

## Annex: Additional Project Information

### Nature Based Climate Adaptation For the Guinean Forests of West Africa

#### 1. Project Summary

Nature-based climate adaptation in the Guinean forests of West Africa project (abbreviated as the NbS project) is a 3-year collaborative initiative (March 27, 2023 – March 31, 2026), implemented by that World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and Centre d'Études et de Coopération Internationale (CECI), as a consortium. It will contribute in enhancing the adoption of gender responsive and inclusive nature-based solutions (NbS) for climate change adaptation (CCA) among communities residing in the Guinean forest region of Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Guinea, specifically in the landscapes of Wassa Amenfi Landscape and Lake Bosomtwe Landscape in Ghana, landscapes surrounding Taï National Park, and the Lôh-Djiboua region in Côte d'Ivoire, landscapes surrounding the Kounounkan Forest Reserve and the Madina Oula landscape in Guinea.

The NbS project aligns with elements of the National Adaptation Plans (NAP) of the targeted countries, the Sustainable Development Goal – SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 13 on Climate Action, the Whistler Principles to Accelerate Innovation for Development and Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy (FIAP). With respect to the FIAP, the NBS project is a GE-03 initiative - meaning that gender equality is a principal outcome of the project; the project will also support the full realization of women's and girls' human rights; and reduce gender inequalities in access to and control over resources and benefits of development. The project partners will operate at multiple levels (personal, relational, and structural), taking into consideration the multidimensional and complex nature of empowerment.

This project, with a budget of \$26,185,529 CAD, will improve women's leadership in Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) planning processes (Intermediate Outcome 1100), by increasing the restoration of degraded forests and key habitats with benefits for biodiversity (Intermediate Outcome 1200), and by increasing gender-responsive investments with income potential for women (Intermediate Outcome 1300). Using an inclusive market systems (IMS) approach, the project will focus on engaging with a wide range of stakeholders to develop local and regional capacity to use evidence and engage with women and marginalized groups to prioritize locally relevant NBS to climate change adaptation that contributes to enhanced biodiversity and gender equality.

Climate change has significantly impacted the Guinean forests of West Africa and the populations which they sustain. Documented impacts include: i) an overall decrease in average annual precipitation, and a marked change in rainfall patterns (Quenum et al 2021) ii) an increase in the frequency of drought years; iii) a reduction in the average annual flow of some rivers; iv) an increase in average local temperatures and frequency of heat waves. While these challenges cannot be uniquely attributed to climate change, there is increasing evidence of the links between climate change, increased temperature and erratic rainfall, and human-induced impacts on the local environment.

An overall assumption is that restoration and reforestation of degraded forests, both on and off farm, will be critical to supporting vulnerable populations, women and their communities to adapt to climate change challenges and will be central to protecting and restoring biodiversity in this critical global hotspot. This initiative builds on WUSC's and CECI's decades of experience supporting vulnerable populations and leverages the experience of a variety of local and international partners who bring a strong climate NbS lens, are fully immersed in their respective ecosystems and whose work can be accelerated by this project.

The purpose of this Project Implementation Plan (PIP) is to review the expected project results as well as the proposed approaches that will be used by the project to engage with partners to contribute and accelerate their efforts in CCA using a gender responsive lens. The development of this PIP is informed by two formative assessments - a gender based analysis and a vulnerability analysis conducted across all three target countries. The PIP is further framed by consultations with partners conducted individually and through a validation workshop organized from July 12th to 14th in Kumasi (Ghana) to receive partner feedback on key aspects of the project (logic model, outputs and activities).

**2. Project Reach**

This project seeks to enhance the adoption of gender responsive and inclusive nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation among communities residing in the Guinean forest region of Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana and Guinea. As such, the project will contribute to changes that will be experienced by rural populations residing in target regions, particularly women. The total reach of the project is estimated at 211,652 (50%F; 50%M). This figure comprises the populations within the specific landscapes and communities targeted in each country that is expected to benefit from climate adaptations and improved forest restoration. The three countries, and the target regions within, comprise a wide range of ethnic groups and ethnic minorities. Some regions, particularly in Côte d’Ivoire, are home to migrants who have settled over a period of more than 50 years, with new migrants arriving on a regular basis.

While improved planning and increased investments over time are expected to reach large populations, the project will more directly reach a subset of the population through direct action. For example, 600 community members (60%F; 40%M) will benefit through direct training in forest restoration, and 900 (70%F; 30%M) will be trained on Free, Prior and Informed Consent and land rights.

A total of 909 intermediaries will be reached in this project, including actors and stakeholders at different scales, including representatives of local village leadership, national women’s organisations, as well as business owners/leaders, policy makers, investors and donors. This is a diverse group of individuals representing a diverse range of organisations. Women tend to be underrepresented in these leadership positions. The project will work with partners to target female leaders for outreach, and is assuming an average of 40% of intermediaries will be female. This may vary across countries and regions, with the assumption that a higher percentage of females will be represented among local intermediaries than national.

For example, stakeholders engaged in planning at landscape and national levels are key intermediaries. The project will reach at least 5678 individuals (50% F; 50% M) through disseminating research at landscape level and national level workshops. In addition, 360 (40% F; 60% M) will be reached through policy engagement workshops and training.

