Mukhtar Ahmed	Male	Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Ecosystems restoration	ahmedmukhtar@moecc.gov.so
10.	Mohamed Hassan	Male	Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	ICT	slidaado60@gmail.com
11.	Zakariya Omar Maalim	Male	Somalia Disaster Management Agency	DRM Officer	zakariahomarmaalim@gmail.com
12.	Shaafiq Badri	Male	Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	ICT	mrdiaby143@gmail.com
13.	Abdulkadir Abdinoor	Male	Federal Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy	Director	A.abdinoor1@gmail.com
14.	Ahmed Gure	Male	IFAD	Field Program Officer	a.gure@ifad.org
15.	Mohamed Mohamud	Male	Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Officer	mohaa.alharthy@gmail.com
16.	Yusuf Abdi Maalim	Male	SADAR Institute	Program Director	yuusufmaalim@sadarinstitute.so
17.	Halima Khaliif	Female	Ministry of Finance	Project Coordinator	halimakhalif@gmail.com
18.	Abdirahman Abdiweli	Male	Office of the Prime Minister	Monitoring and Evaluation	abdirahman.abdweli@gmail.com
19.	Ms. Fadumo Mohamed Abdullahi	Male	Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Women and Climate Change Advisor	fatumo19700@hotmail.com
20.	Abdinasir Musa	Male	SADAR Institute	Project Officer	a.musa@sadarinstitute.so
21	Dr Paul Elvis Tangem	Male	AU GGWI Coordinator		elvis.tangem@gmail.com

Field Code Changed

Annex 3: Environmental and Social Management Plan

I. Summary description of the project

1. **Country**. Somalia is situated on the Horn of Africa and covers an area of 637,660 km^2. It has the longest coastline in Africa, with shores on the Gulf of Aden to the north and the Indian Ocean to the east. The country is bordered by Kenya to the south, Ethiopia to the west and by Djibouti to the north-west. Its land area is 98.4% (627,337 Km^2) and its water area 1.6% (10,320 Km^2). The country comprises of highlands in the north with the rest of the country mainly plateaus, plains and coastal plains. About 80% of Somalia consists of arid and semi-arid lands. These lands are subject to extreme climatic conditions, including high average surface temperatures, prolonged periods of drought, very erratic rainfall and high winds. Indeed, much of the country is arid and semi-desert making it relatively unproductive for agriculture, with nomadic pastoralism a prevailing livelihood among rural communities. Approximately 50% of Somalia's land area can be considered permanent pasture while 13% is suitable for cultivation. Somalia's population is estimated at over 18.1 million of which 60% live in rural areas. Annual population growth rate is some 2.9% and the average life expectancy at birth is 55.3 years.[129] Some 3.8 million people in Somalia were internally displaced in 2023.[130] Somali diaspora forms as important part of the population and can be found all around the world.

2. **Poverty**. According to the 2023 UNDP Human Development Index (HDI) poverty affects 88.9 % of the population. The Gini index is 36.8. About 69 % of Somalis live under the international poverty line of US$ 1.90 per day. With an additional 10 % living within 20 % of the poverty line, almost 80 % of the population is vulnerable to even very small external shocks. The fragility and high conflict situations in Somalia have led to forced displacements, unemployment, and staggering poverty rates.

3. Poverty is widespread and deep in Somalia, particularly in rural households and IDP settlements. 90 % live in multidimensional poverty (in addition to factoring in monetary deprivation, the multidimensional poverty index takes into account education of children and adults, access to improved water, improved sanitation and electricity). Somalia has the third-highest poverty rate in the region and almost three-fourths of the population among nomads, people in rural areas, IDP settlements, and Mogadishu are poor. Drivers of poverty are largely attributed to a 30-year-long state collapse, conflict, political instability, climate change, environmental degradation, a lack of investment in critical basic social services, and weak economic performance.

4. **Agriculture**. Agriculture (including livestock and fishing) accounted for 56.6 % of GDP in 2020 as well as 26.3 % of the workforce in 2021. Maize, sorghum, cowpea and sesame are the main staples. Somalia has about 1.1 million hectares (ha.) of crop land and 43 million ha. of permanent pastures. Although only 0.5 % of the agricultural land (200,000 ha.) is equipped for irrigation, water withdrawal by agriculture accounts for 99.5 % of total withdrawal, an indication of water use inefficiency. Crop productivity is very low (average yield of 0.6 MT/ha for maize) and crop production only meets 22 % of the domestic cereals needs. Due to the prolonged conflict in Somalia and intermittent livestock import bans by Somalia's trade partners due to fear of trans-boundary diseases, the livestock subsector that used to contribute about 60 % to GDP and 50 % to export earnings, has been declining. In 2020, there was no export of livestock while the country imported US$ 123 million worth of dairy products and US$ 22 million of meat. The economic potential of fishing is significant but the lack of regulation for the predominant capture fisheries leads to unsustainable over-fishing. Fish, hides and skin, and sesame are Somalia's major agricultural exports.

5. **Climate change**. Global and regional models show that mean temperatures are expected to increase across all areas of Somalia by between 3.2°C and 4.3°C by 2080. All regions will experience an increase in annual temperature of 1°C to 2.5°C in the period 2036-2065 compared to the 1971-2000 period. Droughts used to occur every 2-3 years, often followed by devastating floods, particularly in the south where the Shabelle and Juba rivers are vulnerable to heavy rains in the Ethiopian highlands. The upward trend in recent years of extreme events such as floods and droughts, is associated with the patterns of high rainfall variability over Somalia, arising from anomalous sea temperatures and circulation in the Indian and Pacific oceans during El Niño/La Niña, together with the Indian Ocean Dipole events. Somalia's extreme vulnerability to climate change impacts lives, livelihoods, and food security, and drives large-scale displacement and conflicts.

[129] https://www.unfpa.org/data/world-population/SO
[130] https://www.iom.int/news/displacement-somalia-reaches-record-high-38-million-iom-deputy-director-general-calls-sustainable-solutions

6. **Project approach and theory of change**. Somalia is extremely vulnerable to climate change, with fragile ecosystems exposed to accelerated degradation as a result of more frequent heat waves, droughts and flash floods. The livelihoods that depend on the services rendered by these ecosystems, whether pastoral or agropastoral (depending on the agroecological zone considered), are put at extreme risk, as the current humanitarian situation demonstrates. This situation creates a vicious circle, by which desperate populations resort to short term strategies to sustain their livelihoods, including charcoal production, displacement, or even engagement in armed groups. In this context, very fragile groups, and in particular women and children, are the ones that suffer the most.

7. Small scale agropastoralists and pastoralists in Somalia are hence both extremely vulnerable to climate change, and pivotal for the resilience of the whole country. Ecosystems they depend on are degrading rapidly, and the recurring drought and flood cycles directly affect the productivity of their livestock and/or crops, leading to possible failures. The project seeks to address these vulnerabilities, with the goal of *scaling-up the climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods in Somalia by operationalizing the Great Green Wall Initiative in the country*.

8. Indeed, the Great Green Wall Initiative is an integrated approach, that encompasses activities aimed at sustainably restoring ecosystems which degradation is accelerated by climate change, and at supporting the livelihoods that depend on them. As such, the present project will act as a flagship to accelerate the initiative in the country, but also contribute to the new regional GGWI strategy by scaling-up its lessons. The project will leverage good practices from the GGWI to address the critical climate vulnerabilities that affect Somali ecosystems and livelihoods:

- First through the **improved resilience of agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems to climate change** (Outcome 1), by engaging local stakeholders to collectively identify priorities for the protection and restoration of degraded ecosystems. This participatory cluster level mapping will take a close look at women, youth and minorities' perspective on the local landscape. The resulting Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans will highlight priority areas for resilient investments protecting both the landscape and livelihoods, which will also be reflected in Village Level Action Plans. The project will in turn implement priorities associated with ecosystem resilience in an integrated manner. In pastoral areas, the plans will rely on (i) the resting of pastoral land through social fencing; (ii) revegetation thanks to afforestation/reforestation, oversowing and/or reseeding, as well as Assisted Natural Regeneration; and (iii) soil and water conservation works. In agropastoral areas affected by flooding and erosion, the plans will focus on soil and water conservation works and revegetation in upstream areas and riverbank protection in downstream areas. Sustainable pastoral management through social fencing, controlled grazing, reseeding and P/FMNR will also benefit agropastoral areas. Actions will be consolidated thanks to the creation of Resource Users and Management Committees, and reinforcement of other relevant management structures at local level (Village Development Committees/Community Development Associations), including through conflict resolution mechanisms.
- Under its second component, the project will support the **enhanced resilience of agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods to climate change** (Outcome 2), both through the diffusion of climate resilient practices at agropastoral and pastoral system level using Pastoral/Farmers Field Schools and Pastoralists/Farmers Managed Naturally Assisted Regeneration, and through income diversification (nurseries, Non-Wood Forest Products value chains, and support to diversification), sustained through relevant capacity building on business development and financial inclusion, and provision of adequate inputs and equipment.
- Finally, the project third component will aim at ensuring that the **Great Green Wall initiative framework is operationalized in Somalia** (Outcome 3). This will be achieved by elaborating the relevant strategic and planning documents, roadmaps, as well as establishing coordination mechanisms and monitoring systems that constitute the GGWI framework and are necessary for its operationalization in Somalia. This framework will build on the specific experience of the project under its first two components, other relevant experiences in the country, and lessons from the Global GGWI.

II. Screening and categorization

i) ESP Screening and categorization

9. Hal-Abuur aims to scale-up the climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods in Somalia by operationalizing the Great Green Wall Initiative in the country. The project is in line with national policies

and legislative frameworks of the government of Somalia and aims to implement the National development plans (NDP-9) by strengthening resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods as well as strengthening relevant institutional frameworks to scale up the GGWI in Somalia. The project is thus poised to make significant positive contributions towards enhancing the environmental and socioeconomic resilience of Somalia's ecosystems and communities The planned activities, such as sustainable land management and regreening actions are expected to restore degraded lands, increase biodiversity, and stabilize the soil, thereby improving water retention and reducing erosion. This holistic approach not only aims to restore the natural landscape and its capacity to withstand shocks, but also supports the livelihoods of local communities by introducing climate-resilient agricultural and pastoral practices and diversifying income through sustainable value chains like nurseries and non-wood forest products. Moreover, the participatory approach in developing Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans ensures that the interventions are well-aligned with the needs and priorities of the most vulnerable groups, including women, youth, and minorities, thereby fostering community ownership and sustained engagement.

10. Following the risk assessment detailed in section III below, Hal-Abuur project is classified as **Category B** of the Fund's Environment and Social Policy which is equivalent to **Moderate Risk** according to the IFAD Social, Environmental, and Climate Assessment Procedures (see part II. ii) hereunder). While the project does not involve activities with high potential for harming people or the environment and the locations are not environmentally or socially sensitive, there are some potential minor adverse impacts are largely predictable and expected to be temporary or reversible. The scale of interventions is modest and primarily involves community-based activities such as sustainable land management, afforestation, reforestation, and the promotion of climate-resilient pastoral and agricultural practices, all of which are site-specific with a low likelihood of impacts extending beyond the project lifecycle. The risks and impacts associated with the Hal-Abuur project are manageable and can be mitigated in a predictable manner through the measures elaborated in the ESMP for the project.

11. **Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs)**. **Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs)**. The nature of project activities has been formulated to the extent that pre-identification of environmental and social risks is possible. Project intervention regions and districts have also been screened to identify all site-specific environmental and social risks (in particular with regards to ESP 9, 10 and 14). As such, and even if exact site locations for project activities cannot be determined at design stage, the project is not considered to include USPs. In any case, the ESMP plans for additional screening of the project supported CCRIPs against the 15 AF ESP.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
ESP 1. Compliance with the Law	X	Low risk- The project, executed by the Sadar Institute, on behalf of the Ministry of Environment & Climate Change and with oversight from the Project Steering Committee, is classified as Low Risk in terms of legal non-compliance. Although primarily compliant, risks could arise from service providers who may not fully adhere to national laws related to environment, forest and land resources, livestock, agriculture, gender, and labour.
ESP 2. Access and Equity	X	**Low/medium risk:** the project's participatory and inclusive approach will enable fair and equitable access to project benefits to all participants, including marginalised and vulnerable groups, who meet the project eligibility criteria. There is a low/medium risk that the project would find difficulty in including some of the most vulnerable groups such as women due to traditions and norms. Participation of the project target groups will be closely monitored through the M&E system. The Grievance Redress Mechanism is also an avenue in case individuals and/or communities who feel excluded or marginalized from project benefits. The identified risk is low and fully mitigated by the project's approach, including its targeting strategy and its gender strategy and action plan, building on the experience of IFAD and other partners in the country. Moreover, project staff, Cluster Level Facilitators

		and implementers will be trained on issues related to conflict, diversity, equity and inclusion.
ESP 3. Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups	X	**Low risk:** Interventions will target marginalised and vulnerable groups, including vulnerable pastoralists and agropastoralists, women and youth, IDPs and minorities, based on vulnerability criteria determined through community/self-targeting approaches Sadar will carry out project level assessments to identify the presence of minorities in the project intervention areas and where found social inclusion plans will be carried out before the implementation of key activities. IFAD's Indigenous People's team will support this activity. There is a low risk that the project would find difficulty in including some of the most vulnerable groups such as women due to traditions and norms in rural areas. Pathways to achieve gender equality and women empowerment under the project are outlined in the Gender Assessment, Strategy and Action Plan (Annex 5).
ESP 4. Human Rights	X	**Low/moderate risk** The project affirms the rights of all people and does not violate any pillar of human rights. No activities will be proposed that could present a risk of non-compliance with either national requirements relating to Human Rights or with International Human Rights Laws and Conventions. Past experiences suggest that establishing digital identity systems paves the way to expanding surveillance regimes. The project will refrain from using biometrics in its activities.
ESP 5. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	X	**Low/moderate risk** Culture and norms in Somalia confer low social status to women and constrain their access to productive resources, jobs, and social services. Key considerations have been taken into account through the Gender assessment included in Annex 5 and the project proposes proactive measures to integrate gender focused development strategies, ensuring it will not pose a risk to the principle of gender equality and women's empowerment. In particular, three strategic pathways for gender equality and women's empowerment will be followed: (i) promote economic empowerment to enable rural women and men to have equal opportunities to participate in and benefit from profitable economic activities; (ii) enable women and men to have an equal voice and influence in rural institutions and organizations; and, (iii) achieve a more equitable balance of workloads and the sharing of economic and social benefits between women and men. Additionally, gender aspects are mainstreamed in the project's assessment of climate risks at cluster level under Component 1 and relevant adaptation measures promoted under Components 1 and 2. Gender mainstreaming will also be supported throughout the activities associated with the operationalization of the GGWI in Somalia under Component 3. Women will make up 50% of the beneficiaries and their participation in the project will be monitored. The implementation of the gender strategy and action plan will be monitored. Complaints if any will be addressed through the Grievance redress mechanism.
ESP 6. Core Labour Rights	X	**Low.** The project will ensure respect for international and national labour laws and codes, as stated in IFAD's policies, including through provisions in contracts with service providers (e.g. adherence to workers code of conduct and sensitization on GBV).

		The project operates in sectors or value chains that have, in the past, not met national labour laws, or international commitments, but is now adequately nationally regulated. The project only targets NTFP VCs specifically, and will approach other products (crops) with a subsistence rather than commercial perspective. The project does not operate in sectors or value chains where child labour was evident in the past.
ESP 7. Indigenous Peoples	X	**Not applicable** Somalia has not ratified the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention (1989). Minorities will be engaged in all project activities through its participatory processes, and their specific needs and concerns of minorities in target areas (specifically in the Lower Shabelle) will be identified, including potential unequal distribution of project benefits. Their engagement will be monitored throughout project implementation.
ESP 8. Involuntary Resettlement	X	**Not applicable**. Project activities do not entail resettlement.
ESP 9. Protection of Natural Habitats	X	**No risk**. Besides the Hobyo grassland and shrubland ecoregion which will not be included in intervention areas, no other protected or proposed protected areas have been identified in the targeted regions. The project is not expected to have any negative impact on critical natural habitats including those that are (a) legally protected; (b) officially proposed for protection; (c) recognised by authoritative sources for their high conservation value, including as critical habitat; or (d) recognised as protected by traditional or local communities. The project will not intervene in these areas, the CCRIPs will be screened to ensure none of the suggested investments risks degrading natural habitats.
ESP 10. Conservation of Biological Diversity	X	**No risk**. The activities of this project will not adversely impact the conservation of biological diversity. The activities are designed to restore and support the conservation of biological diversity and natural resources. The project includes a Natural Resource Management specialist who will oversee the implementation of these activities and inform the targeting of sites for maximum benefits. Tree species for reseeding and afforestation will be local species.
ESP 11. Climate Change	X	**No risk**. The project will not generate any significant emissions of greenhouse gases and will not contribute to climate change in any other way. The project will contribute to improved carbon sequestration through ecosystem restoration approaches.
ESP 12. Prevention and Resource Efficiency	X	**Low/No risk**. The project will actively promote the adoption of climate resilient practices and efficient water use. Site specific risks are very limited, and can be easily identified and effectively addressed. The use of chemical is not foreseen or will be minimal due to limited accessibility and resources from the targeted communities. A Pest Management Plan will be developed to help ensure that communities adopt the good practices promoted by the project.
ESP 13. Public Health	X	**No risk**. No adverse impact on public health related issues is envisaged under the project.
ESP 14. Physical and Cultural Heritage	X	**Low/No risk**. The project is not expected to have negative impacts on the physical and cultural heritage of Somalia.
ESP 15. Lands and Soil Conservation	X	**No risk**. The project will promote sustainable land management practices at landscape (ecosystem) and production systems (agricultural/pastoral) level.

ii) Alignment between ESP/AF and SECAP/IFAD

12. IFAD's Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP) were approved by the Executive Board and became effective in 2015. They were updated in 2017 and 2021. These procedures defined an improved course of action for assessing social, environmental and climate risks to enhance the sustainability of country strategic opportunities programmes (COSOPs), country strategy notes (CSNs), programmes and projects. SECAP along with its 9 Social, Environmental and Climate Standards, sets out the mandatory requirements and other elements that must be integrated throughout the project life cycle. The 2021 updated version (i) draws on lessons learned in SECAP's implementation since 2017; (ii) clarifies the mandatory and non-mandatory requirements applicable to IFAD-supported investments; (iii) further aligns IFAD's environmental and social standards and practices with those of other multilateral financial institutions; (iv) reflects IFAD's complementary policies[131] and climate mainstreaming agenda; (v) enables IFAD's continued access to international environment and climate financing; and (vi) accounts for IFAD's new commitments and upgraded internal processes. All IFAD projects entering the pipeline are subject to an environmental, social and climate risk screening, and are assigned a risk category for environment and social risks (High, Substantial, Moderate or Low), and for climate risks (High, Substantial, Moderate or Low). These findings, along with subsequent analysis and assessments, must be reflected in the project's SECAP review note and project documents. Projects with "**Low environment and social Risk**" and "**Low**" climate risk do not require any further analysis.

13. **Moderate Risk** projects require: (i) the final SECAP review note and ESCMP, indicating how potential risks and impacts can be avoided or mitigated; and (ii) an environmental and social monitoring programme. Projects classified Moderate Risk for climate require a basic climate analysis.

14. For projects with **High and Substantial environmental and social risks and impacts**, the due diligence process entails a critical review of the documentation provided by the borrower/recipient/partner. This should involve site visits and interviews with project representatives and other stakeholders by independent environmental and social specialists. These specialists should gain first-hand knowledge of the project and meet with representatives of affected groups to discuss environmental and social concerns, and information needs. This provides IFAD with a more holistic view of the project's major environmental and social risks and impacts, and the project's mitigation resources. For Substantial Risk projects, a formal SECAP review note or abbreviated ESCMF is required. For High-Risk projects, an Environmental, Social and Climate Management Framework or Environmental and Social Impact Assessment are required. These should also incorporate an ESCMP. In addition, thematic studies or plans can be required for substantial and high-risk projects. These can include a Resettlement Action Framework or Plan (RAF or RAP), Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP), FPIC implementation Plan, Pesticide Management Plan (PMP), etc.

15. For projects that are screened as "substantial" for climate risks, a Targeted Adaptation Assessment is required. For projects classified as "high", a detailed vulnerability impact and adaptation assessment is required. These assessments aim to quantify risks, identify related adaptation options and ways to integrate them into the project design.

16. IFAD SECAP includes 9 Standards, for which detailed guidance is provided in 9 corresponding Guidance Notes (GN) with: (i) an introduction to each subject, (ii) key steps, roles and responsibilities, objectives and background, (iii) criteria for environmental screening in IFAD projects; (iv) potential mitigation and adaptation plans and measures for controlling adverse impacts, (v) monitoring project implementation. The SECAP also includes a 10th guidance note that provides an overview of the importance of IFAD's mainstreaming commitments and highlights entry points for promoting mainstreaming along the project cycle. IFAD's mainstreaming commitments are related to environmental sustainability, climate finance, gender equality, women and youth empowerment and improved nutrition.

17. The following table provides some information about the relation between AF ESP Principles and IFAD SECAP (for further information, visit https://www.ifad.org/topic/gef/secap/overview).

AF ESP Guidance Principle	IFAD SECAP Standards, Guiding Values and Principles
ESP 1 Compliance with the Law	SECAP requires that activities in the framework of the IFAD financed projects or programmes meet IFAD's safeguard policy guidance, comply with applicable national laws and regulations (labour, health, safety, etc.) and international laws and treaties, and the

[131] Including, but not restricted, to policies on targeting (2006), gender equality and women's empowerment (2012), indigenous peoples (2009). Available at: www.ifad.org/operations/policy/policydocs.htm

	prohibited investment activities list produced by the International Finance Corporation is adhered to. Project design should review: (i) current national policies, legislation and legislative instruments governing environmental management health, gender and social welfare, climate change (mitigation and adaptation) and governance with their implementation structures, identify challenges, and recommend appropriate changes for effective implementation; (ii) all relevant international treaties and conventions on the environment, climate change, health, gender, labour and human rights to which the country is a signatory.
ESP 2 Access and Equity	Access and Equity is a cross-cutting issue in all the 9 SECAP standards. SECAP requires that projects and programmes ensure the participation of target groups and equitable distribution of benefits. When projects result in physical or economic displacement (affecting access and user rights to land and other resources), the borrower or grant recipient should obtain FPIC from the affected people, document stakeholder engagement and consultation process and prepare resettlement plans or frameworks. The documents must be disclosed in a timely and accessible manner at the QA or relevant implementation stage. **Standard 2 – Resource efficiency and pollution prevention** highlights that Sustainable management requires that people who are dependent on these resources are properly consulted, enabled to participate in development and share equitably in the benefits of that development, and indicates that IFAD promotes an integrated water resources management approach that seeks the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximize economic and social welfare in an equitable manner and without compromising the sustainability of ecosystems. **Standard 3 – Cultural Heritage** includes the following objective: promote the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of Cultural Heritage. **Standard 4 – Indigenous People** includes the following objective: ensure indigenous peoples obtain fair and equitable benefits and opportunities from supported activities in a culturally appropriate and inclusive manner. **IFAD's mainstreaming themes in the project cycle guidance note** highlights that projects should aim at Expanding women's economic empowerment through access to and control of productive assets and benefits.
ESP 3 Marginalised and Vulnerable Groups.	Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups is a cross-cutting issue in all the 9 SECAP standards, as such groups are also the primary target of IFAD interventions. A robust SECAP process requires attention to social dimensions such as land tenure, community health, safety, labour, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, and historical factors, particularly in relation to natural resource management. It not only looks at compliance (e.g. managing potential negative impacts), but expected positive impacts and ways to maximize opportunities. To assure a good contribution to the quality of SECAP, project design should assess the socio-economic and cultural profile, including key issues relating to disadvantaged or vulnerable groups, conflict, migration, employment and livelihoods. Consultation with communities and stakeholders must be maintained throughout the project lifecycle, especially in high-risk projects. For investment projects with a projected high sensitivity to climate hazards, IFAD requires a climate vulnerability analysis which can help to improve the targeting of investment actions to include the most vulnerable and least resilient target groups. Other IFAD policies that support and complement this principle are: Improving Access to Land Tenure Security Policy, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy, Engagement with Indigenous Peoples Policy, Targeting Policy, Youth Policy Brief, Climate Change Strategy, Rural Enterprise Policy, Rural Finance Policy, Private Sector Strategy.
ESP 4 Human Rights	Human Rights is a cross-cutting issue in all the 9 SECAP standards. Among the Guiding Principles and Specific Requirements for IFAD's Social Environmental Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP), is the principle to "*support the efforts of borrowers/recipients/ partners to respect human rights, avoiding infringement on any human rights and addressing adverse human rights risks and impacts caused by clients' business activities*".
ESP 5 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment is a cross-cutting issue in all the 9 SECAP Standards. **IFAD's mainstreaming themes in the project cycle guidance note** provides an overview of the importance of IFAD's mainstreaming commitments (including gender equality, women and youth empowerment); highlights entry points for promoting mainstreaming along the project cycle; proposes the use of assessments which – even if they may be focused on risk assessment and management – are opportunities for mainstreaming; and provides an overview of inventories of key sources of data, tools, methods and approaches that have been found useful.
ESP 6 Core Labour Rights	Core Labour Rights is a cross-cutting issue in all the 9 Standards. A robust SECAP process requires attention to social dimensions such as land tenure, community health, safety, labour, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, and historical factors, particularly in relation to natural resource management. One of the guiding values and principles for SECAP is to

	minimize adverse social impacts and incorporate externalities. Avoid and mitigate any potential adverse impacts on health and safety, labour and working conditions and well-being of workers and local communities. The requirements set out in **Standard 5 – Labour and working conditions** are designed to achieve the following objectives: (i) Promote direct action to foster decent rural employment; (ii) Promote, respect and realize fundamental principles and rights at work through preventing discrimination and promoting equal opportunity of workers; supporting freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining; and preventing the use of child labour and forced labour; (iii) Protect and promote the safety and health of workers; (iv) Ensure projects comply with national employment and labour laws and international commitments; and (v) Leave no one behind by protecting and supporting workers in disadvantaged and vulnerable situations, including a special focus, as appropriate, on women workers, young workers, migrant workers, workers in the informal economy and workers with disabilities
ESP 7 Indigenous People	**Standard 4 – Indigenous People** is a cornerstone to IFAD's goal to design projects not only with the full, effective and meaningful participation of indigenous peoples but also in a manner that aligns with their distinct vision and development priorities, building sustainable partnerships with indigenous peoples. Standard 4 seeks to ensure that projects are designed and implemented in a way that fosters full respect for indigenous peoples and their human rights, livelihoods and cultural uniqueness as they define them. The need for the standard is an acknowledgement of a history of discrimination and exclusion of indigenous peoples that has limited or prevented them from directing the course of their own development and well-being. The requirements set out in Standard 4 are designed to achieve the following objectives: (i) Promote indigenous peoples ability to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development; (ii) Ensure that programming is designed in partnership with indigenous peoples, with their full effective and meaningful consultation and participation, with the objective of seeking their free, prior and informed consent (FPIC); (iii) Ensure indigenous peoples obtain fair and equitable benefits and opportunities from supported activities in a culturally appropriate and inclusive manner; and (iv) Recognize and respect the rights of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources that they have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used. (v) Implementation of the requirements of Standard 4 also aims to avoid adverse impacts on indigenous peoples, their rights, lands, territories and resources and – together with affected indigenous peoples – to mitigate and remedy any adverse impacts that cannot be avoided. According to SECAP, when impacting indigenous peoples, the borrower or the grant recipient must seek FPIC from the concerned communities, document stakeholder engagement and consultation process and prepare an indigenous plan (IP). Whenever FPIC is not possible during project design, the FPIC implementation plan should specify how FPIC will be sought during early implementation. The FPIC plan and related documents must be disclosed in a timely and accessible manner at the Quality Assurance (QA) or relevant stage during implementation. IFAD SECAP promotes the Indigenous Peoples Plan as a tool to ensure that the design and implementation of projects foster full respect for indigenous peoples' identity, dignity, human rights, livelihood systems and cultural uniqueness, as defined by the indigenous peoples themselves. It also ensures that the affected groups receive culturally appropriate social and economic benefits, are not harmed by the projects, and can participate actively in projects that affect them. Other IFAD policies that support and complement these principles: Indigenous People's Policy; Targeting Policy; Gender Policy; Climate Change Strategy.
ESP 8 Involuntary Resettlement	**Standard 7 – Physical and economic resettlement** recognizes that increasing investments in the rural sector may at times involve project-related land acquisition and restrictions on land use – actions that, if improperly managed, may have adverse impacts on communities and persons, including physical displacement (relocation, loss of residential land or loss of shelter), economic displacement (loss of land, assets or access to assets, leading to loss of income sources or other means of livelihood) or both. The term "involuntary resettlement" refers to these impacts. Resettlement is considered involuntary when affected persons or communities do not have the right to refuse land acquisition or restrictions on land use that result in displacement. Throughout the process of identification, planning, implementation and evaluation of the various elements of resettlement or economic displacement and their impacts, adequate attention will be paid to gender concerns: specific measures addressing the needs of female

	headed households, gender-inclusive consultation, information disclosure, and grievance mechanisms will be put in place in order to ensure that women and men will receive adequate and appropriate compensation for their losses and to restore and possibly improve their living standards. Other IFAD policies that support and complement this principle are: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy, Engagement with Indigenous Peoples Policy, Targeting Policy, Land Policy, ENRM Policy, Youth Policy Brief, Climate Change Strategy.
ESP 9 Protection of Natural Habitats	**Standard 1 – Biodiversity conservation** requires identification of habitat type and applies increasingly stringent requirements based on an areas' biodiversity values. Where natural habitats are affected, IFAD-funded/supported projects and programmes will proceed only after putting in place appropriate mitigation measures to achieve no net loss, and preferably a net gain of the associated biodiversity values over the long term. This must be accompanied by a robust long-term biodiversity action plan or equivalent that describes conservation outcomes and implementation, monitoring and evaluation actions. Other IFAD policies that support and complement these principles are: Environment and Natural Resources Management (ENRM) Policy; Land Policy; Climate Change Strategy.
ESP 10 Conservation of Biodiversity	The requirements set out in **Standard 1 – Biodiversity conservation** are designed to achieve the following objectives: (i) maintain and conserve biodiversity; (ii) preserve the integrity of ecosystems; (iii) maintain and enhance the benefits of ecosystem services; (iv) adopt the use of a precautionary approach to biodiversity conservation and ensure opportunities for environmentally sustainable development; (v) ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the utilization of genetic resources; and (vi) respect, preserve, and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples, and local communities relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and their customary use of biological resources. The main role of this safeguard standard is to avoid or, if avoidance is not possible, minimize and mitigate potential adverse social and environmental impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services associated with project-related activities. This can be seen through the promotion and requirements on the "use of a precautionary approach" as outlined throughout standard 1. Requirements of Standard 1 address risks to biodiversity and ecosystem types, with increasing stringency depending on risk levels and biodiversity values of project areas. Mitigation activities to eliminate or reduce the negative impacts of a project on biodiversity should follow the following order of preference: (1) Complete avoidance of adverse impact; (2) Reduction of impacts on biodiversity where unavoidable; (3) Restoration of habitats to their original state; (4) Relocation of affected species; (5) Compensation for any unavoidable damage. Other IFAD policies that support and complement these principles are: Environment and Natural Resources Management (ENRM) Policy; Land Policy; Climate Change Strategy.
ESP 11 Climate Change	SECAP asks to incorporate climate change risk analysis into projects, which are subject to an environmental, social and climate risk screening, and are assigned a risk category for climate vulnerability (substantial, high, moderate, low). The requirements set out in **Standard 9 – Climate change** are designed to achieve the following objectives: (i) ensure alignment of IFAD-supported projects with targets and priorities of countries' Nationally Determined Contributions and the goals of the Paris Agreement and other international frameworks; (ii) ensure that proposed activities are screened and assessed for climate change and disaster risks and impacts both of and to projects; (iii) apply the SECAP risk mitigation hierarchy principle of applying a hierarchy of risk management measures in project design; (iv) strengthen the climate resilience of communities and their adaptive capacity to address risks of climate change impacts and climate-related disasters; and (v) increase the ability of communities to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low GHG-emitting projects that do not threaten without compromising food production. **IFAD's mainstreaming themes in the project cycle guidance note** provides an overview of the importance of IFAD's mainstreaming commitments (including Climate change); highlights entry points for promoting mainstreaming along the project cycle; proposes the use of assessments which – even if they may be focused on risk assessment and management – are opportunities for mainstreaming; and provides an overview of inventories of key sources of data, tools, methods and approaches that have been found useful.
ESP 12 Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	**Standard 2 – Resource efficiency and pollution prevention** includes requirements that aim at ensuring that IFAD-supported projects and programmes minimize, mitigate and manage any risks and potential adverse impacts that may be related to resource use and pollution, with the following objectives: (i) avoid, minimize and manage the risks and impacts associated with hazardous substances and materials, including pesticides; (ii) avoid or minimize project-related emissions of short-and long-lived climate-change related pollutants;

	(iii) promote sustainable use of resources, including energy, land and water; and (iv) identify, where feasible, project-related opportunities for resource-use efficiency. Standard 2 outlines a project-level approach to mitigating, minimizing and managing any risks and potential adverse impacts that may be related to resource use and pollution. IFAD requires that key principles are applied. These include a precautionary approach to addressing significant environmental and social risks and impacts through the mitigation hierarchy; the "polluter pays" principle (whereby the cost of mitigation is borne by the polluter, where relevant); and adaptive management techniques (whereby lessons are learned from past management actions and are proactively utilized to predict and improve management as the project implementation progresses).
ESP 13 Human Health	The requirements of **Standard 6 – Community Health and Safety** aim to ensure that IFAD-supported programs and projects avoid or minimize the risks and impacts to community health, safety and security. The requirements are designed to achieve the following objectives: (i) to anticipate and avoid adverse impacts on the health and safety of project-affected communities during the project life cycle from both routine and non-routine circumstances; (ii) to ensure that measures are taken to avoid or minimize community exposure to hazardous materials that be used during project activities; (iii) to promote quality and safety, and considerations relating to climate change, in the design and construction of infrastructure, including dams; (iv) to avoid or minimize community exposure to project-related traffic and road safety risks; (v) to minimize community exposure to diseases; (vi) to ensure that projects abide by the principles of "do no harm to nutrition"; (vii) to avoid risks of project-related gender-based violence, including risks of sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and abuse, and human trafficking to project-affected people and communities; (viii) to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on ecosystems services that may arise from project activities; (ix) to have in place effective measures to address emergency events; and (x) to ensure that the safeguarding of personnel and property is carried out in a manner that avoids or minimizes risks to the project-affected communities
ESP 14 Physical and Cultural Heritage	The requirements set out in **Standard 3 – Cultural heritage** are designed to achieve the following objectives: (i) preserve and safeguard Cultural Heritage; (ii) ensure that effective and active measures are taken to prevent IFAD-supported projects from altering, damaging, or removing any tangible or intangible Cultural Heritage; (iii) promote the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of Cultural Heritage; (iv) promote meaningful consultation on matters relating to Cultural Heritage. Other IFAD policies that support and complement ESP 14 are: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy, Engagement with Indigenous Peoples Policy, Targeting Policy, ENRM Policy, Climate Change Strategy.
ESP 15 Lands and Soil Conservation	**Standard 2 – Resource efficiency and pollution prevention** includes a specific focus on soil conservation, stating that *sustainable soil management is an essential element of sustainable agriculture and is central to sustainable intensification, climate -change resilience and safeguarding ecosystem services and biodiversity. The updated World Soil Charter lists nine guiding principles that guide all actions to ensure that soils are managed sustainably and that the functions of degraded soils are rehabilitated or restored. IFAD will integrate these principles into its projects, as appropriate, to ensure sustainable soil management and to promote restoration of degraded soils* Other IFAD policies that support and complement these principles: Land Policy; Targeting Policy; ENRM Policy; Climate Change Strategy.

III. Environment and Social Impact Assessment

Principle 1: Compliance with the Law

The project will comply with national technical standards as outlined in its laws and regulations. The national framework for Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) is being developed, based on the following:

a) **The National Environment Protection and Management Act (2024)**. The objective of the Act is to promote a clean and healthy environment for all Somalis, prevent pollution, protect natural resources and promote sustainable development. The Act sets the institutional arrangements at Federal and Member state levels for proper environmental management. The law requires FMSs to establish state environmental agencies will be responsible for coordinating the formulation, implementation, review and revision of state environmental strategies, policies and laws and, environmental monitoring, protection and regulation. The Act also provides for environmental impact assessments and audits to be undertaken for all projects and programmes with likely environmental impacts.

Environmental protection and management is mainstreamed across the project activities. The project through outcomes 1 and 2 will primarily targets the resilience of ecosystems, both at wider landscape (benefitting up to 10,000 hectares) and at farm level (1,500 hectares). The rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems, and sustainable management of fragile land will yield direct environmental benefits, by contributing to the fight against desertification (LDN targets) but also the promotion of biodiversity (by fighting invasive species, allowing the return of more diversified ecosyste²ms, and promoting the diffusion of indigenous trees, shrubs and herbaceous species both on pastoral and agricultural land). The project is not expected to have significant environmental impacts and thus not require ESIA.

b) **The Draft Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Regulations (2023)**. The draft regulation developed under the Environmental Protection and Management Act aims to regulate the procedure and criteria as contemplated in Article 8 of the Act relating to the preparation, evaluation, submission, processing and consideration of, and decision on, applications for environmental authorisations for the commencement of activities, subjected to environmental and social impact assessment, in order to avoid or mitigate detrimental impacts on the environment and society, and to optimise positive impacts. The draft regulations identify arrangements for environmental impact assessments and approval at Federal and member states levels.

Hal-Abuur does not qualify either as Category A and Category B of projects identified for undertaking ESIA under the draft regulation, and hence doesn't require ESIA to be undertaken. The project is not expected to cause any adverse environmental and social impacts.

c) **State-specific Environmental Regulations**:

   a. Galmudug State Environmental Management Law (2020): This law, awaiting final parliamentary approval, aims to decentralize environmental governance to local levels. It includes provisions for the protection of the environment, prevention of pollution, and mandates the conduct of EIAs for projects with significant adverse environmental impacts.
   b. South West State has no environmental legislation in place due to capacity challenges.

18. The project complies with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund, and has been designed to minimise any negative environmental impact, resulting in net environmental benefits. Hal- Abuur will comply with all relevant Somali national and respective Federal member states policies and legislations. These are:

a) **The Federal Republic of Somalia Provisional Constitution (2012)**. The overarching legal document is the Provisional Federal Constitution, which was adopted on August 1, 2012. Key provisions of relevance to Hal-Abuur project include:

- Article 11 (1 & 4), Equality: All citizens, regardless of sex, religion, social or economic status, political opinion, clan, disability, occupation, birth or dialect shall have equal rights and duties before the law and the importance of achieving full equity through programs. To comply with this requirement, the project will undertake a detailed Gender Assessment and gender action plan and take proactive measures to integrate gender focused development strategies, ensuring it will not pose a risk to the principle of gender equality and women's empowerment.
- Article 14 Slavery, Servitude and Forced Labour: stipulates that a person may not be subjected to slavery, servitude, trafficking, or forced labor for any purpose. The Project will not allow any forced and child labor and will hold all contractors liable to the implementation of this requirement.
- Article 15 Liberty and security of person: prohibits FGM as it amounts to torture.
- Article 24 Labour relations: Every person has the right to fair labour relations; right to strike; form, join and participate in trade unions; and right to engage in collective bargaining on labour related issues. All workers, particularly women, have a special right of protection from sexual abuse, segregation and discrimination in the workplace. All labor laws and practices shall comply with gender equality in the workplace.
- Article 25 Environment: states that every Somali has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health and wellbeing, and to be protected from pollution and harmful materials. Every Somali has a right to have a share of the natural resources of the country, whilst being protected from excessive and damaging exploitation of natural resources.
- Article 26 (section 1 and 2) Property: states that a) every person has the right to own, use, enjoy, sell and transfer property, b) the state may compulsorily acquire property only if doing so in the public interest, c) any person whose property has been acquired in the public

interest has the right to just compensation from the State as agreed by the parties or decided by a court.

- Article 27 (1 & 5) Economic and social rights: right to clean portable water. Women, aged and disabled and minorities who have suffered discrimination to be supported to realize their full potential.
- Article 43 Land: land is recognized as primary resource and the basis of the people's livelihood; b) land shall be held, used and managed in an equitable, efficient, productive and sustainable manner; c) the FGS shall develop a national land policy, which shall be subject to constant review, d) no permit may be granted regarding the permanent use of any portion of the land, sea or air of the territory of the Federal Republic of Somalia, e) the FGS, in consultation with the FMS and other stakeholders, shall regulate land policy, and land control and use measures.
- Article 44 Natural resources: Allocation to be negotiated by FGS and FMS in accordance with the Constitution.
- Article 45 Environment: states that the Government shall give priority to the protection, conservation, and preservation of the environment against anything that may cause harm to natural biodiversity and the ecosystem. The Project will avoid any encroachment into any modified, natural, critical habitat and/or protected areas. ESMP identifies all potential risks to the environment and mitigation measures implemented.
- Article 52 Cooperative Relationships between the Various Federal Member State Governments lists issues related to Rangeland Management such as water resources, animal husbandry, pasture and forestry, The prevention of erosion and the protection of the environment; and Protection of environment.
- Article 115 Civil service: outlines civil service values and protection of their rights.

b) The **Law on Fauna (Hunting) and Forest Conservation (No. 15 of 1969)**, and in particular Book II of dedicated to forest conservation. Forest reserves may be created by declaration of the President under Chapter I. Article 53 concerns the declaration of rights in relation to land or forest produce areas to be declared as forest reserve. Chapter II concerns the protection for forest resources and forest produce. Article 60 provide for the declaration of grazing reserves for the purpose of controlling grazing in such area.

c) The **Labour Code of 1972** stipulates that all contracts of employment must include a) the nature and duration of the contract; b) the hours and place of work; c) the remuneration payable to the worker; and c) the procedure for suspension or termination of contract. Furthermore, all contracts must be submitted to the competent labor inspector for pre-approval. The employer is obligated to provide adequate measures for health and safety for protecting staff against related risks, including the provisions of a safe and clean work environment and of well-equipped, constructed and managed workplaces that provide sanitary facilities, water and other basic tools and appliances ensuring workers' health and safety. The Code further stipulates that workers have the right to submit complaints and the employer must give the complaints due consideration. Remuneration must be adequate in view of the quality and quantity of the work delivered, and must be non-discriminatory with regards to age, gender and other aspects. Maximum number of working hours per week are 8 hours per day and 6 days per week. Some work is considered dangerous and unhealthy and forbidden for women and youth (defined as 15-18 years of age). This includes the carrying of heavy weights or working at night. The Labor Code further forbids work for children below the age of 15 but allows employment of children between the age of 12-15 on the condition that the work is compatible with proper protection, health and the moral of children and in case where it is necessitated by special local conditions and technical requirements of the work. The Labor code also forbids the employment of young persons below the age of 16 in work done on flying scaffolds or portable ladders in connection with construction activities. The Code also recognizes freedom of association. Employers are prohibited from engaging in any kind of discrimination or restriction of the right of freedom of association. Workers are allowed to join trade unions. The Labor Code stipulates the right to equal pay for women for the same work as men and paid maternity leave. Women are entitled to 14 weeks of maternity leave at half pay.

d) The **Law No. 40 of 4 October 1973 on Cooperative Development in the Somali Democratic Republic** consists of 21 articles and an Annex containing terms and regulations for cooperatives: Aims and tasks of cooperatives within the economy of the Somali Democratic Republic (Chap. I); Cooperative in agriculture (Chap. II); Cooperative development in fishery (Chap. III); Cooperative in small industries and handicrafts (Chap. IV); Consumer cooperatives

(Chap. V); Cooperative legislation and registration (Chap. VI); Cooperative councils (Chap. VII); Abrogation and entry into force (Chap. VIII).

e) The **Agricultural Land Law (1975)** transfers all land from traditional authorities to the government. Individuals desiring land were to register their holdings within a 6-months period. The law does not recognize customary land holdings.

f) The **Veterinary Law Code (2016)**, which makes provisions with respect to a wide array of matters relating to animal health, animal production and animal products. The Law is divided into 17 Chapters: Introduction (1); General Provisions (2); Disease Notification and General Obligations (3); Notifiable Disease Control (4); Animal Welfare (5); Export/Import of Animals and Animal Products (6); Transport of Animals and Animal Products (7); Meat Hygiene (8); Private Veterinarians (9); Regulation of Veterinary Drugs and Related Substances (10); Fees, Penal and Other Provisions (11); Animal Disease Emergency and Response Management (12); Action During Disease Emergency (13); The Veterinary Board (14); Provision for Additional Regulations of this Code (15); Abolishing The Law (16); Legalization (17).

g) The **Pest Management Plan (PMP)** of 2020 serves to guide and help monitor and mitigate negative environmental, health and social economic impacts arising from use of pesticides to control the current Desert Locust upsurge. Response to the desert locust crisis in Somalia aims to achieve three main goals: Control the desert locust's population, through scaled up surveillance and monitoring, spraying of nymphs and hopper bands, and impact assessment, with local capacity building to carry out these operations safely and effectively; Protect livelihoods of food-insecure rural households at risk of locust invasion, by pre-positioning and delivering supplies, including back-up seed stock for immediate replanting, supplementary feed cubes for small milking animals and cash assistance where required; and Rebuild a modern and effective early warning and control system, which relied before the war on two centres in the northern regions.

h) **Somalia National Gender Policy (2016)**. This policy includes strategies that eradicate harmful traditional practices such FGM and child marriage to improve services for the management of GBV cases.

   Gender is integrated in all the project activities and the implementation of the gender strategy and action plan will be monitored. Contractors will adhere to workers' code of conduct and sensitization and mitigate any potential GBV cases related to the project. Complaints if any will be addressed through the Grievance redress mechanism.

i) **Women's Charter for Somalia (2019)** calls for women's economic empowerment and recognizes that full participation and socioeconomic rights are cornerstones for equality and sustainable development. Gender aspects are mainstreamed in the project. Women will make up 50% of the beneficiaries and their participation in the project will be monitored.

j) **The National Youth Policy of the Federal Government of Somalia (2018)** aims at promoting youth participation in all spheres of development.

   Youth play an important role in the project implementation and they are expected to be at least 50% of the project beneficiaries.

k) **The draft Charcoal Policy 2020** aims to stop the charcoal export from Somalia and sustainably regulate domestic consumption of charcoal minimizing the negative socio-economic and environmental impacts of charcoal production. The policy will also pave the way for promoting alternative energy sources, providing alternative livelihoods to the Charcoal Value Chain Beneficiaries.