Type of Reach	Female	Male	Total
<b>Project Beneficiaries</b>			
Community members residing in landscapes supported by project	105,826	105,826	211,652
Community members engaged in forest restoration	900	600	1,500
<b>Total Beneficiaries</b>			

<b>B. Project Intermediaries</b>			
<b>Businesses, coops and producer organizations</b>			
Managers/Staff/Members	324	216	540
Value chain producers	1,800	1,800	3,000
<b>Women's rights organizations and community groups</b>			
Members/Managers	1050	450	1,500
<b>Government</b>			
Officials/policymakers	315	315	630
<b>Total Project Reach</b>	<b>110,215</b>	<b>108,607</b>	<b>218,822</b>

### 3. Project Landscapes and Communities

Country	Landscape	Communities
Ghana	Wassa Amenfi	Abotareye, Adenoi, Pensanom, Akyekyere, Anakom, Nkrankrom, Gonukrom, Attobrakrom, Kamaso.
Ghana	Lake Bosomtwe	Ankaase, Domba, Pippie, Agyamam, Obo, Amakom. Atafram, Duase.
Côte d'Ivoire	Loh-Djiboua	Moussadougou, Krikpoko 1, Gbahiri, Baboué, Gnahoualilié, Data, Kpakossou, Bafao, N'Guessandankro, Sakota.
Côte d'Ivoire	Nawa	Kragui, Petit Bondoukou, N'Driagui, Wonsealy, Gbily, Gnaboya (V4), Akpouekro, Noukpoudou (LBS), Petit Bouaké, Ottawa, Djoutougbo 2.
Guinea	Kounoukan	Kalédy/Kofio et guiyaboungni, Moussayah centre, Khimbely,

		Kamalah, Koundindé, Gbéreboun, Barikhouré Bassia, Allassoyah centre, Gnériba.
Guinea	Madina Oula	Mandina-Oula centre, Sékoussorayah, Samiankhouré, Famayah, Badet Kanty

#### 4. Logic Model

<b>*West Africa Climate Adaptation and Nature-Based Solutions</b>						
<b>Ultimate Outcome</b>	<b>1000</b> - Enhanced gender transformative and inclusive climate change adaptation by communities in the Guinean forests of Côte D'Ivoire, Ghana and Guinea					
<b>Intermediate Outcomes</b>	<b>1100</b> - Improved women's leadership and gender transformative evidence-based and nature-based climate change adaptation planning processes in the Guinean forests of the target zone		<b>1200</b> - Increased and more gender responsive restoration of degraded forests and key habitats with benefits for biodiversity by rural communities in the Guinean forests of the target zone		<b>1300</b> - Increased gender responsive investments in nature based solutions for CCA with income potential for women and biodiversity benefits in the Guinean forests of the target zone	
<b>Immediate Outcomes</b>	<b>1110</b> - Enhanced awareness and knowledge of systems actors, esp. Women's Organizations, on local forest resources, their conservation and use for nature based solutions to climate adaptation	<b>1120</b> - Increased gender responsive collaboration between systems actors, especially Women's Organizations, in support of nature based solutions for local adaptation that reflect the roles, knowledge and interests of women	<b>1210</b> - Improved access for women's organizations, community and forest groups, to expertise and technologies that support climate adaptation, women's livelihoods and restoration of key habitats for flora and wildlife	<b>1220</b> - Increased capacities of local stakeholders, especially Women's Organizations, to lead restoration (plantation, natural regeneration of degraded forests using biodiverse and local appropriate species	<b>1310</b> - Improved capacity of local businesses, women's organizations and cooperatives, to deploy more sustainable gender responsive livelihoods models implemented for NbS with biodiversity benefits	<b>1320</b> - Improved knowledge among private and public stakeholders of investable models of gender responsive NbS to CCA
<b>Outputs</b>	<b>1111</b> - Genetic and EDNA based Biodiversity Assessments completed, analyzed and shared	<b>1121</b> - Capacity building support provided to women's organizations and community groups for advocacy and policy dialogue	<b>1211</b> - Gender responsive research and consultations on tree selection completed	<b>1221</b> - Capacity building of women's groups, community, and enabling actors, for sustainable forest restoration completed	<b>1311</b> - Gender-responsive market systems analysis completed of nature-based business and livelihoods	<b>1321</b> - Gender responsive business cases developed for gender equitable NbS investments

	strategies for women's leadership in CCA			opportunities that contribute to CCA	with biodiversity co-benefits	
	<b>1112</b> - Research and consultations on local women's knowledge about climate change, climate adaptation, and use of biodiversity completed	<b>1122</b> - Gender transformative climate adaptation plans (landscape and community level) supported	<b>1212</b> - Multipurpose tree species that support gender responsive climate adaptation and biodiversity selected and distributed	<b>1222</b> - Training and coaching provided to Women's Organizations, and other local stakeholders, on participation of women in household and community decision making regarding forest restoration	<b>1312</b> - Business competition completed for NbS and gender equality innovations	<b>1322</b> - Gender responsive business models and incentives schemes documented and modeled that encourage forest restoration and NbS to climate adaptation
	<b>1113</b> - Research products shared with local, regional and national stakeholders	<b>1123</b> - Awareness raising sessions for communities of the importance of gender in governance and decision making in local resource management, livelihoods, and climate adaptation completed	<b>1213</b> - Local women and community groups trained on techniques of gender responsive forest restoration	<b>1223</b> - Best-fit practices for gender responsive landscape restoration tested, demonstrated and deployed	<b>1313</b> - Gender-responsive technical support provided on NTFP and nature positive agricultural cultivation and commercialization for women's groups, cooperatives and businesses	<b>1323</b> - Knowledge of gender-responsive investable models on NbS shared with local, national and international stakeholders
	<b>1114</b> - Training and quality assurance on NbS, gender and biodiversity completed	<b>1124</b> - Policy engagement workshops on gender and climate adaptation organized with, local, national and regional stakeholders completed	<b>1214</b> - Gender-responsive FPIC, appropriate feedback and grievance mechanisms developed and deployed	<b>1224</b> - Incentive and recognition schemes encouraging community involvement, esp of women, in NbS forest restoration and protection piloted	<b>1314</b> - Gender-responsive technical support provided to businesses to adapt businesses to climate change using NbS	