   Under outcome 1, the project will implement measures to manage Prosopis and invasive species, and may support their use for charcoal, thereby reducing pressure on indigenous trees and vegetation.

19. Finally, the project will comply with all other relevant legislations and strategies such as Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategic Plan 2023-2028, Somali National Disaster Management Policy, 2018, Somalia's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) 2015, National Voluntary Land Degradation Neutrality Targets 2020, Somalia Food Security & Nutrition Strategy 2020-2025, National Livestock Sector Development Strategy 2019, Draft Somali National Pesticides Policy 2019, Integrated Water Resources Management Policy 2017, and Draft National Irrigation Policy 2019 among others.

ESMP Compliance

Concern	Law Legislation	Enforcing agencies	Enforced regulation/item
Environmental Protection	Somalia's Environmental Protection & Management Act (2024)	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of natural resources, pollution control
	Galmudug State Environmental Management Law (2020)	Ministry of Environment, Galmudug State	Environmental protection, prevention of pollution, EIAs
Forest Management	Law on Fauna (Hunting) and Forest Conservation (No. 15 of 1969) Draft Charcoal Policy 2020	Ministry of Livestock, Forestry & Range MoECC	Create and protect forest reserves, control grazing areas Regular charcoal production, alternatives
Sustainable Land Management	Somalia's Environmental Protection& Management Act (2024)	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Best practices in sustainable land management
	Galmudug State Environmental Management Law (2020)	Ministry of Environment, Galmudug State	Implementation of sustainable land management practices
Animal Health and Welfare	Veterinary Law Code (2016)	Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range	Regulate animal health, control disease, ensure animal welfare
Safe Use of Pesticides	Pest Management Plan (PMP) 2020	Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation	Guide pesticide use, protect health and environment
Gender Equality and Women's empowerment	The Federal Republic of Somalia Provisional Constitution (2012), Article 11	Ministry of Women and Human rights development	Conduct Gender Assessment, develop Gender Action Plan, ensure gender-focused development
Prohibition of Forced and Child Labor	The Federal Republic of Somalia Provisional Constitution (2012), Article 14	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	Ban on forced and child labor, contractors held liable for compliance
Fair Labour Relations and Protection from Abuse	The Federal Republic of Somalia Provisional Constitution (2012), Article 24	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	Ensure fair labor practices, protect against sexual abuse and discrimination

20. Hal-Abuur project will be executed by Sadar Institute, on behalf of the Ministry of Environment & Climate Change and with oversight from the Project Steering Committee, thereby strongly limiting the risk of non-compliance with relevant Laws. Although primarily compliant, risks could arise from service providers who may not fully adhere to national laws related to environment, forest and land resources, livestock, agriculture, gender, and labour. Their compliance will be ensured through contractual arrangements including provisions with reference to relevant Laws.

Principle 2: Access and Equity

21. There is a moderate/low risk that the project would find difficulty in including some of the most vulnerable groups such as women due to traditions and norms in rural areas. No further assessment of potential impacts and risks is required for compliance with access and equity since the project will not reduce or prevent communities in the targeted areas from accessing basic services. The project's targeting strategy will ensure that services supported are provided in a fair, equitable and inclusive manner. The project will take a number of transparent steps that will help ensure that the benefits of the project are being distributed fairly with no discrimination nor favouritism. Primarily, project targeting has been agreed with the government and comprises criteria based on gender and age quotas, but also on geographical targeting based on a climate vulnerability assessment, poverty, unemployment and likelihood of gender equality/empowerment. The project will advertise broadly through the mass media (radio, social media, cluster/village/community meetings and workshops, etc.) for the implementation of an outreach/mobilisation strategy. Additionally, conflict resolution mechanisms will constitute a pillar of project interventions, and will be mainstreamed throughout the project, as will household methodologies for gender inclusion such as the GALS. The project implementation will heavily rely on Cluster Level Facilitators (CLeFs), whose role in ensuring targeting approaches are well understood and respected will be critical.

22. The project's targeting is sensitive to women and youth: the project will pay special attention to women and youth for equitable access to the benefits of the project. The social benefits are multiple: building social capital, economic empowerment and social inclusion (especially of women, youth and vulnerable households, with women and youth respectively representing at least 50% of project beneficiaries). The project wholly relies on participatory and bottom-up processes (notably through the establishment of 10 cluster-level integrated climate-resilient investment plans). A participatory process will be followed for engaging with stakeholders throughout the project including Federal Member States, regions, and districts; community-based organisations and local communities.

23. Finally, IFAD will widely promote its grievance procedures, providing a means for anyone who believes they have been wronged to seek appropriate remedies. By prioritizing transparency and accountability, the project aims to mitigate any adverse effects on affected individuals and ensure their rights are protected.

Principle 3: Marginalised and Vulnerable Groups

24. The project is not expected to pose any risks to the marginalised and vulnerable communities. A gender and targeting specialist was part of the formulation team and conducted a poverty, targeting and gender-sensitive assessment in the targeted regions and districts. The project targeting strategy has been designed based on these assessments and is presented in section I. A. The specialist collected information and undertook consultations with relevant institutions, officials and provided the guidelines for consultation of marginalized and vulnerable members of the local communities by the project's Executing Entity, Sadar Institute (women, elderly people, young unemployed), to understand their socioeconomic constraints, and identify the most suitable specific adaptation activities that can benefit these them.

25. **Targeting**. The project will cover a total of 10 communities and villages clusters (for a total of 20-30 villages/communities reached), and reach out to up to 35,400 people. Targeting will have a focus on women and youth with 50 % and 50 % quotas respectively. Particular focus will be given to identify vulnerable widowed women headed HHs, HHs with children under two years, pregnant women and youth. Quotas for participation of marginalized groups and minorities (including IDPs) will be established. The baseline survey, district level diagnostics, and participatory planning processes will allow to further detail and the refine the marginalised and vulnerable groups, and tailor capacity development activities in different languages (for minority communities and the internally displaced). The projects primary target groups will be poor small-scale agropastoral and pastoral HHs, who are vulnerable to climate risks and have little access to assets and economic opportunities due to social exclusion, marginalisation, conflict and the negative impact of climate change. The project will rely on a mix of targeting approaches, in line of best practices from other initiatives in Somalia. In particular, the project will use community-based and self-targeting approaches, by which communities participatorily define targeting criteria based on current context and specific needs (e.g. number of livestock, surface of land, recent shocks suffered, etc.).

26. **Gender**. The vast majority of women are still subject to gender inequalities in Somalia, and the project will put special emphasis on addressing gender inequalities and empowering women, as it is vital to meet the challenge of reducing the vulnerability of livelihoods and ecosystems to the negative impacts of climate change. This will be done in three ways: (i) recognition of gender differences in adaptation needs and capacities as part of landscape planning processes; (ii) gender-equitable participation and influence in adaptation decision-making processes; (iii) gender-equitable access to benefits resulting from investments in adaptation. In addition, special attention will be given to promoting a more equitable balance in workloads and in the sharing of economic and social benefits between women and men, by promoting household methodologies, such as the Gender Action and Learning System[132]. Finally, female role models will be promoted. Women will make up 50% of the beneficiaries and their participation in the project will be monitored.

27. As part of the formulation, and as included in Annex 5: a Gender Assessment has been conducted, and a Gender Strategy together with a Gender Action Plan have been established. The Gender Action Plan includes costed activities (embedded in the project), responsibilities and indicators to ensure and monitor gender equality and women empowerment under the project. The project aims to promote gender equity and women's empowerment through its targeting strategy. This includes ensuring alignment with the gender inclusion policies of both the Adaptation Fund and IFAD during the development of the full project proposal. In line with these policies, and given the key role that women

[132] See Integrating the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) in IFAD operations

play in both agriculture and livestock activities, the project will address challenges that have traditionally limited women's productivity, particularly access to extension services and inputs. An analysis of processes will be conducted to determine risk points where women tend to be excluded, for example, selection for asset transfers and labour-intensive public works using the Cash for Work modality.

28. The risks related to women being left out of project interventions as a result of traditions and norms in rural areas are assessed in detail in the first section of Annex 5 (Gender Assessment). The Gender Strategy evidences and recommends activities to address the barrier of traditions and norms of rural areas to women's meaningful participation in the project, along three strategic pathways: "*(i) Promote economic empowerment to enable rural women and men to have equal opportunities to participate in and benefit from profitable economic activities; (ii) Enable women and men to have an equal voice and influence in rural institutions and organizations; and (iii) Achieve a more equitable balance of workloads and the sharing of economic and social benefits between women and men*". All recommend activities under these three pathways have been costed and mainstreamed under the corresponding project's outputs. Clear implementation arrangements are also outlined in the strategy and reflected in the Gender Action Plan and Results Framework (Annex 5). The Project's Management Unit will notably include a Gender and Social Inclusion Officer in charge of managing the Gender Action Plan, ensuring its delivery, and the monitoring of progress with regards to the proposed indicators.

29. **Youth**. The project focuses on youth as a vulnerable group[133]. Youth will represent 50 % of beneficiaries, this is because: (i) 70% of youth in Somalia are unemployed; (ii) young people are at risk of radicalisation form Al-Shabaab ad Islamic State insurgencies; and (iii) in Somalia youth migrate seeking better living standards as result of droughts, loss of livelihoods, communal conflict, alongside low levels of employable skills and limited essential services. The participation and livelihoods of young people will be strengthened through participatory approaches, appropriate training, field schools and coaching adapted to the activities they wish to undertake.

30. **Non-discrimination** of vulnerable people applies to all vulnerable categories as mentioned above but also extends to the elderly and persons with disabilities. In all consultations and at all times, IFAD will ensure that no vulnerable people are discriminated. Should any of the beneficiaries fall into this category, efforts will be made to facilitate access to the project's services, events, and any other activities related to the project.

31. **Minorities** in the project area includes a number of groups:

- **Minorities and non-minority clans**. Several vulnerable and disadvantaged groups otherwise known as the 0.5 groups, such as the Aweer/Boni and Eyle, and possibly some Bantu/Jareer groups, are considered minority and marginalised groups. Importantly, the status of the minority clans is relative and depends on the local context. Dominant clans often exclude members of other groups from effective participation in governing institutions and subject them to discrimination in employment, judicial proceedings, and access to public services. Minority groups, often lacking armed militias, are disproportionately targeted by faction militias and majority clan members, facing numerous forms of discrimination. In addition to the differences in origin, many members of minority groups speak a language or dialect different from Northern Standard Somali (spoken as a first language by 60% of the population),[134] , providing additional barriers in accessing information, aid, and basic services.

  32. The implementation will assess the presence and needs of minorities within the target areas in collaboration with the local communities. The outcome of these assessment will determine whether a social inclusion strategy is required to ensure equitable access to the project. This will be further supported by project mainstreamed conflict resolution mechanisms.

- **Internally Displaced People**. IDPs currently account for about 18 % of the country's population – between 2.6 and 2.9 million people. Although concentrated around Mogadishu, IDPs are located in every region of the country and are made up predominantly of women and children. They tend to be poor, the most reliant on food aid and have the poorest nutritional status in the country.

33. **Monitoring**. Hal-Abuur's PMU will include an M&E specialist, M&E assistant as well as a Gender and Social Inclusion Officer. The M&E assistant and Gender and Social Inclusion Officer will be charged specifically with ensuring that the system collects gender and age disaggregated data, produces gender

[133] Somalia's National Youth Policy focuses on the Somali youth between 15 and 40 years old.
[134] Language data for Somalia, ClearGlobal, 2021. https://clearglobal.org/language-data-for-somalia/

knowledge and monitors investments in poor and climate vulnerable regions, and that the Grievance Redress Mechanism is well-functioning and successfully addresses any issue raised. Specific attention will be given to participatory reflective monitoring of the inclusiveness of landscape management. The gender perspective will be systematically mainstreamed at individual and organisational levels into PMU management from the start via quantitative and qualitative participatory monitoring and evaluation, ad hoc studies, and workshops. As per AF gender policy, during implementation the Gender and Social Inclusion Officer will ensure project compliance with the gender policy guidelines. The assessment will include but not be limited to the questions under Implementation, Performance Monitoring and Evaluation.

Principle 4: Human Rights

34. No further assessment of potential impacts and risks is required for compliance with human rights since the project is designed to respect and adhere to the requirements of all relevant conventions on human rights in compliance with the ESP. Among the Guiding Values and Principles for IFAD's Social Environmental Climate Assessment Procedures, is the principle to "*support borrowers in achieving good international practices by supporting the realization of United Nations principles expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the toolkits for mainstreaming employment and decent work*".

35. Somalia has ratified five of the nine principal human rights instruments including the Convention against torture; civil and political rights; convention on the elimination of discrimination against women; racial discrimination; and rights of the child. Somalia signed and ratified the African (Banjul) Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, in 1985. Somalia also signed but has not ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol) in 2006. Somalia has not signed Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Somalia has yet to adopt a permanent constitution, establish a constitutional court or implement a functioning human rights commission to promote and protect human rights.

36. Past experiences suggest that establishing digital identity systems paves the way to expanding surveillance regimes. The project will refrain from using biometrics (based on associated Human Rights concerns, statistically significative issues/lack of effectiveness of fingerprinting for people involved in manual works such as pastoralists and agropastoralists, and observed reluctance of local populations to be scanned in relation with privacy and security concerns). Any observed human rights violations will be reported through the project grievances procedure.

Principle 5: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

37. As detailed in sections II. K and III. C, the project has conducted a Gender Assessment as required by the AF Gender Policy, which is presented in Annex 5 of the project proposal. The GA analysed gender in terms of gender-based violence; access to land; poverty; culture context of gender roles; the gendered division of labour; gender-based power structures; gender legal and national strategies; differentiated climate change impacts on gender; and the gender-related issues raised from community consultations. The assessment assisted the project design in taking proactive measures to integrate gender-focused development strategies, thus ensuring that no risk is posed to the principle of gender equality and women's empowerment. Namely, the Gender Assessment supports economic empowerment to enable rural women and men to have equal opportunities to participate in and benefit from profitable economic activities; enable women and men to have an equal voice and influence in rural institutions and organizations; and achieve a more equitable balance of workloads and the sharing of economic and social benefits between women and men.

38. **Analysis**. Somalia's patriarchal society is organised and managed along the clan system, with among others, entrenched discriminatory social structures that perpetuate gender inequality. UNDP indicates that Somalia's Gender Index is 0.674 , which ranks it 164th globally for 2022. Somalia has not signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Women are still seen primarily as homemakers, to raise children and attend to domestic duties. Women have to overcome sexist stereotypes about women in the workplace, clan-based identity politics that center men, and deep-rooted gender-based violence.

39. Cyclical droughts occur every three to five years, while catastrophic droughts last 20 to 25 years in Somalia. Droughts present a number of risks for women and girls. Women and girls (especially pregnant and nursing women) are the first to face malnutrition in times of food scarcity. Somali women face additional restrictions on their mobility, types of jobs they have access to, capital and business networks. With increasing male migration, women take on labour and domestic responsibilities.

Droughts also reduce women's access to critical services, including health, financial and social protection services. Droughts can exacerbate risks of gender-based violence in all its forms. Walking increased distances in search of water puts women at greater risk of violence. Women might be forced to exchange sex for food, and girls forced into early marriage. Intimate partner violence has been seen to increase in times of drought. Displaced women and girls sleeping in open spaces face additional security risks. [135]

40. Women have important and diverse roles in agriculture and are key players in rural households in terms of adaptation to climate change. More females are employed in the agricultural sector than men - at 67.8 % compared to males at 60.1 %. In rural areas, men have a higher engagement at 51.0 %, compared to 42.4 % for women. However, in nomadic areas, women engagement is higher at 22.7 %, compared to men at 14.4 %. Women in Somalia tend to be excluded from conservation and management of land, lack access to agricultural extension services and institutional credit, and encounter barriers to participation in development, planning and policymaking processes.

41. **Design**. IFAD's poverty targeting and gender sensitive design and implementation guidelines were applied for the design of the project. A targeting and gender specialist was part of the design team and conducted a poverty, targeting and gender assessment in the project areas and ensured relevant measures were included to give women central role in the project. In order to overcome any potential risk related to this principle, the project has developed a proactive strategy for the participation of women in project activities. Gender considerations have been integrated throughout project design. Specific gender objectives, activities, dis-aggregated targets and budget allocations have been defined. The project will also encourage the inclusion of women in the PMU, service provider teams, and in the selection of Cluster Level Facilitators.

42. **Inclusion**. The project will put special emphasis on addressing gender inequalities and empowering women, as it is vital to meet the challenge of reducing the vulnerability of livelihoods and ecosystems to the negative impacts of climate change. This will be done in three ways: (i) recognition of gender differences in adaptation needs and capacities as part of landscape planning processes; (ii) gender-equitable participation and influence in adaptation decision-making processes; (iii) gender-equitable access to benefits resulting from investments in adaptation. In addition, special attention will be given to promoting a more equitable balance in workloads and in the sharing of economic and social benefits between women and men, by promoting household methodologies, such as the GALS. Finally, female role models will be promoted.

43. It is expected that a minimum of 50 % of the Hal-Abuur project beneficiaries will be women, and 50 % youth. The project will adopt the following targeting measures: sensitization of implementers to the strategic interests and needs of smallholder pastoralists and agropastoralists, women and youth; direct targeting through quotas to ensure participation in project–related activities for women, youth and smallholders; appropriate mobilisation and operational measures to address specific constraints faced by women, youth and poorer smallholder pastoralists and agropastoralists; geographical targeting through selection criteria which prioritize women and youth.

Principle 6: Core Labour rights

44. The project will not negatively affect Core Labour Rights. Somalia has been a member of the International Labour Organization (ILO) since 1960 and has ratified 26 ILO Conventions and 1 Protocol. This includes the ratification of the Violence and Harassment Convention, (No. 190) in 2019.

45. The first generation of the International Labour Organisation's Somalia Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) was launched in 2023. The programme will focus on a) promoting fair opportunities for decent jobs and skills development, b) promoting social protection for all and social care to families, c) strengthening institutions of work for effective labour administration and d) promoting social dialogue for protection of labour right.

46. Somalia has had a Labour Code since 1972. In 2019, the Government developed a revised Labour Code in collaboration with the International Labour Organisation. It includes provisions on maternity leave, granting women three months maternity leave with full pay, and introduces the concept of paternity leave. The Draft Code also removes the restrictions imposed under the current Labour Code on night work for women. Further, while the Labour Code is pending enactment, the Government has

[135] Why women and girls matter in Somalia's climate crisis, KRISTINA SVENSSONHELENE CARLSSON REX MARCH 08, 2022, World Bank Blogs, https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/nasikiliza/marking-international-womens-day-why-women-and-girls-matter-somalias-climate-crisis

endorsed a policy granting women workers four months maternity leave, and two hours off during the working hours to breastfeed post maternity leave period.[136]

47. Activities throughout the project are targeted at reducing inequality and raising gender awareness for gender equality to overcome traditional stereotypes regarding the role of women in society. Positive discrimination in favour of women and youth will be used to provide fair and equal opportunity to women who seek employment as labour and gain from wages earned. Additionally, the project will create climate resilient employment enabling marginalised and vulnerable groups including unemployed youth and women to increase and stabilize their income. The relevant international and national labour laws guided by ILO labour and standards will be followed throughout project implementation. The project will respect, promote, and realize the principles mentioned in the ILO Declaration of Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, and ensure that they are respected and realized in good faith by the Executing Entity and other contractors.

48. IFAD has a longstanding partnership agreement with ILO dating back to 1979. The Project will furthermore not engage child labour in any of its activities. The prohibition of child labour will be part of the agreement with the beneficiaries and will be a non-negotiable provision of the agreement. IFAD is also an equal opportunities employer and as such it works to ensure that all its projects are free of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation. The project design ensures quotas for women and youth participation and transparent processes for recruitment as well as raising awareness raising about women and youth participation in decision-making processes

Principle 7: Indigenous Peoples

49. IFAD has not determined Indigenous Peoples to be living within project area in Somalia. This aspect is hence not applicable and does not require further assessment for ESP compliance. As discussed above, several vulnerable and disadvantaged groups are considered minority and marginalised groups. Assessment of these groups within the target area will determine whether further actions are triggered.

Principle 8: Involuntary resettlement

50. No involuntary resettlement is foreseen in any circumstance during project implementation. As such, this aspect is not applicable and does not require further assessment for ESP compliance.

Principle 9: Protection of Natural Habitats

51. The project is not expected to have any negative impact on critical natural habitats, including those that are: (a) legally protected; (b) officially proposed for protection; (c) recognized by authoritative sources for their high conservation value, including as critical habitat; or (d) recognized as protected by traditional or indigenous local communities. The regions and districts in which the project will be implemented have been selected based on a vulnerability assessment. The exact project site locations, however, will be determined through a participatory process under the output 1.1.

52. The **Hobyo grasslands and shrublands** is a desert and xeric scrubland ecoregion in Somalia, which includes a belt of coastal dunes, 10 to 15 km wide, along the Indian Ocean coast, extending from north of Hobyo to south of Mogadishu. The ecoregion extends for approximately 800 km along the coast, from about 2º and 5º N latitude. The dunes reach 10 to 15 miles inland from the coast. They are composed of white or orange sand, and are up to 60 meters high. The dunes are geologically recent, and formed over a basement of precambrian rocks. There are some outcrops of limestone among the dunes. Inland it transitions to dry savanna and semi-desert scrublands. While this ecoregion is not recognized as a protected area, it boasts a unique natural habitat. The area will however be excluded from project sites, as project areas will focus in the inland of the Mudug region, and in inland areas of districts in the Lower Shabelle region.

[136] United Nations, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights Human Rights Committee, Initial report submitted by Somalia under article 40 of the Covenant pursuant to the optional reporting procedure, due in 2021*, ** (30 June 2022) https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CCPR%2FC%2FSOM%2F1&Lang=en

Map of Hobyo grasslands and shrublands ecoregion

53. No other areas identified as critical natural habitats have been identified as included in project districts of intervention during the design consultations, and if this were to change during implementation, the sites would be excluded from project site selection. As such, every effort will be made to avoid impacting these critical natural habitat areas.

54. To this effect, and as part of the ESMP, the Executing Entity and PMU will ensure that the project is not implemented in protected areas and will monitor to ensure that the project does not engage in the unjustified conversion or degradation of other critical habitat areas. This includes those officially proposed for protection, recognized by authoritative sources for their high conservation value, or recognized as protected by local communities. The project will repeat screening of project areas against the list of national protected areas and other critical habitats during implementation and will report this in the Project Performance Report (PPR). If any critical habitat cannot be avoided, relevant mitigation measures will be proposed along with an explanation.

55. The project will also implement several measures to benefit natural habitats, including rehabilitation of degraded lands, anti-gullies infrastructure, riverbank protection and stabilization, naturally assisted regeneration, reforestation and afforestation efforts, and other regreening activities, together with sustainable rangeland rehabilitation and management. These proactive steps and in particular temporary grazing bans (enclosures/ex-closure) will help ensure the protection and enhancement of natural habitats within the project areas, thereby supporting biodiversity and ecosystem resilience.

Principle 10: Conservation of Biological Diversity

56. The project is not expected to have any negative impact on critical biological diversity. To mitigate any possible risks, the project will rescreen the project areas for critical biodiversity to ensure there is no new overlap with habitats of IUCN Red List species or other critical biodiversity. This screening will be reported in the PPR. In the event of overlap, mitigation measures will be established, monitored, and reported on by the PMU. The project will ensure that no activities endanger any fauna or flora habitats, particularly endangered endemic species. The table below lists some of the endangered endemic species in the targeted regions.

List of Endangered Endemic Fauna and Flora

Description	Class and name
Fauna red list of endemic endangered species	Somali Wild Ass *(Equus africanus somaliensis,* Speke's Gazelle *(Gazella spekei),* Beira Antelope *(Dorcatragus megalotis), Digdig*
Flora red list of endemic endangered species	Aloe somaliensis

57. The Hal-Abuur project will avoid activities in habitats critical to these species. More generally, Hal-Abuur will promote biodiversity by implementing ecosystem restoration and resilience activities as

outlined under its first outcome (including afforestation, reforestation and reseeding with native species) and notably by supporting the elimination of invasive alien species such as Prosopis, by raising awareness and engaging local communities in conservation efforts, by promoting the establishment of tree nurseries for the production local species seedlings, and by monitoring and reporting on the impact of project activities on biodiversity (including promoting the use of LDSF), with specific mitigation measures for any identified risks. To prevent any involuntary introduction, spread and to address damages from pests, the project will also develop, implement and monitor an integrated pest management plan (outline in Appendix). By adhering to these measures, the project will contribute to the protection and promotion of biodiversity in the Lower Shabelle and Mudug regions of Somalia. Additionally, the project will ensure linkages are established with the UNCBD focal point for the operationalization of the GGWI in Somalia, so as to ensure the Initiative and associate Strategy and Action Plan fully mainstream biodiversity conservation concerns.

Principle 11: Climate Change

58. **GHG emission**. Somalia is a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Paris Agreement and has committed to addressing climate change through its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The country's updated NDC 2021 highlights the importance of building resilience to climate impacts, and has committed to take action and reduce its estimated projected emissions of 107.40 MtCO2eq in 2030 by 30%, despite the country's limited contribution to global GHG emissions. The NDC elaborates measures in the key sectors of energy, agriculture, forestry, transport and waste. The mitigation interventions will be pursued in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and are subject to international support.

59. **GHG offsetting**. The project includes several activities specifically designed to contribute to greenhouse gas (GHG) offsetting, thereby aligning with Somalia's NDC commitments under the Paris Agreement. Key activities that will sequester carbon and reduce GHG emissions include afforestation, reforestation, and naturally assisted regeneration. By planting native trees and shrubs in degraded areas, these efforts will enhance carbon sequestration in both biomass and soil. For example, the establishment of community-managed nurseries will produce indigenous tree seedlings, which will be used for reforestation and afforestation efforts. This not only improves the carbon stock but also restores ecosystems, enhances biodiversity, and provides sustainable livelihoods through the development of Non-Wood Forest Products value chains.

60. Additionally, the project promotes climate-resilient pastoral and agropastoral practices that contribute to GHG offsetting. Techniques such as conservation agriculture, intercropping, and agroforestry integrate trees and shrubs into farming systems, enhancing soil carbon storage and reducing emissions from agricultural activities. Soil and water conservation measures, including the construction of semi-circular bunds and stone lines, improve soil health and water retention, further increasing the land's capacity to sequester carbon. The adoption of heat and drought-tolerant crop varieties also ensures that agricultural productivity is maintained under changing climate conditions, reducing the need for land conversion and associated emissions. Finally, good pastoral practices include reducing the size of herds by eliminating unproductive females, older animals and those affected by diseases, thereby avoiding associated emissions. Overall, these activities collectively contribute to significant GHG offsetting by enhancing carbon sequestration, and promoting sustainable land management practices.

Principle 12: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency

61. The Hal-Abuur project will not pose any significant risks to resource efficiency, particularly concerning water use, nor will it present significant pollution risks. No further assessments will be required beyond the procedures already integrated into the project design. As outlined under Principle 11, the project will not be a net emitter of GHGs. No chemical fertilizers will be promoted through the project. Instead, it will bring substantial environmental benefits through sustainable resource management practices. These include the collection of water and the promotion of efficient water use practices such as soil and water conservation measures, intercropping and agroforestry.

62. The project will support the restoration of degraded land using anti-erosive practices, afforestation, reforestation, and NAR. These activities will enhance the availability of ecosystem services, including carbon sequestration, and mitigate the impacts of extreme climate events. The project's support to NFWP is not expected to produce sources of pollution. Moreover, the project will not promote pesticide use but will instead support the adoption of agroecology and other climate-resilient practices, and follow integrated pest management practices outlined in the pest management plan.

63. **Principle 13: Public Health**

64. The WHO explains that many factors combine together to affect the health of individuals and communities. Whether people are healthy or not, is determined by their circumstances and environment. To a large extent, factors such as where people live, the state of their environment, genetics, income and education levels, and relationships with friends and family all have considerable impacts on health, whereas the more commonly considered factors such as access and use of health care services often have less of an impact. The main overarching determinants of health are: (i) the social and economic environment; (ii) the physical environment, and (iii) the person's individual characteristics and behaviours.

65. Public health is not the primary focus of the project, which aims at building the resilience of agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems and livelihoods to climate change. All proposed interventions will align on the governing laws and procedures in Somalia. The project is expected to have an overall beneficial impact on public health with the restoration of the physical environment, enhanced food security thanks to climate resilient agropastoral and pastoral practices, possible diet diversification thanks to increased incomes and NWFP value chains providing nutritional benefits, and reduced risk of zoonosis thanks to improved animal health resulting from the adoption of good pastoral practices and enhanced veterinary services. The project will improve all the determinants of health presented in the screening table below and as listed by the WHO.

Determinants of health	Health risk	Mitigation measures	Impact on health
Income and social status	Lower income and social status are linked to worse health	Under Component 1.2 the project will create employment opportunities through cash for work. Under 2.2 the project will support the diversification of livelihoods and the development of Non-Wood Forest Product and nurseries value chains primarily benefitting women. As such, the project will reduce the risk on health posed by low income and social status.	Positive
Education	Low education levels are linked with poor health, more stress and lower self-confidence.	Under Component 2 training and education will be provided to improve the adaptive capacity and diversification of pastoral and agropastoral systems.	66. Positive
Physical environment	Hazards in the physical environment can lead to health risks (e.g. toxic fumes from forest fires) Employment and working conditions – people out of employment are less healthy.	The project will also reduce unemployment and increase livelihood possibilities. Both components provide employment opportunities for beneficiaries and include a focus on supporting the alleviation of women's workloads. Under the first component, and by engaging local stakeholders through a landscape management approach the project will increase water availability and filtration. Health risks related to instances of zoonosis are expected to decrease.	67. Positive
Social support networks	Greater support from families, friends and communities is linked to better health	The project will rely on community-based participatory approaches by concentrating its activities in clusters of villages, and working directly with VDCs, CDAs and Resource Users and Management Committees. The project will promote conflict resolution mechanisms and household methodologies (GALS) reinforcing local dynamics and social capital. Similarly, the project will support solidarity mechanisms by establishing cooperatives and other organizations. These actions are expected to strengthen solidarity among the families and the communities.	Positive
Health services	Access and use of services that prevent and treat disease influences health	Through improved livelihoods and employment, the beneficiaries will have improved access to healthcare that will be beneficial for their health.	Positive

Land use	Changes in land use, soil quality, choice of crop have impact on health	The project will support the restoration of ecosystems, thereby increasing their resilience. The project will not promote any land use change but rather restore degraded land. The project will only choose native and locally adapted crop/tree species	Positive
Unsustainable farming	Unsustainable farming including chemical and energy use, biodiversity, organic production methods, and diversity of foods produced	The project will support climate-resilient, low-input practices in line with the principles of agroecology	Positive
Water	Irrigation use and its impact on river/water-table levels and production outputs can have negative impacts on health.	The project will not directly support access to water, but project practices will enhance water conservation, retention and infiltration.	Positive

Principle 14: Physical and Cultural Heritage

68. Somalia has ratified the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, which entered into force for the country on October 23, 2020. Despite this ratification, Somalia does not currently have any properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. However, there are sites on Somalia's Tentative List, including Bushbushle National Park in Jubbaland state and the Hobyo grass and shrubland in Mudug region of Galmudug state, which are considered for future nomination.

69. The Hobyo Grassland and Shrubland presented under Principle 9, Protection of Natural Habitats, has been introduced in February 2024 in UNESCO World Heritage Convention Tentative List for Somalia.[137] The tentative list is an inventory of those properties which each State Party intends to consider for nomination. As mentioned previously, this area is excluded from project sites, as the project will focus in the inland of the Mudug region, and in inland areas of districts in the Lower Shabelle region.

70. No other areas identified as Physical and Cultural Heritage have been identified as included in project districts of intervention during the design consultations, and if this were to change during implementation, the sites would be excluded from project interventions. As such, every effort will be made to avoid impacting Physical and Cultural Heritage sites.

Principle 15: Lands and Soil Conservation

71. The Hal-Abuur project is not expected to have any negative impact on lands and soil conservation. On the contrary, the project is designed to enhance soil health and promote sustainable land management practices. By using and implementing a resilient landscape approach, rehabilitation of degraded land, soil and water conservation techniques such as semi-circular bunds, stone lines, and planting pits (zai), the project will prevent soil erosion and improve soil fertility. These practices will not only protect the soil from degradation but also increase its capacity to retain water and nutrients, which is essential for ecosystem restoration, agricultural productivity and overall resilience to climate change.

72. Positive impacts on lands and soil conservation are anticipated through the project's emphasis on sustainable land management, afforestation, reforestation, and NAR. These activities will help restore degraded lands, increase vegetation cover, and enhance carbon sequestration. The introduction of agroforestry systems will integrate trees and shrubs into farming practices, further improving soil structure and fertility. Additionally, the project's promotion of organic farming practices, such as composting and manure management, will enrich the soil with organic matter and reduce reliance on chemical fertilizers, and promote improved spatial distribution of animals, leading to healthier and more sustainable land use. Overall, the project will contribute significantly to lands and soil conservation, ensuring long-term environmental and agricultural benefits for the targeted regions.

IV. Environment and Social Management Plan

i) Safeguards and Screening Procedures

73. The project has been designed in full compliance with relevant Somali laws, ensuring that all necessary safeguards are integrated into the project selection and implementation procedures. The

[137] https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6753/

formulation process has verified that the project does not overlap with protected natural and cultural heritage sites, as well as areas of critical biodiversity within its intervention areas, and regular verifications of the absence of such sites will be performed during implementation. These elements will be systematically reported in the Project reports, ensuring transparency and accountability. As part of the project reporting, the project will monitor and report on all relevant indicators, including those related to gender and youth. For any indicators that do not meet their targets, the PMU will propose and implement mitigation measures. The consolidated ESMP table below synthesizes the project's safeguards for each priority area of the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) along with the corresponding reporting plan. This approach ensures that all environmental, social, and cultural safeguards are thoroughly addressed and integrated into the project's operations.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN						
Component /Output	**Environmental & social risks**	**Mitigation measures**	**Indicators**	**Person responsible**	**AF ESP**	**Verification**
Component 1. Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia						
Output 1.1. Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans developed	Vulnerable groups including women and minorities are not included in the planning process	Ensure representation through quotas of at least 30% women, 30% youth and 15% minorities	% of women, youth and minorities implicated in planning process	Gender and Social Inclusion Officer	ESP 2. Access and Equity ESP 3. Vulnerable groups ESP 5. Gender Equality	Reports from planning processes including list of participants
	Sites prioritized for interventions overlap with newly created/found protected areas, habitats of IUCN Red List species or other critical biodiversity, or physical and cultural heritage sites	CCRIPs will be screened against all ESPs to ensure no new site-specific risk arises	No site triggers ESP 9, 10 or 14	NRM Specialist and Field Officers	ESP 9. Protection of natural habitats ESP 10. Conservation of biological diversity ESP 14. Physical and Cultural Heritage	CCRIPs ESMPs
Output 1.2. Priority green and resilient measures implemented	Vulnerable groups including women and minorities are not included in Cash for Work activities	Project will rely on participatory and self-targeting which has demonstrated high relevance in including vulnerable groups	% of women and other vulnerable groups benefitting from CfW activities	Gender and Social Inclusion Officer	ESP 2. Access and Equity ESP 3. Vulnerable groups ESP 5. Gender Equality	CfW activity report and timesheets
	Vulnerable groups including women and minorities are not represented in Resource Users and Management Committees	Ensure representation through quotas of at least 30% women, 30% youth and 15% minorities	% of women, youth and minorities included in RUMCs	Gender and Social Inclusion Officer	ESP 2. Access and Equity ESP 3. Vulnerable groups ESP 5. Gender Equality	RUMCs statutes listing participating stakeholders
	Non-compliance of service providers with labour laws and other laws	Direct inscription of compliance with the law in all contracts	Law is respected	Procurement officer and assistant	ESP 1. Compliance with the Law ESP. 6. Core Labour Rights	Number of grievances against service providers (target: 0)
	Revegetation activities do not prioritize indigenous/local species	Any species used for afforestation and restoration activities will be screened to ensure that they will not become invasive and/or compete with other protected species in the area. Sites of natural regeneration will be regularly monitored to ensure invasive species are not affecting their regeneration.	100% of species used are local and present no risk of becoming invasive	Procurement officer and assistant	ESP 10. Conservation of biological diversity	List of plant species for seeds/seedlings procured for restoration activities

	Law on Fauna and Forest Conservation is not complied with when establishing grazing bans	Communities will respect the law for the implementation of grazing bans	Grazing bans are established in compliance with the law	NRM Specialist and Field Officers	ESP 1. Compliance with the Law	Reports on implementation of grazing bans
	Tensions arise around access restriction resulting from grazing bans (social fencing)	Social fencing will be agreed upon participatorily (informed consent) through an extensive consultative process, and will be conducted by the community. Access restrictions will be partial, temporary and yield short term benefits for the community.	Number of conflicts arising around social fencing	NRM Specialist and Field Officers	ESP 2. Access and Equity	Reports on implementation of grazing bans
	The project use of biometrics provokes tensions and data is not properly protected	The project will refrain from using biometrics	No biometrics used	Gender and Social Inclusion Officer Field Officers	ESP 4. Human Rights	Alternative modes of beneficiaries verification used
Component 2. Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia						
Output 2.1. Adaptive capacity of agropastoral and pastoral systems strengthened	Vulnerable groups including women and minorities are not properly represented in agricultural and pastoral capacity building activities	Ensure representation through quotas of at least 50% women, 50% youth and 15% minorities	% of women, youth and minorities included in P/FFS and P/FMNR trainings	Gender and Social Inclusion Officer	ESP 2. Access and Equity ESP 3. Vulnerable groups ESP 5. Gender Equality	Report of trainings and activities
	The project use of biometrics provokes tensions and data is not properly protected	The project will refrain from using biometrics	No biometrics used	Gender and Social Inclusion Officer Field Officers	ESP 4. Human Rights	Alternative modes of beneficiaries verification used
	Proliferation of invasive species in sites targeted for NAR	The project will monitor that no invasive species proliferate in sites targeted for NAR.	No invasive species in NAR sites	NRM Specialist and Field Officers	ESP 10. Conservation of Biological Diversity	Reports from NAR activities and LDSF information
	Targeted communities use pesticides and other chemical inputs to mitigate climate impacts	The project will not promote pesticide use but will instead support the adoption of agroecology and other climate-resilient practices. A Pest Management Plan will be established to mitigate any possible risk and sensitize communities	No pesticides are used	Agropastoralism Officers	ESP 12. Pollution Prevention and Resource efficiency	Pest Management Plan and monitoring of P/FFS implementation
Output 2.2. Diversification of income sources for	Vulnerable groups including women and minorities are excluded from livelihood diversification activities	Livelihood diversification activities include a strong focus on women. Youth and	50% women benefitting 50% youth benefitting	Gender and Social Inclusion Officer	ESP 2. Access and Equity ESP 3. Vulnerable groups	Activities report and statistics from equipment/inputs distribution

resilient livelihoods ensured		minorities will also be priority targets	15% minorities benefitting		ESP 5. Gender Equality	
	Women are exposed to GBV as a result of backlash further to their inclusion in the project	Use of household methodologies (GALS) to directly address and fight GBV in communities	Trends in reported cases of GBV	Gender and Social Inclusion Officer Field Officers	ESP 5. Gender Equality	Activities report from the Gender and Social Inclusion Officer
	The project use of biometrics provokes tensions and data is not properly protected	The project will refrain from using biometrics	No biometrics used	Gender and Social Inclusion Officer Field Officers	ESP 4. Human Rights	Alternative modes of beneficiaries verification used
	Revegetation activities do not prioritize indigenous/local species	Any species used for in nurseries will be screened to ensure that they will not become invasive and/or compete with other protected species in the area. Sites of natural regeneration will be regularly monitored to ensure invasive species are not affecting their regeneration.	100% of species used are local and present no risk of becoming invasive	Agropastoralism officers	ESP 10. Conservation of biological diversity	List of plant species for seeds/seedlings produced in nurseries
Component 3. Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia						
Output 3.1. National Strategy and Action Plan to Implement the GGWI in Somalia elaborated **Output 3.2**. National and local stakeholders' capacities to implement GGWI in Somalia reinforced	Women and minorities are excluded from the process	The project will ensure proper representation of and participation to trainings under these outputs for women and minorities	50% women and 15% minorities included in trainings	Gender and Social Inclusion Officer	ESP 3. Vulnerable groups ESP 5. Gender Equality	Training reports

74. While ESIAs are not required, the project will ensure rapid screenings of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans against the 15 ESP are conducted as part of their preparation and to raise awareness on Environmental and Social Safeguards within targeted communities (template is provided in Appendix). The adoption of a General Environment and social Policy by the project in line with the provisions and eligibility restrictions presented in the table below.

Policy issue	Project General Environmental and Social Policy
ESP 1 Compliance with the Law	The project interventions will comply with relevant national environmental laws, policies and regulations. The PMU will ensure service providers and contractors comply with relevant laws by including dedicated provisions in their contracts.
ESP 2 Access and Equity	The project will ensure equal access to training, equipment and services. Gender equity, integration of youth and environmental sustainability were pursued as key cross-cutting themes in the project design.
ESP 3 Marginalised and Vulnerable Groups.	The Project will not fund any intervention that could have a negative impact on marginalize and vulnerable groups.
ESP 4 Human Rights	The project will ensure to respect and adhere to all the relevant conventions on human rights
ESP 5 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	The project recognizes the different impact that project investments might have according to gender, and will only finance gender-responsive measures to address the needs and constraints of women and men, such as quotas for trainings and access to equipment, support of women led value chains and promotion of household methodologies.
ESP 6 Core Labour Rights	The project interventions directly or indirectly supporting job opportunities will ensure compliance with relevant laws guided by the ILO standards.
ESP 7 Indigenous People	Not applicable
ESP 8 Involuntary Resettlement	The project will not fund any intervention that leads to or gives rise to possibility of involuntary resettlement.
ESP 9 Protection of Natural Habitats	The Project will not fund any intervention that encroaches into any declared or proposed protected area of natural habitats or that result in the conversion of natural habitat to other purposes.
ESP 10 Conservation of Biodiversity	The project will not fund any intervention that negatively affects wild species populations and conservation status.
ESP 11 Climate Change	The project will not fund approaches and techniques that are not compliant with the mitigation and adaptation priorities detailed in Somalia updated NDC and Adaptation communications to UNFCCC and other governmental documents.
ESP 12 Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	The project will not fund any intervention that overexploits, damages and/or degrades key resources such as freshwater, soil, vegetation cover, and agro-biodiversity such as local breeds and crop species and varieties.
ESP 13 Human Health	The project will not adversely affect human health in, among other, areas of income and social status; education; physical environment; social support networks; health services; land use; unsustainable farming; and water.
ESP 14 Physical and Cultural Heritage	The project will not fund any intervention that displaces, damages, makes it inoperative and/or inaccessible any physical and human resource that is of historical or cultural significance.
ESP 15 Lands and Soil Conservation	The project will not fund measures and technologies that increase the risk of land degradation.

ii) Consultation

75. **Design consultations**. The formulation of the Hal-Abuur project was conducted in two phases: the preparation of the Concept Note from September to November 2023, and the preparation of the project proposal from April to June 2024. The Concept Note preparation consultations (involving Federal Ministries, Technical and Financial Partners, NGOs, beneficiaries from ongoing IFAD projects and resource persons) were conducted remotely, owing to the security conditions in the country. The project proposal preparation was done in a hybrid manner. A number of remote consultations were conducted by the international formulation team (with Federal Ministries, Technical and Financial Partners, NGOs, projects and resource persons), while field level consultations in targeted states and regions were conducted by Sadar (with State level Ministries, Village Committees and Elders, vulnerable groups, VSLAs, agropastoralists, pastoralists, riverine producers and private sector stakeholders). Throughout this process, a wide range of stakeholders was consulted, both at Federal and State/Regional level.

Special attention was given to ensure a gender and youth focus in these consultations. As such, institutions dealing with gender and youth issues, both public and from the civil society, were consulted. Male and female potential beneficiaries and stakeholders were consulted both separately and in mixed groups. Moreover, the appropriateness of time and location of consultation meetings, especially for women, was taken into account. The consultative process (including lists of stakeholders consulted) is detailed in Annex 2: Stakeholder consultation process.

76. All stakeholder consulted confirmed the relevance of the project and its approaches. The main issues emerging from consultations were related to droughts and other climate disasters such as floods. In Galmudug, communities noted that key impacts from climate change resulted in increased heat, prolonged droughts leading to water shortages for livestock, and a lack of pasture. This has resulted in reduced livestock numbers, erosion of roads, and the formation of sinkholes. These changes have severely affected the livelihoods and sustainability of the community. In the Lower Shabelle, observed climate change impacts include crop failures and heavy floods, leading to increased water stress and a rise in pests and diseases. The need for capacity building is evident, particularly in establishing demonstration farms to help producers address climate adaptation challenges effectively.

77. **ESMP Consultations**. Project consultations will at all times be gender-sensitive and inclusive of vulnerable and marginalised groups, including as part of any screening and mitigation measures that could be needed for ESP 9, 10, and 14, should new relevant areas pertaining to these principles be identified during implementation. The project will have regular consultations with beneficiaries throughout the project, and its implementation will rely on Cluster Level Facilitators recruited within the communities. In particular, the project stakeholder engagement and consultative process will be continuous throughout project implementation and entail:

- The participatory identification of project clusters (with relevant stakeholders from from the State to the Regional, District and local levels: Authorities, FMOs, CBOs, local projects, etc.).
- The selection of Cluster Level Facilitators, in consultation with VDCs and CDAs as well as any other relevant CBO, and the consolidation/creation of VDCs and CDAs (establishment of by-laws, capacity building and registration with local authorities).
- Information campaigns on project activities at project onset.
- The mainstreaming of conflict resolution mechanisms and Gender Action Learning System methodology throughout project activities.
- The engagement of representatives from all members of the community for the preparation of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans, which will guide all project interventions, and at the level of which a screening against the 15 ESP will be performed (as per the rapid ESI screening included in Appendix 1).
- The creation of Resource Users and Management Committees and development of associated management plans as part of ecosystem restoration measures, entailing consultative process and briefing sessions on restoration actions, Cash for Work modalities, possible grazing bans, by laws for the management of the site, etc.
- Farmer/Pastoralists led approaches and peer to peer diffusion of knowledge through capacity building activities under the second component (P/FMNR and P/FFS).
- Support to cooperatives under output 2.2, based on their needs identified through direct engagement.
- The project will also engage all relevant sectoral Ministries and partners at the Federal and State level, through the establishment of a GGWI coalition under component 3.

78. This process will enable continuous discussion and identification of possible environmental and social risks and mitigation measures throughout implementation.

iii) Grievance Mechanism

79. The project will utilize the existing IFAD grievance mechanism to allow those affected to raise concerns that the project is not complying with its social and environmental policies or commitments, first by establishing a grievance mechanism at project level, drawing from the existing mechanisms used by IFAD in Somalia. The consultative process with the community and beneficiaries aims to ensure prevention of grievances that might arise from the project activities. Grievance mechanisms will consider the complexities related to rural locations, traditional decision-making structures and existing social tensions. However, if there are any grievances, the below redress mechanism is proposed:

- **Community level GRM**. Some communities already have their own community-based system for grievance. These structures are within the village structure through the existing village

leadership and the Elders/clan Council. The legitimacy of village leadership involvement is the vast amount of knowledge they have about land ownership and proximity to affected households. However, not all grievance cases are resolved within the traditional system, so other superior authorities need to be involved to follow up on open cases. It is worth noting that all possible community-based approaches are prioritized, and efforts are made to ensure that complaints are resolved at that level. The judicial system is used as a last resort. Project support to conflict resolution mechanisms will empower communities to better handle grievances and resolve conflicts before they escalate.

- **Project level GRM**. The guiding principles to follow when resolving a complaint include, but are not limited to: fairness, respect for human rights, compliance with national regulations, consistency of standards, equality, honesty of transparency, and above all respect for each other. Grievance redress mechanism should be shared with the community during the project inception workshop and subsequent meetings with the beneficiaries and follows these principles:

    (i) As part of the grievance redress mechanism, the contact details of the project partners (Project Coordinator and Field Officers) should be made available to stakeholders including project beneficiaries and the communities. Contact numbers would be displayed at common or predominant places along–with the project details. This is expected to promote social auditing.

    (ii) Complaints must be put forward by at least two people who are both nationals of the country concerned and/or living in the project area.

    (iii) Complaints from foreign locations or anonymous complaints will not be taken into account.

    (iv) Complaints must concern projects currently under design or implementation. Complaints concerning closed projects, or those that are more than 95 % disbursed, will not be considered.

  All written or verbal complaints received will be registered in the PMU database by the project representative. After registration, the complaint will be assessed and forwarded to the relevant teams. After that, the parties will investigate the legitimacy of the complaint and plan future directions. Fact-finding will be conducted with the petitioner, village/community leader, and PMU officer. Suggestions on how to resolve the complaint will be discussed and the complainant will be advised accordingly. Once the petitioner approves and the remedy is implemented, the complaint is approved as resolved.

  Grievances are aimed to be addressed at the field level by the project team which will be the first level of redress mechanism. If the grievance is not resolved at the field level, it will be escalated to the PMU and then to IFAD who will be responsible for addressing grievances related to violation of any of the provisions of Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund. All grievances received and actions taken on them will be put up before the PMU and Steering Committee meetings and will also be included in the progress reports for monitoring purposes.

- **IFAD level "SECAP Redress Service" GRM**. The IFAD Enhanced Complaints Procedure complements project-level grievance redress mechanisms if the PMU or any governmental body overseeing the lead agency do not respond adequately, or if the complainants feel they may be subject to retaliation from these entities. IFAD guarantees confidentiality if requested by the complainants. Complaints can be submitted in the language of the complainants by letter, email (SECAPcomplaints@ifad.org) and/or the web form available at https://www.ifad.org/en/accountability-and-complaints-procedures.

- **The Ad hoc Complaint Handling Mechanism (ACHM) of the Adaptation Fund** can be directly used in cases where the Parties have failed to reach a mutually satisfactory solution through the implementing entities' grievance mechanism within a year. The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat independently manages all aspects related to the ACHM, under the oversight of the Ethics and Finance Committee of the Board. Guidance to ACHM are available at this link: Ad Hoc Complaint Handling Mechanism - Adaptation Fund.

V. Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements

80. As described in section III. E of the project proposal, Hal-Abuur will have a comprehensive monitoring and reporting system that will include quarterly reports, technical reports, annual project reports, the AF PPR tracking, annual IFAD supervision mission reports, a Mid-term Review and a final evaluation and completion survey.

81. The monitoring and reporting of the ESMP will be commensurate with the limited ESMP required for the project. ESP compliance for risks identified under section IV.i) will be reported on through the annual PPR and supervision missions to verify that all relevant mitigation measures are being effectively implemented based on identified means of verification.

i) Implementation schedule

82. The implementation schedule of ESMP will be as follows

Activities	Time					
	PY1	PY2	PY3	PY4	PY5	PY6
Development of technical guidelines for the project, including the PMP	Q4					
Capacity building of project team and communities	Q4					
Environmental and Social Screenings	Q3-Q4	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4
ESMP of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plan	Q3-Q4			Q1-Q2		
Implementation of ESMP		Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4
Monitoring and reporting of ESMP		Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4

ii) Cost for ESMP

83. The preparation and implementation of ESMP will have costs that have been built into the project budget. The cost implications and their source of funds will be as follows:

ESMP related activity	Source of funding to cover costsl
Development of technical guidelines for the project, including the PMP	Built-in the Project Costs
Capacity building of project team and communities	Built-in the Project Costs
Environmental and Social Screening	Built-in the Project Costs
ESMP of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plan	Built-in the Project Costs
Implementation of ESMP	Built-in the Project Costs
Monitoring and reporting of ESMP	Built-in the Project Costs

84. The institutional arrangements include the distribution of roles and responsibilities in the preparation of Screening and in the implementation of ESMP. The key players and their responsibilities will be as follows:

Organisation/designation	Responsibility
Project Steering Committee	Review of ESMP of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plan
FMS/Regions/Districts	ESMP of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plan
IFAD/PMU – Project Coordinator, NRM Specialist, and G&SI Officer	Consolidation of information from monitoring at district level; Verification of compliance with relevant laws. Preparation of ESMP of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plan
PMU Field Staff	Preparation of ESMP of Community Climate Resilient Investment Plan Discussion of Screening and ESMP in the community at cluster level. Implementation of the ESMP at the local level and monitoring of ESMP implementation. <u>At District level</u> Identification of project risks related to ESP 9, 10 and 14 (if new areas of interest are identified, and proposition of corresponding mitigation solutions); Verification of compliance with relevant Laws.
Other implementation partners	<u>At local level</u> Identification of project risks related to ESP 9, 10 and 14 (if new areas of interest are identified, and proposition of corresponding mitigation solutions); Verification of compliance with relevant Laws.

Appendix 1 – Indicative Format of ESI Rapid Screening for CCRIPs

1. Project Description
1.1 Description of the proposed operations and capacity building activities
1.2 Risk exposure maps of project intervention zones (watersheds) and interrelation diagrams of project stakeholders
1.3 Territories covered by economic stimulus (clusters, better accessibility)
1.4 Landscape areas for which intervention improved resilience to climate risks
1.5 Socio-demographic description of Settlements that will be affected

2. Baseline Condition
2.1 Description of existing environmental and social condition
2.2 Maps and other data that has been collected

3. Environment Impacts and Risks
The Screening will be in terms of (a) Direct Environmental Risks; (b) Direct Environmental Impacts; (c) Indirect Environmental Risks; and (d) Indirect Environmental Risks on the following issues.

- Compliance with the Law
- Protection of Natural Habitats
- Conservation of Biological Diversity
- Climate Change
- Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency
- Public Health
- Physical and Cultural Heritage
- Land and Soil Conservation

4. Social Impacts and Risks
The screening will be in terms of (a) Direct Social Risks; (b) Direct Social Impacts; (c) Indirect Social Risks; and (d) Indirect Social Risks on the following issues.

- Compliance with the Law
- Access and Equity
- Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups
- Human Rights
- Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment
- Core Labour Rights
- Involuntary Resettlement
- Public Health
- Physical and Cultural Heritage

5. Analysis of Alternatives
Description of alternatives that were identified and their Screening in terms of:
(a) Direct and Indirect Environment and Social Impact
(b) Opportunities for enhancing environmental and social benefits

6. Recommendations Risk Management options in terms of:
(i) Preventing Risk
(ii) Avoiding Risk
(iii) Mitigating Risk
(iv) Transferring Risk
(v) Absorbing Risk

6. Process Note for the preparation of ESI Screening
6.1 Consultations held with different stakeholders in the community
6.2 Consultations held with women and youth
6.3 Consultations held with settlement representatives
6.4 Consultations held with relevant municipal authorities and services

Appendix 2 – Indicative Format of ESMP

1. Management Plan

Environmental and Social Risk Screening	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Schedule for the Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for execution of the mitigation measure
Compliance with the law spatial plans and other protection schemes			
Access and equity			
Marginalized and vulnerable groups			
Human rights			
Gender equity and women empowerment			
Core labour rights			
Ethnic diversity			
Involuntary resettlement			
Protection of natural habitat			
Conservation of biological diversity			
Climate change			
Pollution prevention and resource efficiency			
Human Health			
Physical and cultural heritage			
Lands and soil conservation			

2. Consultation and public disclosure

The plan for consultation and public disclosure of the ESMP will be recorded here. The plan will be for:

(a) Consultations for preparation and implementation of ESMP
(b) Consultation with women of the settlement
(c) Notification to settlement when will the activities be implemented
(d) Disclosure of Monitoring and Sub-Project Completion report

3. Monitoring Plan

The monitoring plan will comprise of the parameters for monitoring and the frequency with which the monitoring will be carried out. The recording and reporting procedures will also form part of the monitoring plan.

Environmental and Social Risk Screening	Monitored parameter	Responsibility for monitoring	Recording and frequency
Compliance with the law and spatial plan			
Access and equity			
Marginalized and vulnerable groups			
Human rights			
Gender equity and women empowerment			
Core labour rights			
Ethnic diversity			
Involuntary resettlement			

Protection of natural habitat			
Conservation of biological diversity			
Climate change			
Pollution prevention and resource efficiency			
Human Health			
Physical and cultural heritage			
Lands and soil conservation			

4. ESMP Completion Report

Appendix 3 – Indicative PPR Accompanying report

1. Project Description

1.1 Description of the proposed operation
1.2 Maps and diagrams of the project site
1.3 Area that will be affected and impacted
1.4 Settlements that will be affected
1.5 Population that will be affected (attach list of households)

2. Baseline Condition

2.1 Description of existing environmental and social condition.
2.2 Attach maps and other data that has been collected.

3. Environment Impacts and Risks

The Screening will be in terms of: (a) Direct Environmental Risks; (b) Direct Environmental Impacts; (c) Indirect Environmental Risks; and (d) Indirect Environmental Risks on the compliance with the following ESPs:

i. Compliance with the Law;
ii. Protection of Natural Habitats;
iii. Core labour rights;
iv. Conservation of Biological Diversity;
v. Climate Change;
vi. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency;
vii. Public Health;
viii. Physical and Cultural Heritage;
ix. Land and Soil Conservation.

4 Social Impacts and Risks

The Screening will be in terms of: (a) Direct Environmental Risks; (b) Direct Environmental Impacts; (c) Indirect Environmental Risks; and (d) Indirect Environmental Risks on the compliance with the following ESPs:

i. Compliance with the Law;
ii. Access and Equity;
iii. Marginalised and Vulnerable Groups;
iv. Human Rights;
v. Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment;
vi. Core Labour Rights;
vii. Public Health;
viii. Physical and Cultural Heritage.

5. Analysis of Alternatives

Description of alternatives that were identified and their Screening in terms of: (a) Direct and Indirect Environment and Social Impact (b) Opportunities for enhancing environmental and social benefits.

6. Recommendations

Risk Management options in terms of: (i) Preventing Risk; (ii) Avoiding Risk; (iii) Mitigating Risk; (iv) Transferring Risk; (v) Absorbing Risk.

Appendix 4 – Integrated Pest Management Plan Outline

A Pest Management Plan (PMP) is a concise implementation plan for the pest management aspects of a given project/programme, which is used to communicate with relevant stakeholders to ensure that they are informed about important details of the pest management strategy and are given the opportunity to react. The PMP includes the results of a given impact assessment but also describes the full rationale of, and justification for, the application of biocides or other pest management techniques, and the respective institutional and regulatory framework. It provides a comprehensive description of the proposed technique, associated risks and appropriate measures to minimize or mitigate those risks.

The PMP needs to be disclosed and discussed in at least two steps. A draft version of the plan must be shared at the earliest possible stage with potentially affected parties and other stakeholders, in a form and language understandable to them, and their views must be taken into account during revision of the draft. The final version of the plan must be publicly disclosed prior to project approval, including on the IFAD website.

For projects that involve the use of synthetic or natural biocides (or bio-pesticides) adherence to the following requirements should be demonstrated**:**

i. Evidence that available options to avoid the use of biocides have been rigorously considered, such as biological or physical means, and that none is viable for the specific context and objective.

ii. Any use of biocides or bio-pesticides must be guided by the associated technical guidelines provided by the manufacturers of the respective product and the respective national regulatory authority and comply with recommendations and minimum standards as described in the WHO and FAO (2014) and associated guidelines.[138]

iii. Preference should be given to products that are less hazardous and persistent in the environment, and to methods of application and equipment that minimize the risks to users, local communities and the environment.

The following 6 steps should assist in effective pest management planning:

1. Understand the pest issues
2. Develop a draft pest management plan
3. Consultations
4. Finalize and implement the plan
5. Monitoring
6. Evaluate and review the overall results

An annotated outline/template of a PMP that meets the requirements of the IFAD SECAP is provided below:

1. Overview/Background on the intended project/programme: This section should present a brief overview of key project/programme information. This section should include the following elements:

- 1.1 Title of the project/programme.
- 1.2 Countries/regions/territories where the pest management technique will be implemented/applied.
- 1.3 Name of the executing entity (with the name, position, title, contact information of the main project personnel responsible for the PMP).
- 1.4 Summary of the project/programme.
- 1.5 Date of preparation of the PMP.

2. Rationale and objectives of the Pest management Plan: This section should outline the main objectives and rationale behind the choice of pest management technique. It should include a detail description of the following elements:

- 2.1 Current impacts caused by the pest (which is being proposed for management by the project/programme), and anticipated future changes to said impacts.[139]
- 2.2 Current management measures/practices applied to the pest, if relevant, and rationale behind the proposed changes

[138] WHO and FAO, 2014. *International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management*. Available at http://www.fao.org/agriculture/crops/thematic-sitemap/theme/pests/code/en/

[139] Such a those caused by climate change and other planned interventions

2.3 Grant recipient's experience with pest management.

3. **Description of Pest Management Practice:** This section should outline the specific pest management technique that has been chosen. If the application of biocides is being proposed, the following elements must be addressed and included as part of the PMP:
   - 3.1 Identity, class, and application rate/quantity of biocides/pesticides that are to be used by the project.[140]
   - 3.2 The form and method used for the given pest management practice.[141]
   - 3.3 The specific geographic range where the pest management practices will be applied (GIS Coordinates).
   - 3.4 Name and address of the supplier of selected biocides, or information on the facilities where the products will be stored.

4. **Institutional, Legislative and Regulatory framework:** This section should provide a concise description of the legal and regulatory framework that the biocide or other pest management technique will be used in.
   - 4.1 National regulatory framework and the legal status of the product or technique. This should also outline/address any required documentation and standards that would be required under national law and Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), and international agreements/conventions.
   - 4.2 Where a biocide is not regulated under national law, the PMP should identify international laws for either the actual product or similar products, that could be used as a guide. In such cases, the PMP should also explain why this given biocide/technique is necessary despite the absence of national standards/regulation.
   - 4.3 Analysis of institutional capacity for control of the distribution, use and disposal of biocides, in particular the product selected by the project and the institutions responsible at the project site.
   - 4.4 Any measures proposed to strengthen regulatory frameworks and institutional capacity, where relevant.

5. **Technique/Practice Risk Assessment:** This section of the PMP should assess potential environmental and social risks of undertaking the chosen pest management practice/technique. It should also outline potential mitigation measures that will be used to minimize identified risks. It should include the following:
   - 5.1 Assessment of risks to communities and individuals that are related (both directly and indirectly) to the use of a given pest management product/technique. The assessment should take the real circumstances of application into account, including the capability of operators to handle products within acceptable risk margins and their access to and use of protective gear and appropriate application equipment.
   - 5.2 Assessment of risks posed to the environment, based on the use of a given technique/product (based on the expected levels of use of a given biocide/product). The assessment should include potential impacts to all components of the biophysical environment, including but not limited to soils, surface waters, groundwater, marine run-off, habitats, plant communities, and non- target species, particularly native, endemic and threatened species.
   - 5.3 Assessment of risks that could be posed prior to and after the use/application of the chosen technique/product. This could include assessments of the transport, storage, handling and disposal of such products/chemicals. It should consider the capacity of the "handling entity" to undertake the requisite tasks.
   - 5.4 Effective measures should be identified to reduce and mitigate the risks, such as training for workers applying biocides and for people coming in contact with the substances, effective personal protective equipment, development of standard operating procedures, upgrading of storage facilities etc. Mitigation measures should include activities for monitoring effectiveness of application and early

[140] Including chemical, trade and common names, likely dilution rates, application rates per ha etc
[141] For example; pellet, liquid, paint-on, back-pack or aerial spraying, rodenticides dropped from aircraft, permanent bait stations etc

identification of needs for corrective actions (e.g. tracking of damage to and/or deaths of non-target species).

5.5 An assessment of potential alternatives (i.e. to the use of the chosen technique) should be presented. This should establish that there is no less risky alternative to the one being proposed by the project/programme.

5.6 The assessment should conclude with a comparison of the selected approach and its expected result with the current situation, and provide clear evidence of the benefits justifying the selection of the approach.

6. Mitigation and Emergency Preparedness Actions/Plan: This section of the PMP should outline, in detail, the recommended mitigation measures as established in the Technique/Practice Risk Assessment. It should include the specific resources required for such actions, with a detailed schedule and the responsible party being nominated. It should outline an emergency preparedness plan for unforeseen events with negative environmental or social/health/pandemic impacts. The Emergency preparedness plan should include: planned responses to unforeseen natural events; procedures for first aid and medical attention cases; and, include a mechanism to observe and record any such unforeseen impacts/events.

7. **Consultation, Disclosure, and Grievance:** This section should outline where, when and how the PMP will be disclosed. Consistent with the requirements of IFAD SECAP, the PMP should be disclosed in a timely and culturally appropriate manner to project affected parties. This section should also specify the dates, results and feedback that were received during consultation with local communities and owners of land adjacent to the project/programme area. It should also provide evidence of consultations held with relevant authorities (indicating who and when) and evidence that appropriate EIA procedures were followed and licenses and permissions, where relevant, were obtained.

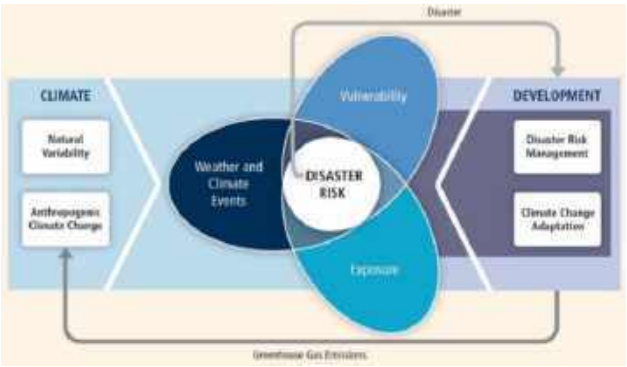
Annex 4: Climate vulnerability impact and adaptation assessment

The information presented in this Annex aims at completing the climate vulnerability analysis conducted in section I. A. of the project proposal in compliance with IFAD requirements for high climate risk projects.

Determining vulnerability

1. **Core concepts of climate risk**[142]. Climate risk results from the interaction of climatological, hydrological, and meteorological hazards, with the geographical exposure of human and natural systems, together with vulnerability to climate hazards. The adaptive capacity reduces the level of risk. Climate risk can be partly or totally offset both in the short- and long-term by implementing climate adaptation and mitigation strategies (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change – IPCC, 2022).

- *Hazard* refers to the occurrence of meteorological (e.g., extreme temperature), climatological (e.g., drought), or hydrological (e.g., flood) events or trends, including extreme temperatures and precipitation, as well as drought, flooding and wildfire factors.
- *Human and natural exposure* to climate hazard is determined by the geographical characteristics of targeted areas, the population density, the agricultural and other socio-economic activities undertaken. The exposure component assesses the presence of agroecological systems, such as crops, shrubs, forests, grassland, protected areas, lowland areas, and population density in the selected area.
- *Vulnerability (or exposure)* is determined by the social and economic conditions of the targeted population. Vulnerability assesses development, poverty, and gender equality indexes, conflicts, migration, food insecurity, economic, and health indicators.
- *Adaptive capacity* lies in actors' ability to prevent or reduce climate impacts by implementing effective practices and technologies. It largely depends on the support provided by public and private institutions, as well as on communities' means of adaptation.



Concept of risk (IPCC) [143]

2. Following this concept, IFAD conducted a climate risk analysis to assess Somalia's vulnerability to climate change (and in particular droughts and floods). The analysis is based on official statistics and data, and improved analyses to increase the evidence base and knowledge on how climate change affects rural populations. Climate vulnerability and the size of affected populations is location specific and derives from unique interactions of different biophysical and socioeconomic variables so that different levels of vulnerability characterize different places. The indicators used to assess hazard and exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity were chosen on the basis of the socio-economic, climatic

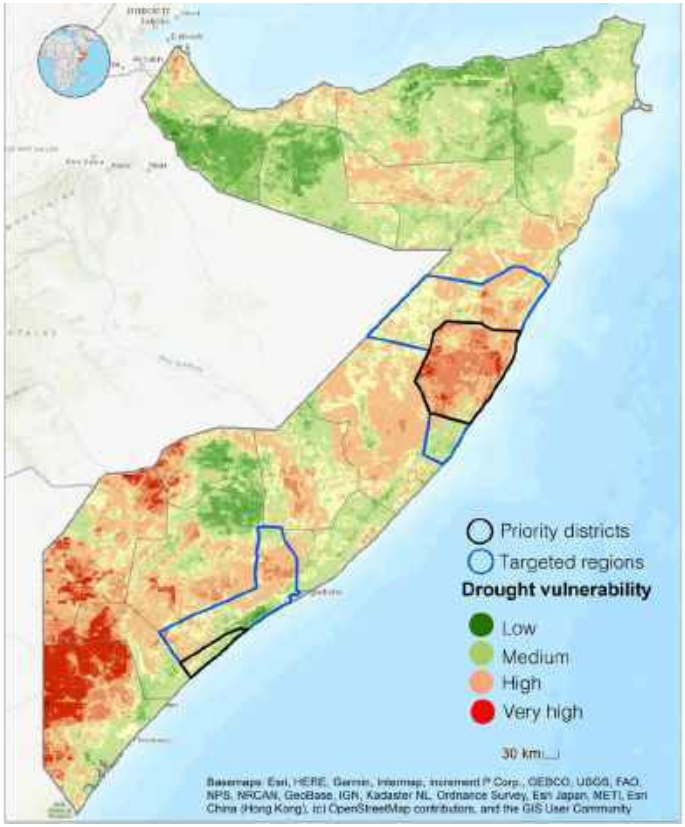
[142] IPCC AR6 WGII Technical Summary
[143] IPCC, 2012: Summary for Policymakers. In: Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation

and environmental analysis presented in section I. A. of the project proposal. These indicators are presented together with the maps below.

3. The **methodology** adopted for creating a drought and flood vulnerability maps followed the subsequent steps:

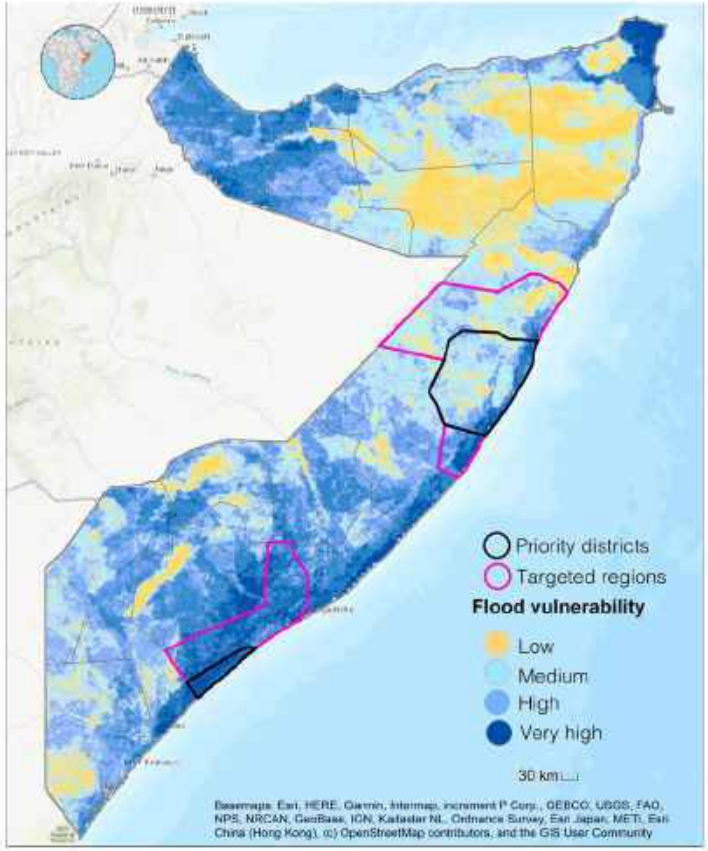
- **Data preparation step**:
    - Identify and download maps from multiple sources in raster tiff and vector shape format
    - Focusing on the study area, the cut function was used to cut out unrelated areas. The same boundary was used to cut out all data to avoid discrepancies in further analysis.
- **Processing step**:
    - Precipitation Trend from 1981 to 2023 was calculated using “Generate Trend Raster”. The Generate Trend Raster tool in ArcGIS Pro estimates the trend for each pixel along a dimension for one or more variables in a multidimensional raster.
    - Rainfall annual, Temperature Max, etc. was obtained using “Cell statistics”. This function helps calculates a per-cell statistic from multiple rasters. The available statistics are Majority, Maximum, Mean, Median, Minimum, Minority, Percentile, Range, Standard deviation, Sum, and Variety.
    - The GIS program ArcGIS Pro was then used for further analysis to identify areas at vulnerability of drought and flooding. To create a single overall rank, the data values were reclassified into 4 levels (such as 4 is very high, 3 is high, 2 is medium, and 1 is low).
    - Since all data have different resolutions, the resolution of all data has been resampled by 250 m using the Bilinear method. Bilinear interpolation calculates the value of each pixel by averaging (weighted for distance) the values of the surrounding four pixels. It is suitable for continuous data.
    - The vulnerability index is based on freely available geospatial datasets that represent the three components of climate vulnerability.
        - Exposure to climate impacts (type and intensity of hazards);
        - Sensitivity (vulnerability) to climate impacts (predisposition of a system to suffer harm, loss, or damage as a consequence of a hazard event); and
        - Adaptive capacity to climate impacts (capacity to deal with and respond to exposure and sensitivity).
    - Then the Exposure, Sensitivity and Adaptive capacity maps were created using the method overlays several rasters using a common measurement scale and weights each according to its importance, using the following formula to create a vulnerability map:

      VULNERABILITY INDEX = (Exposure + Sensitivity – Adaptive Capacity) / 3
- **Data visualization step**:
    - Using the GIS program ArcGIS, a map in the jpg format was created for visualization and further use in reports, etc.



Drought vulnerability map 2023

Component	Criteria	Quantile classes	Rank	Source
Exposure	Temperature (current)	<= 30.0	4	ERA5 daily
		30,0 – 31,2	3	
		31.2 – 32.8	2	
		> 32.8	1	
	Rainfall (current)	<= 14	4	CHIRPS daily
		14 - 26	3	
		26 - 39	2	
		> 39	1	
	DrySpell	< 10 days	4	
		10-20 days	3	
		20-25 days	2	
		25-29 days	1	
Sensitivity	Population density	5 – 8	2	World Pop
		8 – 16	3	
		> 16	4	
	Land cover use	1.Tree cover	4	ESRI
		2.Cropland/grassland	3	
		3.Urban/water/bare areas/flooded vegetation/ Sparse vegetation	1	
	Land Productivity Dynamics	1.Declining / 2.Moderate decline	4	FAO WOCAT
		3. Stressed	3	
		4. Stable	2	
		5. Increasing	1	
Adaptive capacity	Cattle density	<= 110	1	GLW2
		110 – 337	2	
		337 – 1128	3	



Flood vulnerability map 2023

Exposure	Sensitivity	Adaptive capacity
Rainfall (annual mean)	Land Degradation FAOSWALIM	Cattle density
Precipitation Trend (1981-2021)	Riverine Flood Risk	
	Coastal Flood Risk	
	Flood frequency in 100 year	
	Flood hazard in 25 years	
	Population density	
	Land cover use	
	Land Productivity Dynamics	

Adaptation Assessment

4. Least Developed Countries, and Somalia in particular, are most vulnerable to the damaging effects of climate change, since their economic development and food security highly depend on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture. Thanks to Adaptation Fund supporting the full cost of adaptation of activities planned under the project, the present initiative recognizes the extreme climate vulnerability of Somalia, and intends to bring about a paradigm shift by which Somalia will establish a consistent framework for ecosystem and livelihood resilience based on the specific needs of its various agroecosystems, and in line with the vision of the Great Green Wall Initiative. Thanks to project support and showcased best practices, Somalia will become a flagship country under the GGWI, and will be in a position to streamline investments towards this resilience-enabling initiative.

5. **National policy framework for adaptation**. Somalia joined the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2009 and ratified the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement in 2010 and 2016, respectively[144]. As a signatory to the UNFCCC, the Federal Republic of Somalia has submitted its Initial National Communication (2018), its First Biennial Update Report (BUR: 2022), and its updated National Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2021. The government of Somalia has developed several other climate change-related programs and policies, such as the First Adaptation Communication to the UNFCCC (2022), the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA, 2013) and the National Climate Change Policy (2020)[145]. The country has also recently initiated its National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process through the implementation of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) financed NAP Readiness Project[146].

6. A number of additional national policies and strategies contribute to the definition of a national framework for adaptation and are highlighted in section II. D. Strategic Alignment. Amongst those policies are included: the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change 2023-2028 Strategic Plan, the National Environment Strategy and Action Plan for 2021-2025, the National Environment Policy (2020), the Somalia National Action Programme for the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (2016), , the National Voluntary Land Degradation Neutrality Targets 2020, the Somali National Disaster Management Policy (2018), the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2015), the National Drought Plan (2020), the National Rangeland Management Strategy (2022-2032), the Somalia Livestock Sector Development Strategy (2019), the National Food Security and Nutrition Strategy (2020-2025), the Recovery and Resilience Framework (2018), the Agriculture Development Strategic Plan 2021-2025, the Somalia National Water Policy and National Water Resource Law (2010), the Integrated Water Resources Management Strategic Plan (2019-2023), and the National Water Resource Strategy (2021-2025). The federal government has also recognized climate change adaptation as a crucial element of Somalia's development and climate agenda, integrating it into the National Development Plan (NDP-9) for 2020-2024.

7. The table below highlights the baseline and alternative adaptation scenario under the project.

Business as usual scenario	**Adaptation measures supported through Adaptation Fund additionality**
Component 1. Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia	
The drought and flood cycles continue to accelerate environmental degradation in the regions of Mudug and Lower Shabelle, resulting in the former in widespread desertification, loss of pastoral land, loss of livestock lives, loss of livelihoods, food security and human lives. In the latter (Lower Shabelle), flash floods	- 4 district diagnostics are conducted and enable to prioritize most relevant sites of interventions - 20 Cluster Level Facilitators mobilized and trained to support communities in planning natural resources management and resilience. They provide services to their communities (6,000 HH) in terms of prioritization and planning of investments and over the long term facilitate resource mobilization for possible replication. - 30 villages in 10 clusters develop integrated Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans, based on gender inclusive methodologies. The plans are subsequently integrated into Village Level Action Plans, contributing to the mainstreaming of adaptation solutions in local planning. - 30 VDCs/CDAs are reinforced in terms of conflict resolution, governance, gender and environmental, climate mainstreaming, and financial management, contributing to the enhanced social capital of the whole community (or over 35,400 people).

[144] https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Somalia%20First%20BUR%20report%202022.pdf
[145] https://napglobalnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/napgn-en-2022-somalia-nap-framework.pdf
[146] napgn-en-2022-somalia-nap-framework.pdf (napglobalnetwork.org)

break river embankments and carry away the topsoil that has been fragilized by drought cycles resulting in decreasing soil fertility, while environmental degradation also accelerates in upland (rainfed areas), resulting in loss of livelihoods and maladaptive practices associated with charcoal production and conflicts.	- 30 Resource Users and Management Committees are established and support the implementation of site management plans, including through social fencing. - An integrated approach is implemented (i) in pastoral areas: thanks to pastoral management plan including the resting of pastoral land through social fencing, completed by soil and water conservation and revegetation (reforestation, afforestation, oversowing); (ii) in agropastoral areas, thanks to a watershed approach focusing on soil and water conservation and revegetation upstream, and riverbank protection downstream, completed by sustainable pastoral management practices. These practices result in the protection of 10,000 ha of ecosystem, with direct investments for land restoration over 1,500 ha, resulting in increased resilience to drought/floods. - 4,500 households (50% women beneficiaries) are trained on ecosystem resilience practices and benefit directly from Cash for Work schemes, supporting their enhanced resilience in the short term, and their ability to replicate practices and maintain investments in the long term.
Component 2. Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia	
With climate change extreme events such as droughts and floods become increasingly frequent and intense, growing periods become shorter, and pests and diseases increasing, agropastoral systems are put at risk, with decreasing fertility and increasing pressure on resources (land and water). Vulnerable households, pastoralists and agropastoralists continue practicing agriculture and pastoralism following the same business as usual models (no adapted varieties, no soil and water conservation, etc.) and resort to maladaptive practices (accelerated charcoal production), resulting in decreasing yields, accelerated environmental degradation, loss of livelihoods and possible outmigration/conflict.	- 20 Cluster Level Facilitators are mobilized to provide training on NAR, and resilient agriculture and pastoral practices, and provide technical support to the whole community in project areas (up to 6,000 HH). - 80% of targeted households report the adoption of environmentally sustainable and climate resilient technologies and practices, directly contributing to their enhanced climate resilience. - 1,000 HH are trained on P/FMNR including through peer-to-peer replication, and implement P/FMNR over 5,000 ha, with direct benefits in terms of ecosystem and farm resilience. - 1,000 HH receive training on climate resilient practices through 40 P/FFS, leading to the increased resilience of up to 1,500 ha of farmland, and at least 3,500 ha of pastoral land. Such practices directly offer adaptation solutions to the expected climate impacts on the targeted production systems (heat and drought, as well as increased pests and diseases), and thus contribute to an enhanced resilience of agricultural and pastoral land, thanks (amongst others) to better soil and water conservation, fertility management, and erosion control. - The GALS methodology is mainstreamed in all P/FFS, enabling to address gender equality and GBV. Women leader and P/FMNR champions are promoted in their communities and given support/visibility - 80% of household targeted have stable and sustainable sources of income (increasing their adaptive capacity). Income stability under the project will be attained thanks to the promotion of resilient and sustainable practices for the targeted production systems (agropastoralism and pastoralism). At the same time, stability of income under the project increases the adaptive capacity of targeted households, as it positively influences the capacity and dispositions of smallholders towards the adoption of climate resilient agricultural practices, and their support to sustainable landscape management. The project will thus promote a virtuous cycle by which support to resilient production enhances income stability, thereby increasing the likelihood of producers to adopt resilient practices at farm and landscape level, further guaranteeing the stability of their incomes. - 20 CLeFs are trained on business management and financial inclusion and provide services to over 1,000 HH - 10 tree nurseries cooperatives are established and serve the needs of all smallholders in the area, accelerating the restoration of local ecosystems. - 20 women cooperatives commercializing Non-Wood Forest Products are established, thereby supporting a shift in the relation to trees and their conservation. - 500 cooperatives (corresponding to a minimum of 2,000 HH with 50% women beneficiaries) receive inputs/equipment helping to diversify their production and increase their resilience - Dedicated support to women, youth and minorities is provided under the leadership of the Gender and Social Inclusion Officer, as women and youth are key drivers of change, and their meaningful inclusion in project activities is a powerful way to further ensure climate adaptation. The project will follow a strict strategy in this regard.
Component 3. Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia	
Somalia does not operationalize the GGWI and does not establish the tools and	- National Strategy and Action Plan for the GGWI in Somalia elaborated, including mechanisms for coordination and resource mobilization for future replication

mechanisms to implement it. No coordination occurs between initiatives that could fit under the GGW, and no additional funding is drawn to support the initiative.	- Roadmaps for State level GGWI Strategies and Action Plans elaborated and at least 60 FMS staff capacitated - One national GGWI coalition established, allowing coordination of all relevant initiatives under the GGW in Somalia, consolidation, uptake and scaling up of lessons from Hal-Abuur and other relevant projects - 80 GGWI focal points in Somalia receive training on relevant GGWI aspects - LDSF established for Somalia and tested on all project sites, enabling to demonstrate the effectiveness of project approaches in terms of ecosystem resilience - 5 studies on project activities conducted (including with focus on gender aspects) and 20 knowledge products prepared, thoroughly documenting successes and facilitating their uptake/replication

Monitoring Adaptation

8. Adaptation monitoring under the project is embedded in the Monitoring and Evaluation system and at the core of the project's result framework as detailed both in sections III. E. and III. F.

Costs and budgetary considerations

9. As a climate adaptation project, all of Hal-Abuur's activities and costs respond to the full cost of adaptation reasoning. As such, all project costs are directly committed to implementing identified adaptation options.

Annex 5: Gender Assessment, Strategy and Action Plan

Situational analysis

10. **Performance according to international gender equality indices**. Life for women and girls in Somalia is challenging. Somalia's patriarchal society is organised and managed along the clan system, with among others, entrenched discriminatory social structures that perpetuate gender inequality. UNDP indicates that Somalia's Gender Index is 0.674[147], which ranks it 164th globally for 2022, with only Nigeria and Yemen reaching a lower index. Women with multiple vulnerabilities – Internally Displaced People (IDPs), youth, and widowed face particular challenges. Women's participation in leadership and decision-making roles remains low, both in public and political spheres at all levels— national, state, local. Over the past decade, attitudes and narratives regarding gender equality, women's representation and participation have been improving in the public sphere in Somalia, with the development of several key frameworks including the National Gender Policy (2016) and the Somalia Women's Charter '2019).

11. **Demographics**. The population size of Somalia in 2022 is 17,597,511.[148] 49.9% of the population are female.[149] 50.8% of the population are aged 10 to 35.[150]

12. **Discriminatory social norms**. Somali society remains dominated by patriarchal gender norms. Strong patriarchal systems affect women's access to and agency in decision making at all levels. Women are further inhibited by clan affiliation, and women from minority clans face greater discrimination. Culture and norms associated with the male-dominated clan system, reinforced by partial and scant law enforcement, equate a low social status to women and constrain their access to productive resources, jobs, and social services. About 55% of women lack access to education, compared to 40% of men and labour force participation rate was only 19% for women, versus 74% for men in 2019.[151] Overall men have a higher percentage of financial accounts and use of mobile banking compared to women. Specifically, 6.3% of women have a bank or financial account, in comparison to 11.2% of men. In terms of mobile banking, 82.5% of men use this service, slightly higher than the 81.2% of women.[152]

13. **Education**. Weak institutions in Somalia have contributed to the privatisation of the educational sector, which has led to limiting access to education. Only 53 per cent of children and 55 per cent of youth attend school in Somalia.[153] There is a gender gap in school attendance. 47 per cent of females aged six and up have never attended school, compared to 44 per cent of men and boys. Men were 23 per cent more likely than women to have completed secondary or higher education.[154] Literacy rates among the urban women, are about two times higher than those in the rural and IDP camps. Nomadic women have the lowest literacy rates.[155]

14. **Women's political participation**. Somalia's provisional Constitution includes a number of passages which underline the involvement of women in leadership and decision-making. 24 percent, almost a quarter, of lower house parliamentary seats are secured by women. Somalia's achievement of equal and meaningful participation of women is compounded by a lack of access to financial support, promotion of male candidates by clan elders and political elites and a lack of connections compared to male peers.

15. **Sexual and reproductive health and rights**. Maternal and infant mortality rates in Somalia are some of the highest in the world, and early marriage is prevalent. The Somalia Health and Demographic Survey of 2023 shows that Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) in women aged 15-49 is high, at

[147] United Nations Development Programme (2022). Gender Inequality Index.
[148] Total population is based on the de facto definition of population, which counts all residents regardless of legal status or citizenship. The values shown are midyear estimates. United Nations Population Division. World Population Prospects: 2022 Revision. (https://data.worldbank.org/country/somalia)
[149] United Nations Population Division. World Population Prospects: 2022 Revision. The World Bank data set
[150] Somali Adolescents and Youth: Boom or Gloom?, UNFPA Somalia, 2019.
[151] UNDP 2019. Human Development Report 2019.
[152] Somalia National Bureau of Statistics. 2023. Women and Men in Somalia. p.31
[153] Somalia High Frequency Survey 2018
[154] The Federal Republic of Somalia. 2022. Voluntary National Review Report 2022, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
[155] Gender Equality: Hit or miss in the Somalia population, UNFPA, 2019

99.2% which has both short-term and long-term physiological, sexual and psychological repercussions.[156]

16. In general, support for the continuation of FGM is high among women aged 15–49 in Somalia and Somaliland: more than three-quarters (76.4%) believe the practice should be continued.[157] Somalia has the sixth-highest maternal mortality rate in the world, one out of every 12 Somali mothers will die due to pregnancy-related causes.[158] This prevalence relates to complications as a result of FGM, women living in remote regions, the price of treatment and cultural barriers that prevent women accessing services, for example superstitions related to seeing a doctor and reluctance to seeing male doctors.

17. Early and forced marriage continues to be pervasive in Somalia, particularly within the context of prevailing poverty and gender bias which perpetuates favouritism of boys over girls. Girls are usually married at an early age due to family's needs to ensure social and economic security, women are traditionally valued by their ability to procreate. There are twice as many females compared to males of aged 15-19 who are married.[159] Marriage is the means for women and girls to demonstrate their value in society, gaining privilege, respect and recognition as a mother of a clans' children. Early marriage is perceived to be both a cultural and a religious requirement in Somalia since there is a lack of consensus among key stakeholders (i.e. religious and civil society actors) on the age of marriage or maturity.

18. **Violence against women and girls**. Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) is widespread in Somalia, mostly perpetrated by men against women. Women, adolescents, girls and children represent 95 percent of the survivors that reported incidents of GBV in 2020.[160] 75 percent were from displaced communities.[161] However, due to stigma, SGBV and GBV are most often under-reported in Somalia. Women and girls in Somalia are exposed to SGBV resulting from protracted conflict, gender inequalities, climate change and the humanitarian crises that the country experiences. Rape, gang rape, sexual assault, physical assault, forced marriage, denial of resources, opportunities or services, and psychological/emotional abuse are most frequently reported. SGBV is fuelled by perennial clashes among clans related to disputes over land as well as the fragile security situation in IDP sites. In south and central Somalia, widespread conflict, violence and exploitation are perpetrated by defence forces. Reports from those displaced by drought in Somalia in 2022 indicate a 200 percent rise in GBV cases, particularly intimate partner violence and rape, compared to the same period in 2021.[162]

19. **Women and work**. Women in Somalia are still seen primarily as homemakers, whose role is to raise children and attend to domestic duties. They have to overcome sexist stereotypes about women in the workplace, clan-based identity politics that centre men, and deep-rooted gender-based violence. Men have a higher labour force participation rate of 39.4 percent, compared to women at 15.8 percent.[163] Household enterprises account for more than half of all steady jobs and women's ownership of household enterprises contributes to one in four jobs for women.[164]

20. **Unpaid domestic responsibilities**. Gender inequalities also exist in terms of the management of free time. In 2016, girls in Somalia aged 10 to 14 were estimated to spend 26 hours every week on domestic duties – among the most out of countries globally.[165] A survey of Somalia women in 2012 reported that women's domestic responsibilities and roles prevent them from taking on employment that has demanding and long hours.[166] Women are taking on the role of the head of household due to

[156] UN Women Somalia. 2023. Where we are Eastern and Southern Africa: Somalia | UN Women – Africa
[157] FGM in Somalia and Somaliland, Key Findings, 28 Too Many, 2021.
[158] UNICEF. 2019. https://www.unicef.org/somalia/stories/mothers-life-saved-thanks-unicefs-emergency-health-services
[159] Gender Equity: Hit or miss in the Somalia population
[160] UNFPA. 2021. Overview of Gender-Based Violence in Somalia.
[161] *op cit* footnote 114
[162] CARE. Oct 2022. Women and girls left vulnerable to worsening drought
[163] Somalia National Bureau of Statistics. 2023. Women and Men in Somalia, p.22
[164] Breaking the cycle – Supporting inclusive access to more and better jobs in Somalia. World Bank, 2022
[165] UNICEF, 2016. Harnessing the Power of Data for Girls Taking stock and looking ahead to 2030
[166] UNDP. 2012. The Role of Women in the Private Sector.

increasing male unemployment.[167] This means that, on a daily basis, women are increasingly expected to carry a 'double burden' of balancing paid and unpaid activities.

21. **Land and property**. Weak tenure security and limited decision-making power mean women hold little control over the land they cultivate or its products. The position of women with regards to land and property ownership has been weakened by both conflict and the ensuing reconstruction process and breakdowns in social stability and law and order, which have compromised traditional and customary laws for women, their social support systems and their access to land and property. In 2012, 36.7 percent of the total agricultural land was owned or held by women, while 63.3 percent is owned or held by men.[168] This trend is consistent across urban, rural and nomadic communities.

22. **Agriculture and the rural sector.** Women have important and diverse roles in agriculture and are key players in rural households in terms of adaptation to climate change. More females are employed in the agricultural sector than men - at 67.8 percent compared to males at 60.1 percent.[169] In rural areas, men have a higher engagement at 51.0 percent, compared to 42.4 percent for women. However, in nomadic areas, women engagement is higher at 22.7 percent, compared to men at 14.4 percent.[170] Female enrolment in agriculture and animal husbandry faculties is low. In a study of advanced education in agriculture and veterinary sciences, only 3.8% of the interviewed university faculty and staff were female.[171] Female enrolment in agriculture and veterinary sciences is also low (14%), indicating access barriers for female students.[172]

23. Women in Somalia tend to be excluded from conservation and management of land, lack access to agricultural extension services and institutional credit, and encounter barriers to participation in development, planning and policymaking processes. Somali women continue to be marginalized in almost all spheres of society despite the complex role they play in conflict, peace, and security, and their contributions to maintaining everyday life. Unequal power relations and gender-based discrimination in legal and customary systems in Somalia deny women even user rights to plant trees, control soil degradation and enhance soil fertility.

24. Women are very active in value chains that require less land and capital, where the production cycles are short (for example, quickly maturing crops) and the profits are low but recurring. In particular, women are involved in milk value chains across the entire country, fodder and grass selling, and participate in some parts of the meat value chain. Many women are also engaged in fisheries, however mainly at the processing end of the production chain. In spite of their activities in the value chains, few women own land and men are still the main decision makers. When it comes to crop production, both women and men play key roles. However, time-consuming and labour-intensive tasks such as sowing, weeding, harvesting, threshing and husking are mainly women's responsibility, while men are more involved in land preparation and ploughing. Women are under-represented in the formal labour force but they actively engage in the shadow economy through informal employment opportunities.

25. Across Somalia, women use a number of labour and time-saving technologies. These include milling machines, drip irrigation, and grading machines. However, most of the labour-saving technologies are currently being used by men, for example, mechanization or animal draught power for land preparation. This might save some time for women who, prior to mechanization, were involved in the manual preparation of their family's farmland. There are currently no labour-saving technologies (such as herbicides) in use to address the labour-consuming weeding phase. In rural areas, herbicides are expensive and not safe for use without proper training, but natural alternative methods are available. These include crop rotation, tillage systems, seed-bed preparation, and management of drainage,

[167] A recent study of FHH in Somalia found half of the married female household heads (38/77) reported that their husbands did not work or were unemployed. Others said that their husband earned little, or that they, the woman, provided as much for the families as the men did, which made them the household head
Levine, S. and Mosel, I. 2021. 'Economics, social status and gender relations: what makes households "female-headed" in Somalia? Lessons from a rapid learning exercise'. HPG briefing note. London: ODI.
[168] *op cit* footnote 112 pp.32
[169] UNFPA. 2019. Gender Equality: Hit or miss in the Somalia population.
[170] Somalia National Bureau of Statistics. 2023. Women and Men in Somalia. p.30
[171] Dr Hussein Haki, Dr Mohamed Farah Shirdon. 2020. Somalia's Agriculture and Livestock Sectors: A Baseline Study and a Human Capital Development Strategy
[172] Ibid

irrigation systems and of crop residues. Other traditional methods that can be applied are crop-sowing time and spatial arrangement, cover crops (when used as living mulches), intercropping, and crop fertilization. Some potential labour-saving technologies for women include energy-saving stoves to reduce the time spent and security risks involved in fuel wood collection. Women also spend a lot of time in collecting water, so different water-harvesting technologies would benefit them.[173]

Table: Farm Tasks Carried Out by Females, Males, or Both

Female tasks	Male tasks
Crop production - sowing, weeding, harvesting, threshing and husking. Largely responsible for vegetable production.	Crop production - land preparation, ploughing and planting. Largely responsible for cereal production.
Sales at local vegetable and cereal markets	Export agricultural products
Small livestock, re-selling live animals, meat trade, and the processing and marketing of certain livestock products	Herding, slaughter and sale of larger animals
Milking and selling in dairy value chains	Chilling and processing plants in milk sector
Fisheries processing and production chain. i.e cleaning and chopping of the fish and selling it fresh or cooked	Fishing boat owners
Water collection	Purchase and application of chemical inputs, such as fertilizers and pesticides
Fodder and grass selling	
Upkeep of farming implements, particularly the hoe and plough	
Winnowing and milling	
Shared tasks	
Geographical diversity: - In the south, planting, weeding, harvesting, guarding and transporting are joint activities undertaken by both women and men, with a larger share of the responsibility falling on men - In some parts of Somalia, rural women also perform livestock slaughtering	
Marketing of produce involves negotiations with both women and men	
Animal health and veterinary services	

26. Rural Somali women play diverse roles within and outside the household, including productive and reproductive ones. They spend four hours more than men every day on household and agricultural work, and there is little indication that men would take over some of their tasks either in the fields or in the domestic sphere. As a result, women in Somalia are exposed to long working days and experience severe time poverty.[174] The nomadic division of labour is heavily weighted towards women, who are generally responsible for small stock, milking, and processing and marketing dairy products. They are also responsible for dismantling and reconstructing homes. Men and boys are responsible for the nomadic herding of larger animals.[175]

27. **Climate change**. Cyclical droughts occur every three to five years, while catastrophic droughts last 20 to 25 years in Somalia. Droughts present a number of risks for women and girls. Women and girls (especially pregnant and nursing women) are the first to face malnutrition in times of food scarcity. Somali women face additional restrictions on their mobility, types of jobs they have access to, capital and business networks. With increasing male migration, women take on labour and domestic responsibilities. Droughts also reduce women's access to critical services, including health, financial and social protection services. Droughts can exacerbate risks of gender-based violence in all its forms. Walking increased distances in search of water puts women at greater risk of violence. Women might be forced to exchange sex for food, and girls forced into early marriage. Intimate partner violence has been seen to increase in times of drought. Displaced women and girls sleeping in open spaces face additional security risks. [176]

[173] FAO. 2021. National gender profile of agriculture and rural livelihoods – Somalia. Mogadishu.
[174] Ibid. p.19
[175] Ibid. p.19
[176] Kristina Svensson, Helene Carlsson Rex. March 2022. Why women and girls matter in Somalia's climate crisis. World Bank

Policy and institutional framework

28. **International treaties**. Somalia signed and ratified the African (Banjul) Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, in 1985. Somalia signed (but has not ratified) the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol) in 2006. Somalia has not signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

29. The UN gender equality strategy 2018-2020 provides a framework for the promotion and institutionalization of gender mainstreaming in the implementation of UN assistance and cooperation frameworks in Somalia. The strategy responds to gender inequalities and related developmental challenges in Somalia and offers practical tools and guidance on how to achieve gender results with greater accountability

30. **Legislative framework**. The following Ministries govern social inclusion issues in Somalia: (i) Federal Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, (ii) The Ministry of Youth and Sport, (iii) The National Disability Agency and (iv) The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA). In recent years significant progress has been made in the development of action plans for women, youth and people with disabilities, including: 1) Somali National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of the Somali Women's Charter and United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325), 2020, 2) Somalia National Youth Policy, 2017 - 2021, and 3) National Disability Report, 2024.

31. In May 2018, the Sexual Offences Bill submitted by the Federal Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, was passed by the Cabinet of Ministers. The bill is the result of consultations with civil society, religious leaders, women and youth and aims to ensure stronger protection of women and girl victims of sexual and gender-based violence. However, since then the Bill is yet to be tabled in for reading and passage into Law. In August 2020, an alternative 'Sexual Intercourse Bill' was presented to Parliament for deliberation that threatened to weaken protections for women and survivors of sexual violence.

32. **Strategies and Policies**. The Somalia National Gender Policy (2016) includes strategies to eradicate harmful traditional practices such as FGM/C and child marriage and to improve services for the management of GBV cases, while the Women's Charter for Somalia (2019) calls for women's economic empowerment, and recognize that full participation and socioeconomic rights are cornerstones for equality and sustainable development. In 2019 the Somali Women's Convention was convened under the leadership of the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development (MoWHD). The Convention confirmed women's equality in the Somali constitution. The National Youth Policy of the Federal Government of Somalia (2018) aims at promoting youth participation in all spheres of development. In September 2022 the Federal Government of Somalia launched the Somali National Action Plan for the implementation of the Somali Women's Charter and United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325). In 2022 the FGS conducted the first Gender-inclusive National Voluntary Review (NVR).

33. The Somalia Food Security & Nutrition Strategy 2020-2025 aims to address the triple burden of malnutrition and ensure stability of food supply, access, and usage through various sectors, including agriculture, livestock, fisheries, trade, health, infrastructure, social protection, and natural resource management. It has a strong focus on women (particularly pregnant and lactating) and children under 2. The Somalia Multisectoral Nutrition (MSN) Strategy 2019-2024 extends beyond the health sector by consolidating and integrating various policy instruments of the Somalia government that seek to tackle under nutrition. The goal of MSN Strategy is to reduce malnutrition through direct Mother and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) interventions and indirectly through nutrition-sensitive interventions that reduce poverty and food insecurity.

34. The Ministry of Youth and Sport is the ministry responsible for youth issues and implementation of the general youth policy. Federal Member States oversee policy development and implementation in their respective regions. The government developed a National Youth Policy (2017-2021) to strengthen education and skills development and reduce youth unemployment. The youth policy puts explicit focus on improving the voice of young women in sexual and reproductive health.

35. Relevant **partners and projects** promoting gender equality in Somalia include, among others:

- **Adaptive Agriculture and Rangeland Rehabilitation Project (A2R2), IFAD**. A2R2 aims to reduce small-scale producers' vulnerability and enhance their resilience to shocks on their livelihoods in the project areas. A2R2 targets women's participation and voice in decision-making regarding sustainable natural resource management.
- **Rural Livelihoods Resilience Programme (RLRP), IFAD.** RLRP aims to achieve resilient agricultural livelihoods by strengthening community governance and improving the agricultural productivity and business capacities of rural smallholder farmers, especially women and youth. RLRP aims to enhance access to economic resources and services, training on products value-addition and marketing for women, and increase their participation in micro-businesses; and effectively introduce time-saving technologies/practices which are adopted by women.
- **Response Initiative for Somalia Emergencies Project (RISE), IFAD.** The project focuses on supporting sustainable food systems and contributing to enhanced food security. RISE provides both income-generating activities and improved nutrition. RISE adheres to IFAD's targeting policy, ensuring that at least 50% of the total beneficiaries are women and 25% are youth.
- **CARE, Somalia**. Through 'Women's and Young People's economic empowerment and leadership Working with Savings Groups', CARE significantly contributes to women's and young people's diversified livelihoods and economic empowerment and impacted almost 223,000 people with this work. CARE's support to women's and youth groups strengthens their political consciousness and ability to participate in public processes, and to effectively influence public policy. At the same time, their work contributes to more accountability and responsiveness of powerholders, and their changed views and attitudes vis-a-vis women and youth.
- **SomReP Somalia** is a consortium of eight NGO members (including CARE), as well as network of local and international partners working to address the underlying causes of vulnerability to climate shocks through a variety of projects. SomReP's programmes maintain a key focus on supporting gender and social equality, developing fair and equitable market systems, and social cohesion whilst still remaining adaptive to climate shocks through its crisis modifier. Projects include the development gender empowerment training in Village Savings & Loans Associations (VSLAs).
- **The World Bank, Barwaago project** (ongoing) aims to develop water, agriculture, and environmental services for rural communities in Somalia's dryland. The project addresses gender gaps in productivity and assets within the agriculture and livestock sectors, enhances women's leadership and voice in village-level planning and development, the project also supports women's employment in participating state level ministries of water and agriculture, as well as public and private sector water institutions.
- **The Somali Observatory for Humanitarian Action (SOHA)** distributes livestock (sheep and cattle) specifically to women and has specific programmes addressing gender equality and women's economic empowerment.
- **UNDP** has many programmes fostering women's economic empowerment, water access and gender equality in the livestock sector. Over 62,000 households, more than 95% of them women-headed, have gained access to water, directly benefiting over 434,000 family members as a result of UNDP's gender-responsive programming and interventions. UNDP has supported the increased participation of grassroots initiatives and women-led CSOs and networks in community-level political and peacebuilding processes.
- **The International Organisation for Migration (IOM)** holds community sessions on GBV, and supports cash for work (CfW) programmes targeting female-headed household and youth.
- **GEELO** is a local NGO working on girl-child education, empowerment and leadership in relation to land related matters. GEELO seeks to promote sustainable health, and social and economic development by engaging the local communities in all community-based approaches for resilience building, growth, and development.

Project's gender strategy

36. **Strategic pathways**. By specifically focusing on gender equality and women's empowerment, the project will deepen the impact and strengthen the sustainability of its efforts to reduce the vulnerability of livelihoods and ecosystems in the inland areas of the Lower Shabelle region (South West State) and Mudug region (Galmudug State) to the negative impacts of climate change.

37. The project will use a combination of complementary gender practices that facilitate changes in gender roles and relations. The project will improve women's access to resources and opportunities, in combination with promoting practices to enhance women's and men's awareness and consciousness. In addition, it will engage in policy dialogue on gender equality and women's empowerment.

38. This project is closely aligned with IFAD's own mandate and that of the UN Gender Equality Strategy for Somalia. IFAD aims to catalyse country and global progress for rural people to overcome poverty and achieve food security through remunerative, sustainable and resilient livelihoods. The activities within the project will support beneficiaries, and particularly women, to improve resilience and livelihoods. The UN Gender Equality Strategy for Somalia aims to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment through support to Somalia's national priorities; by promoting women's leadership, strengthening institutions and effective coordination that integrate gender equality principles across the nexus and at all levels. These aims are built into the project and specifically in the present Annex.

39. Three strategic pathways for gender equality and women's empowerment will be followed:

i. Promote economic empowerment to enable rural women and men to have equal opportunities to participate in and benefit from profitable economic activities;
ii. Enable women and men to have an equal voice and influence in rural institutions and organizations; and
iii. Achieve a more equitable balance of workloads and the sharing of economic and social benefits between women and men.

40. More precisely, landscape planning and investment will be informed by a gender and youth analysis, which will take an intersectional approach and explore the roles and relationships between people of different genders, as well as gender- and youth-specific opportunities, barriers, and decision-making power. With this knowledge, actions can be planned and implemented in ways that recognise gender and age roles and dynamics while tackling discriminatory norms and practices.

41. The planning of actions will follow a participatory process that brings together all relevant stakeholders. This includes local authorities, local NGOs working on ecosystem conservation, and community members. The leaders of planning processes will actively work to create opportunities for meaningful participation by women, youth and others whose voices are often left out of decision making. This will require targeted consultations, capacity building, and engagement of facilitators from the excluded groups.

42. Targeted landscape actions that address gender- and age-specific needs and capacities will be included. These actions might be needed to reduce vulnerability of livelihoods, recognising gender specific roles, to overcome gender-based barriers to resource access and control or to channel resources on a priority basis to groups that are typically excluded, such as women's and youth groups (but also minorities), to ensure that they can meaningfully participate in the planning and implementation of actions. As actions are implemented, it will be important to engage with decision makers at different levels to raise awareness of discriminatory policies and practices, and to promote a governance of ecosystem services that is gender-equitable and inclusive.

43. The project will support Village Development Committees and Resource Users and Management Committees, as well as community participatory processes to improve landscape governance and management. Therefore, throughout its implementation, specific attention will be given to participatory

reflective monitoring of the inclusiveness of landscape management. This could draw from techniques that are used in CGIAR's "How are we doing?" methodology.[177]

44. The pathways for gender equality in the project are represented in the figure below.

<table>
<tr><td>Goal</td><td colspan="3">The project objective is to scale-up the climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods in Somalia by operationalizing the Great Green Wall Initiative in the country and through support to gender equality and women's empowerment.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Outreach</td><td colspan="3">At least 50 percent of beneficiaries will be women</td></tr>
<tr><td>Outcomes</td><td>Economic empowerment</td><td>Voice and decision-making</td><td>Workload balance and wellbeing</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Activities</td><td>Creating new income opportunities for women (e.g. NWFP, nurseries)

Supporting women to set up their own climate-resilient businesses

Adapting training to the needs of women

Sensitize men and boys as a strategy to support the economic engagement.</td><td>Landscape planning will purposely consider women's needs and aspirations

Representation of women in landscape decision-making will be guaranteed

Arrangements will be made to ensure that needs and aspirations of women are taken into account in policy engagement activities

Household methodologies will be promoted Female role models will be promoted (such as successful female led Naturally-Assisted Regeneration)</td><td>Time- and labour-saving technologies will be promoted (e.g. as part of the support for climate-adaptive businesses)

Gender issues, including addressing gender-based stereotypes, will be incorporated in trainings

Awareness-raising on gender-based violence</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Including a gender-dimension in all policy engagement activities</td></tr>
<tr><td>M&E</td><td colspan="3">Sex- and age-disaggregated data</td></tr>
</table>

[177] CIFOR-ICRAF (2020). How are we doing? A tool to reflect on the process, progress and priorities of your multi-stakeholder forum.

Activities per sub-component

Component 1: Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia	
Output 1.1. Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans developed	• Carry out gender analysis to inform the development of Community Climate-Resilient Investment Plans (utilising frameworks for analysis such as Gender Sensitive Climate Vulnerability & Capacity Analysis) • Create opportunities for meaningful participation by women in mapping process and the development of CCRIPs • Ensure women representation in VDCs/CDAs • Conduct participatory reflective monitoring of the inclusiveness of landscape management plans (for example using techniques used in CGIAR's "How are we doing?" methodology)
Output 1.2. Priority green and resilient measures implemented	• Address gender-specific needs and capacities identified during the planning process into climate-resilient landscape management activities • Ensure women's perspective is included in the site-specific planning process (site management plans) • Ensure women representation in Resource Users Management Committees • Analyse the needs, roles and dynamics of women and men in relation to CfW and how other dimensions of diversity (e.g. clans and minorities, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity) intersect with them.
Component 2. Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia	
Output 2.1. Adaptive capacity of agropastoral and pastoral systems strengthened	• Introduce household methodologies, e.g. principles of the Gender Action and Learning System (GALS) into capacity building (Pastoralists/Farmers Field Schools) • Raise awareness on gender-based violence • Ensure trainings consider women's needs (e.g. timing, location, literacy levels, etc.) • Ensure gender dimension is included in knowledge products prepared and disseminated • Organise outreach campaigns targeted at women (e.g. using female role models for example in relation with P/FMNR) • Give priority to solutions and techniques that help reduce women's time and labour constraints
Output 2.2. Diversification of income sources for resilient livelihoods ensured	• Support the development of Non-Wood Forest Product value chains for women • Support the reinforcement/creation of tree nurseries led by women • Prioritize female producers and/or entrepreneurs in terms of support through access to inputs/equipment (using quotas – 50% women) • Promote time- and labour-saving technologies for women (for example equipment for fodder processing and storage, water harvesting technologies, etc.) • Ensure trainings on business skills and financial inclusion take into account women's needs (e.g. timing, location, literacy levels, etc.)
Component 3. Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia	
Output 3.1. National Strategy and Action Plan to Implement the GGWI in Somalia elaborated	• Ensure gender dimension is included in the development of national strategy and action plan to implement GGWI • Ensure trainings include women officials (at least 40%)
Output 3.2. National and local stakeholders' capacities to implement GGWI in Somalia reinforced	• Ensure gender dimension is included in the activities and engagement with Federal and State level • Ensure trainings include women officials (at least 40%) • Ensure gender dimension is included in LDSF

45. **Implementation arrangements**. Gender and Social Inclusion aspects of the project will be managed by the National Gender and Social Inclusion Officer, who will be responsible for gender and social inclusion issues (overseeing the implementation of the gender strategy, building the capacity of staff and helping colleagues to address considerations related to gender equality and women's empowerment in their operations, including knowledge management, M&E, indicators and measurement of results). Dedicated budget has been allocated to address these issues, as well as to ensure the mainstreaming of gender considerations into all project activities. The following arrangements will guarantee that gender is taken into account in the implementation of the project:

- A dedicated staff will be recruited for gender and social inclusion aspects.
- A strategy and project-type action plan will be established at project start-up.
- Budget has been allocated for specific gender- and youth-related activities
- Quotas have been set for women (50%) and youth (50%) as a percentage of beneficiaries, and all collected and analysed data will be disaggregated by sex and gender.
- Information campaigns and outreach events targeting women and youth will be carried out during project implementation
- Female and young trainers will be mobilized.
- Studies undertaken by the project will include a gender and age perspective
- Gender parity in the PMU will be encouraged.
- Responsibility for gender mainstreaming will be included in the terms of reference of all key project staff.
- Responsibility for gender mainstreaming will be included in the terms of reference of service providers.
- Accommodations will be made under all components to ensure widespread women participation. This may include scheduling engagements separately with women, men and marginalized groups in places acknowledged as safe spaces for sharing information. Confirm that meeting times are convenient for participants, recognizing and accommodating those with other responsibilities such as child care.
- Considerations for gender-based violence will be integrated into all community-consultation activities: involving men and boys in capacity strengthening to promote advocacy against gender-based violence will be of critical importance.
- In all its activities, compliance with IFAD's policy on preventing and combating sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse will be sought. This will be reflected in the terms of reference of all key project staff and service providers.

Gender action plan and results framework

Gender-related project objective: Reduce the vulnerability of 17,700 women's livelihoods & ecosystems in Somalia to the negative impacts of climate change					
Component 1: Green and resilient agropastoral and pastoral ecosystems in Somalia					
Output 1.1. Community Climate Resilient Investment Plans developed					
Activities	**Indicators**	**Targets**	**Timeline**	**Responsibilities**	**Costs**
Carry out gender analysis to inform the development of climate-resilient landscape investment plans (using frameworks for analysis such as Gender Sensitive Climate Vulnerability & Capacity Analysis)[178]	Number of gender analyses carried out to inform landscape investment plans	4 (district level) 10 (cluster level)	Y1 & Y3/4	PMU	Included in socio-economic diagnostic (103,040 USD)
Create opportunities for meaningful participation by women in	Training on enhancing women's decision-making ability and input	10 trainings	Y1 & Y4	PMU	Mainstreaming of GCVCA methodology into planning process (51,520 USD)

[178] The GCVCA practitioners guidebook provides a framework for analyzing vulnerability and capacity to adapt to climate change and build resilience to disasters at the community level, with a particular focus on social and in particular gender dynamics. Gender Sensitive Climate Vulnerability & Capacity Analysis - CARE Climate Change

mapping process and the development of climate-resilient landscape investment plans	Percentage of women involved in landscape planning process	50%	Y1 & Y4	PMU	Included in planning process (104,091 USD)
	Percentage of women involved in Village Development Committees (VDCs)/Community Development Associations (CDAs)	30%	Y1 & Y4	PMU	Included in strengthening of VDC/CDAs (65,109 USD)
Conduct participatory reflective monitoring of the inclusiveness of landscape management plans	Reviews of the process conducted	1 per investment plan	Yearly	PMU	Supported by Gender and Social Inclusion Officer and CLeFs & regular monitoring
Output 1.2. Priority green and resilient measures implemented					
Activities	**Indicators**	**Targets**	**Timeline**	**Responsibilities**	**Costs**
Address gender-specific needs and capacities identified during the planning process into climate-resilient landscape management activities	% women amongst those benefitting from climate resilient landscape management activities	50%	Y2-Y5	PMU	Included in climate resilient landscape management activities costs
	% of women represented in Resource Users Management Committees	30%	Y2 & Y4	PMU	Included in creation of RUMCs (78,826 USD)
Analyse the needs, roles and dynamics of women and men in relation to CfW and how other dimensions of diversity intersect with them.	% of women mobilized for CfW activities	50%	Y2-Y5	PMU	Included in climate resilient landscape management activities costs
Component 2. Resilient agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods in Somalia					
Output 2.1. Adaptive capacity of agropastoral and pastoral systems strengthened					
Activities	**Indicators**	**Targets**	**Timeline**	**Responsibilities**	**Costs**
Introduction of household methodologies, e.g. principles of the Gender Action and Learning	Number of facilitators trained to become GALS facilitators	40	Y1, Y2 & Y4	PMU	Training on GALS (30,603 USD)
	Number of households	1,000	Y2-Y6	PMU	GALS methodology in

System (GALS) into capacity building (P/FFS)	introduced to household methodologies				P/FFS (96,495 USD)
	% of P/FFS using GALS	100%	Y2-Y6	PMU	
	Awareness raising sessions on gender-based violence systematically included in P/FFS	Yes	Y2-Y6	PMU	
Ensure trainings take into account women's needs (e.g. timing, location, literacy levels, etc.)	% of women participating in trainings provided by the project	50%	Continuous	PMU	Supported by Gender and Social Inclusion Officer and CLeFs & regular monitoring
Ensure gender dimension is included in knowledge products prepared and disseminated	% of knowledge products prepared and disseminated which include a focus on gender	100%	Y2-Y6	PMU	Included in communication and dissemination of results (42,890 USD)
Organising outreach campaigns targeted at women (e.g. using female role models)	Number of outreach campaigns organised	At least one per year	Y2-Y6	PMU	Promotion of female role models (41,145 USD)
Output 2.2. Diversification of income sources for resilient livelihoods ensured					
Activities	**Indicators**	**Targets**	**Timeline**	**Responsibilities**	**Costs**
Support the development of businesses for women	Number of women NWFP cooperatives provided business support	20	Y2 & Y4	PMU	105,101 USD
	Women-led tree nurseries established	10	Y2 & Y4	PMU	263,804 USD
Prioritize female led cooperatives of producers and/or entrepreneurs in terms of support through access to inputs/equipment	% of women beneficiaries	50%	Y2-Y4	PMU	Included in budget for livelihood diversification (928,830 USD)
Promote time- and labour-saving technologies for women	% of inputs/equipment allocated to women supporting time/labour saving	100%	Y2-Y4	PMU	
Ensure trainings on business skills/financial inclusion take into	% of women participating in business development	50%	Y2-Y6	PMU	Included in budget for training on business skills

account women's needs	trainings provided by the project				and financial inclusion (112,894 USD)
Component 3. Operationalization of the Great Green Wall initiative in Somalia					
Output 3.1. National Strategy and Action Plan to Implement the GGWI in Somalia elaborated					
Activities	**Indicators**	**Targets**	**Timeline**	**Responsibilities**	**Costs**
Ensure gender dimension is included in the development of national strategy and action plan to implement GGWI	Gender is mainstreamed into Somalia's GWWI Strategy and Action Plan	Yes	Y1-Y2	PMU	Included in total costs for the study (100,000 USD)
Ensure trainings include women officials	% of women trained	40%	Y1-Y4	PMU	Included in training costs (79,094 USD)
Output 3.2. National and local stakeholders' capacities to implement GGWI in Somalia reinforced					
Activities	**Indicators**	**Targets**	**Timeline**	**Responsibilities**	**Costs**
Ensure gender dimension is included in the activities and engagement with Federal and State level	Gender considerations are mainstreamed in trainings/workshops	Yes	Y1-Y5	PMU	Included in coordination process (47,095 USD)
Ensure trainings include women officials	% of women trained	40%	Y1-Y5	PMU	Included in training costs (168,195 USD)
Ensure gender dimension is included in LDSF	LDSF includes gender specific indicators	Yes	Y1-Y5	PMU	Included in LDSF system costs (157,682 USD)

Annex 6: Lessons learned from the Great Green Wall Initiative

I. Context

1. To address increasingly complex and interrelated challenges associated with land degradation and climate change, and support the transition towards climate resilient, low emission agriculture, the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) was launched in 2007 by the African Union. The GGWI aims to restore the continent's degraded landscapes and transform millions of lives. The GGWI's initial objectives were to address land degradation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and protect biodiversity and forests. Under the GGWI, environmental aspects and natural capital have been integrated into the development agenda and a multi-stakeholder dialogue has been established to ensure country ownership. It has also created opportunities for the scaling-up of investments based on successful experiences on the ground. The initiative is currently being implemented across 22 African countries and intends to revitalize thousands of communities across the continent. The GGWI brings together African countries and international partners under the leadership of the African Union Commission and the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PA-GGW).

2. Currently, the initiative is being implemented in all geographical regions of the African continent with more than thirty countries at various stages of implementation, especially in the west and the southern regions. The GGW currently has several categories of countries participating in:

a) The 11 Sahelian countries that are members of the PA-GGW. Many of these countries were the pioneers of the Initiative;

b) Pioneer members who are not part of the Pan African Agency; Algeria, Egypt, The Gambia and Tunisia;

c) The countries that were part of the SAWAP and BRICKS projects "in support of the GGW", financed by the GEF and the World Bank: Benin, Ghana, Sudan and Togo (in addition to the other SAWAP countries that are members of the PA-GGW already mentioned), and

d) The southern African countries under the auspices of SADC and with support from the FAO and the Global mechanism of the UNCCD. This includes: Angola, Botswana, and the Union of the Comoros, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. During the One Planet Summit in January 2021, the launch of the Great Green Wall Accelerator was announced to help meet the financial requirements of the programme.[179] The Accelerator is coordinated through the PA-GGW with support from UNCCD. It aims to facilitate collaboration among donors and stakeholders involved in the Initiative and help all actors to better coordinate, monitor, and measure the impact of their actions. To date, multilateral and bilateral organizations have raised more than USD 19 billion for this initiative.[180]

4. The **African Union Great Green Wall Strategy and Ten-Year Implementation Framework (2024-2034)** was officially launched in May 2024[181], and includes Somalia amongst new "pioneer" countries. Its overall objective is to "*enhance the resilience of communities, ecosystems, and economies in the African drylands by improving the living conditions of populations, improving the state and health of ecosystems, advocating and mobilising resources, strengthening institutional collaboration and promoting policy coherence*". The strategy includes four strategic intervention axes: (1) enhancing leadership, governance and political commitment; (2) adopting approaches toward transformative restoration and resilient ecosystem management and sustainable development; (3) enhancing the implementation of resilient landscape restoration through resource mobilisation, partnerships, inclusion, knowledge exchange and capacity development; and (4) leveraging existing efforts and knowledge systems.

II. Lessons learned

5. With the successes achieved in the Sahel region, the GGWI is seen and used as a model for the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and for the achievement of the SDGs in drylands. Another unique feature of the GGWI is the large number of related and complementary

[179] Somalia is not yet a member of PA-GGW and not a target country for the OPS Pledges.
[180] Green Wall Accelerator. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.
[181] https://aiccra.cgiar.org/news/great-green-wall-initiative-enhance-ecosystems-and-livelihoods-resilience-africa

technical programs and projects implemented by different collaborating partners at both continental and global levels. The projects include but not limited to: the Africa landscape Restoration program (AFR100), Regreening Africa program, Greening Alliance, Africa Restoration Initiative, Creating Lands of Opportunity project, the Global Ever greening Alliance, and the upcoming “Middle East Regreening Initiative”.

6. The **African Union Great Green Wall Strategy and Ten-Year Implementation Framework (2024-2034)** however recognizes that the implementation of the GGWI has suffered from weaknesses and threats over the past ten years that need to be addressed for a smooth and successful implementation. The most critical weaknesses which need urgent actions are listed below and identified in the AU-GGW SWOT analysis (included in Appendix 1):

- **Inadequate Governance**.
    - Unclear definition of roles and responsibilities between the African Union Commission (AUC), the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and the Pan African Agency for the Great Green Wall. The seemingly lack of coordination and the impression of rivalry between AUC and the PAGGW, especially in the dialogue with partners, have been used to weaken Africa's leadership on the GGWI.
    - The decentralization process in almost all countries and the willingness of local governments to play a full role in integrating the GGWI concept into their planning and budgeting processes as brought into focus the essential role of local governments and communities in sustainable development and conflict resolution.
    - Insecurity and wars have considerably reduced the possibilities of intervention by public structures in many countries (Burkina, Chad, Cameroon, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Ethiopia). In these countries, it is essentially local institutions that can continue to work. A paradigm shift in the implementation of the GGW is needed to put local authorities, or institutions, whatever their name or denomination, at the heart of the GGW implementation.
    - Weak coordination and engagement with other relevant sectors. National agencies of the GGWI have difficulties to adopt a "landscape approach", cross-sectoral approach that transcends jurisdictional boundaries and traditional sectors (agriculture, environment, forestry, water, energy, land use and decentralization). Despite the existence of best practices in various countries to enhance the agropastoral potential of the initiative and its linkages with energy and water issues, decision-makers from these different sectors (agriculture, livestock, energy, water, etc.), are not that much involved in the definition of the intervention axes and in the operational and strategic management of the initiative. In most of the countries, there is no operational link between the GGWI and the action plans developed under the UNCCD, the UNFCCC, the UNCBD, and the Sendai framework. In other words, national coordinating entities are facing real challenges in ensuring synergies, coordination and synergistic approaches in the implementation of the Initiative.
- **The scope and geographical coverage of the initiative**. Despite the fact that the GGWI was adopted as an African solidarity with people living in arid and semi-arid zones, it is presented by many actors, including AU member states, as an initiative for the Sahel region only. Moreover, the vision of a line of trees spanning from Dakar to Djibouti, is still put forward by many institutions. As a result, and in the absence of this wall of trees, the GGW is seen in some corners as a failed project.
- **Inability to secure long-term financing /funding**. The GGWI is, by definition, a long-term and ambitious initiative. It may take decades for some of the benefits of the actions in drylands to become apparent. In fact, the GGWI should not be evaluated on the basis of time criteria, but rather as a catalyst for adaptation to changing conditions in drylands. However, most of the countries and donors are using a project approach, rather than a program approach. Funding from technical and financial partners is cosmetic, essentially oriented towards the implementation of specific or pilot projects and not global, comprehensive and integrated programs. The political will of African leaders that is the foundation of the GGW has not been matched with the level of national budgetary commitments for the implementation of the initiative.
- **The changing climate**. Since the inception of GGW, drought, aridity and unreliable rainfall have become more persistent and severe. Conditions for tree planting and forest management in general continue to deteriorate in many parts of the Sahel.

7. Additionally, specific lessons from the CIFOR-ICRAF project Regreening Africa in Somaliland and Puntland are outlined as follows[182]:

- **The ultimate aim of the EU-funded Regreening Project in Somaliland was to foster a massive, sustained landscape restoration movement with uptake throughout the territory**. The project has built on the successes of existing restoration programs to provide a solid basis for scale-up.
- **Scaling-up areas have been established**. The program expansion was achieved by building a coalition of local, national and international NGOs and civil society organisations, collaborating with government at all levels, and with the technical support and overall coordination by World Agroforestry
- **Mindset change is a fundamental aspect of building a restoration movement**. Thus, the project has focused on shifting the attitudes of all stakeholders by improving their understanding of the many benefits received from investing time and effort in landscape restoration.
- **A much stronger technical capacity is imperative for the successful restoration of land, particularly grazing land**. The project has focused on building technical capacity among government experts, development agents and beneficiaries, organised in various community-based organisations
- **Xeer, the traditional customary law, has been the basis under which the pastoral communities agree to protect the rangelands and pasturelands**. Xeer is a traditional legal system that regulates the affairs and relationships of sub-groups of society such as farmers, nomads, merchants and hunters, among others. It has been relied upon for settling NRM related disputes in the territory as it is compensatory rather than punitive, and hence widely accepted. Hearings are conducted in the open and decisions require consensus among major parties. Clans indemnify against violation of the decisions reached.
- **The accelerated action by pastoralists to protect and manage naturally regenerating trees on their farmland**. This widespread action can be attributed to pastoralists' improved awareness and knowledge of natural tree regeneration benefits such as the provision of fodder, fuelwood and environmental amelioration.
- **The farmer-managed natural regeneration (FMNR) model has empowered individuals and communities with responsibility for the care and nurturing of naturally occurring woody vegetation**. This rewards the sustainable harvesting of wood and non-timber forest products (NTFP). FMNR can be practiced by men, women and youth, majority and minority ethnic groups, individuals, and whole communities. Champion members were established and are active in FMNR project sites.
- **Soil and water conservation practices**. Physical measures, such as the construction of soil or contour bunds, have worked well in controlling runoff and in retaining rainwater. These measures have enabled the regeneration of vegetation cover in rangelands.
- **Tree species planting and agroforestry nursery sites**. Quality planting materials offering good field survival and tree products are lacking for many planting programs. Nine agroforestry nurseries were set up and produced about 2,000 seedlings that were used for FMNR site enrichment planting as well as for supporting 250 women home gardening practices. The fruit producing trees contribute to improved nutrition in these households.
- **Nurseries provide entrepreneurs with opportunities for new local businesses**. The nurseries have already supplied seedlings to private tree planting programs and government buyers. Determining the sites for setting-up nurseries, selecting tree species and sourcing quality germplasm are important factors that contribute to the success of such businesses
- **Best practices for women and youth involvement**. Women have participated in reseeding practices in FMNR sites and communal pasture lands. Women and men have participated in FMNR practices like pruning trees and the construction of soil and water conservation structures. Youths and marginalised groups are involved in raising tree seedlings in the nurseries and tree planting activities. Women and disadvantaged groups are involved in nursery management and production of seedlings

[182] Regreening Africa. 2023. Final Programme Report. World Agroforestry. Nairobi, Kenya.

III. IFAD and the Great Green Wall Initiative

8. IFAD current investments contributing to the objectives of the GGW Initiative amount to about half a billion USD, while pushing to rural transformation as a key driver to reduce poverty, improve food and nutrition security, and increase climate resilience and ecosystem restoration. These investments cover around 35 ongoing projects aligned with the GGW accelerator 5-pillar approach.

9. As part of these investments, IFAD is closely promoting partnerships for inclusive and sustainable rural transformation to address the nexus between agriculture and climate change, focusing in the development of community driven value chain which addresses fragility and supports building resilience, starting at the grassroots level with organizational development and at meso level with multi-stakeholder platforms; Territorial development brings together likeminded actors from the private sector, the civil society sector, and the public sector, to support the emergence of new value chain products.

10. As examples, IFAD is implementing the **Agriculture Climate-Resilient Value Chain Development,** in Niger, The Agricultural Value Chain Support Project (PAFA) in Senegal and the Inclusive Finance in Agricultural Value Chains Project (INCLUSIF) in Mali, and the regional level, the Igreenfin and AICRM programs which features activities to 'green' the business plans of value chain participants and to reduce the vulnerability of stallholders to climate shocks.

11. IFAD supports country-driven approaches to facilitate the attainment of rural development and climate change national strategies. Under the Neer Tamba project in Burkina Faso that ended in 2023, 62,000 ha of lands were put under climate resilient practices and 2,500,000 tons of CO2eq were sequestered. The project also supported more that 700 rural organizations with final 450,000 beneficiaries.

12. IFAD is leading the AICRM- Africa Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme on Climate risks in 7 GGW countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, The Gambia). With funding from IFAD, GCF and AfDB, the aim of the programme is to build and scale up the resilience and adaptive capacity of smallholder farmers and rural communities, notably through **Climate risk preparedness (Early warning system), Climate risk adaptation and mitigation and climate risk transfer**.

13. IFAD is also leading the Inclusive Green Financing Initiative (IGREENFIN I): Greening Agricultural Banks & the Financial Sector to Foster Climate Resilient, Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture in the Great Green Wall (GGW) countries with 3 components.

- The first component aims **to establish an innovative green financing facility** within local financial institutions, such as agricultural banks, microfinance institutions, and commercial banks. This facility would provide highly concessional green lines of credit to small farmers, encouraging the adoption of the best adaptation and mitigation solutions and practices in 5 countries in WCA.
- The second component focused on providing technical assistance to smallholder farmers, particularly women and youth, as well as MSMEs, cooperatives, farmers' organizations, and local banks. This support aimed to promote inclusive green finance and empower those working to make a difference in their communities.
- The third and final component of the project was a regional support program designed to coordinate, synthesize impacts of individual GCF-funded projects in the Green Great Wall region. This program fostered innovation, facilitated exchanges, and encouraged knowledge management among the 11 GGW countries.

14. IFAD and its different programs from its own resources and from supplementary funds (GCF, GEF, AF) allows to **shape long-term enabling environments** for investment in the GGW countries and implementation at the local and national scale, promoting continuous technical, financial and institutional dialogue at the knowledge decision interface for effective and widely supported farming activities.

15. **Scalability and replication** of such programs coupling at the nexus of Food systems and Climate Change for all GGW countries is of high importance**.** IFAD is now leading the development of a second phase of Igreenfin, which will cover additional GGW African countries. This demonstrates the initiative's potential for scalability and replication, expanding its impact across the continent.

Appendix 1: Strength, Weaknesses, Threats and Opportunities for the Great Green Wall Initiative as identified in the AU-GGW Strategy

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
i. **The GGWI is an Africa's own bold development concept** recalling the sentiments of pan Africanism and African renaissance and these give a lot of political good will to the concept by African leaders at least at the start. ii. **The adoption of the Paris Agreement on climate change gives value the GGW concept.** Commitment by states to address the growing climate crisis. iii. **Institutional strengths** – **Existence of institutional arrangements. Many countries have established institutional arrangements for the coordination and implementation of the GGWI. All of the member countries of the PAGGW have set up either national agencies or national coordination units.** – **Existence of CBOs (Farmers, Women, Youth, Herders, groups) and CSOs** already engaged in the implementation of the Rio's convention and willing to engage fully in the implementation of the GGW iv. **Technical Strengths** – **Existence of "success stories"** for the capitalization and popularization of good practices of sustainable land management, including community practices and traditional knowledge. Experiences in the economic valorization and monetization of natural resources (valorization and commercialization of NTFP and Fodder management) strongly encourage local communities to adopt and adapt the concept and operational modalities of the GGWI. – **Existence of proven technologies**. The practices of **reforestation**, afforestation, grazing and water resource management, and the long history of bushfire use and management make the adaptation and domestication of the GGWI concept familiar to the local communities involved in its implementation. v. **The cross-cutting nature of the GGWI made it attractive** to development partners who saw an opportunity to support their various interventions in the drylands of Africa. The birth of the GGWI concept coincided with the global search for sustainable development models. vi. **Existence of a strong communication at global level:** the GGWI is a globally recognized brand sought after by financial and other partners	i. **The GGWI remains vague in terms of scope, content and with regard to the national development frameworks** – **Unclear scope and geographic coverage of the GGWI.** The initiative is presented by some actors as an initiative for the Sahel only, even though its name refers to the Sahara first, the Sahel second. – **Inadequate African ownership and leadership for the Initiative** and a clear communication strategy has led many of the financial partners and the international community to think that the Initiative is only limited to 11 Sahelian countries. – **At the national level, the GGWI remains vague,** both in terms of geographic coverage and content, with regard to the actors involved, as well as its integration into the national development plans. – **Prevalence of the vision of "wall of trees"** leads to Lack of tangible and consistent results. ii. **Governance** – **Weak coordination and engagement with other relevant sectors.** National agencies of the GGWI have difficulties to adopt a "landscape approach" and to strongly link-up it with the action plans developed under UNCCD, UNFCCC and UNCBD. Decision makers of other non-environmental sectors (agriculture, livestock, energy, water, etc.) are little involved in the definition of the intervention axes and in the operational and strategic management of the initiative. – **Unclear definition of roles and responsibilities between the African Union Commission (AUC), the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and the Pan African Agency for the Great Green Wall**. This leads to weaken Africa leadership and voice in the implementation process. – **Coordination of the Initiative is hampered by insufficient human resources** at the RECs and AUC levels. The Coordination Unit created by the AUC does not have sufficient resources, both financial and technical. Most RECs do not even have a coordination unit or even a focal person. The RECs have not yet taken ownership of the GGWI with the exception of SADC. The Pan African Agency for the GGW lacks capacity and the governance is not up to what could be expected iii. **Weak high-level political support for GGW and environmental management**. In many countries, activities are poorly funded from state budgets. **The majority of national GGW entities seek to have field operations** as a mean to access external financial resources. This leads to competition, as well as problems of overlap between GGW structures and other existing operational structures. iv. **Lack of appropriate knowledge management**, **sharing and coordination mechanisms.** Knowledge developed through UNCCD and other SLM, adaptation/mitigation projects is largely unknown and sometimes ignored. In addition, the place and role of science and research in the management of the Initiative is not well emphasized. There is no scientific advisory structure, neither at the African nor at the national level, despite the role played by SAFGRAD in UNCCD implementation at continental level. v. **A project approach, and not a program approach**: Funding from technical and financial partners is cosmetic, essentially oriented towards the implementation of specific projects and not global, comprehensive and integrated programs

OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
i. **The GGWI offers strategic opportunities to sustainably utilize the enormous solar energy potentials** GGW could be an accelerator for the Light up Africa initiative ii. **The GGWI, a unifying platform for sustainable development and poverty reduction policies and activities in drylands of Africa**. Designed as part of the acceleration of the implementation of the UNCCD, the GGWI provides a point of mutual convergence and synergy for the Rio conventions and SENDAI framework for disaster Risk reduction. There are enormous opportunities to leverage GGWI to achieve food security and poverty reduction goals through diversification of agriculture and production systems to boost food production and create employment opportunities, particularly for women and youth in arid zones. iii. **The GGWI has great potential to contribute significantly to the achievement of the aspirations of the African Union's Agenda 2063.** iv. The GGWI can benefit from the existence of existing and active communities' organizations at the grassroot levels, professional organizations and other farmers groups. v. **The initiative has the potential to complement the implementation in Arid zones of other African initiatives and flagship programs** (PIDA, Trans Saharan Road, Lagos-Algiers gas pipeline, Lagos-Algiers optical fiber, AFR100) as well as the African Development Bank's 5 operational priorities with the following strategic objectives: i) light and power Africa, ii) feed Africa, iii) industrialize Africa, iv) improve governance, and v) improve the quality of life of the people of Africa. vi. **The creation of the GGW Accelerator to support resource mobilization** and growing interest in GGW-related activities. All countries already have national SLM coordination structures that can support implementation of the initiative. vii. Existence of an **African diaspora that could potentially be mobilized** to invest in GGW and to contribute its expertise. viii. **The transformation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) into the African Union Development Agency (AUDA)** (resource mobilization) should boost the financing and sustainability of the Initiative ix. **The decentralization process** in almost all countries and the willingness of local governments to play a full role in integrating the GGWI concept into their planning and budgeting processes as brought into focus the essential role of local governments and communities in sustainable development and conflict resolution. x. **The adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** in 2015 was a pivotal moment of opportunity for the effective implementation of the GGWI. Strengthening synergies and complementarities between the GGWI and the SDGs has opened up opportunities for scaling up sustainable land management in the drylands of Africa xi. **The external shocks that have affected Africa** (COVID-19, the war in Ukraine and its consequences in terms of food security) have accelerated awareness of the importance of local development, the promotion of family farming and agroecology xii. **The GGWI offers many opportunities for resource mobilization and stakeholder capacity development** xiii. **Existence of specialized AUC structures** that can be used to manage the initiative**: SAFGRAD**	i. **Inability to secure long-term financing /funding.** The inability of African government to provide the necessary funding for GGWI is indeed a serious threat. The GGWI is, by definition, a long-term and ambitious initiative. It may take decades for some of the benefits of the actions in drylands to become apparent. In fact, the GGWI should not be evaluated on the basis of time criteria, but rather as a catalyst for adaptation to changing conditions in drylands. ii. **Poverty, food insecurity and nature-based consumption**. iii. **The inability of partners to meet the funding pledges made to the GGWI.** Huge sums of money have been pledged since COP15 but very littles of that money have reached the ground implementation. iv. **Insecurity and wars have considerably reduced the possibilities of intervention by public structures** in many countries (Burkina, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Ethiopia**).** v. The seemingly **lack of cooperation and coordination between the African Union Commission and the Pan African Agency** can divide political allegiance to the Initiative. vi. **The lack of clear indication of GGWI in the organogram of the Directorate of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy** may lead the gradual phasing out of the Initiative as there would be no budget for it.