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16 March 2026

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Thirty-seventh Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 7-8 April 2026

PROPOSAL FOR NEPAL

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT/PROGRAMME CATEGORY: Regular-sized Project Concept

Country/Region: Nepal
Project Title: GREEN-Koshi: Grounding Resilience and Ecosystem Enhancement through Nature-based Solutions
Thematic Focal Area: Disaster Risk Reduction and Early Warning Systems; Food Security; Ecosystem-Based Adaptation
Implementing Entity: National Trust for Nature Conservation of Nepal (NTNC)
Executing Entities: Ministry of Forests and Environment and National Trust for Nature Conservation
AF Project ID: AF00000474
IE Project ID: **Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars):** 10,000,000
Reviewer and contact person: Alexandra Munoz **Co-reviewer(s):**
IE Contact Person:

Technical Summary	The project "GREEN-Koshi: Grounding Resilience and Ecosystem Enhancement through Nature-based Solutions" aims to enhance climate resilience of vulnerable communities and ecosystems in Koshi Province by reducing exposure and sensitivity to climate-related hazards and strengthening adaptive capacity through integrated nature-based solutions, early warning systems, and climate-resilient livelihoods. This will be done through the five components below: Component 1: Integrated watershed management, restoring and managing wetlands, and nature-based tourism promotion (USD 3,000,000); Component 2: Climate-resilient agroforestry systems promotion and human-elephant conflict mitigation (USD 2,250,000); Component 3: Enterprise promotion and value chain development for improved livelihoods (USD 1,230,384); Component 4: Capacity strengthening of institutions and communities (USD 1,200,000); Component 5: NbS mainstreaming and integrating in national, sub-national and local policies, plans and programmes (USD 1,400,000).

	<u>Requested financing overview:</u> Project/Programme Execution Cost: USD 136,206 Total Project/Programme Cost: USD 9,261,590 Implementing Fee: USD 783,410 Financing Requested: USD 10,000,000 The proposal includes a request for a project formulation grant and/or project formulation assistance grant of USD 150,000. The initial technical review raised several issues, such as the lack of both an initial gender analysis and information about the stakeholder consultations, and a more comprehensive cost-effectiveness justification, as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review. The second technical review raised several issues, such as ensuring the equitable distribution of benefits and the incorporation of gender considerations; estimates of the economic, social, and environmental benefits; and the roles of each institution in the Learning and Knowledge Management Strategy, as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review. The third technical review raises some issues, such as a comprehensive narrative for the Theory of Change of the proposal, a sound justification for the use of UPSs, the required financial arrangements for sustainability, among others, as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review.
Date:	February 3, 2026

Review Criteria	**Questions**	**First Technical Review Comments November 11, 2025**	**Second Technical Review Comments December 17, 2025**	**Third Technical Review Comments February 3, 2026**
Country Eligibility	1. Is the country party to the Kyoto Protocol, and/or the Paris Agreement?	**Yes.** The country has ratified both the Kyoto Protocol (September 16, 2005) and the Paris Agreement (October 05, 2016).	**-**	**-**

	2. Is the country a developing country particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	**Yes**. Nepal is a developing country which is vulnerable to climate change. Koshi Province, a climatically and ecologically diverse region of Nepal, is experiencing intensifying climate-driven risks, ranging from erratic rainfall and glacial lake outburst floods to prolonged droughts and ecosystem degradation.	**-**	**-**
Project Eligibility	1. Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project/programme?	**Yes.** As per the Endorsement letter dated 3rd August 2025.	**-**	**-**
	2. Does the length of the proposal amount to no more than Fifty pages for the project/programme concept, including its annexes?	**Yes.** The concept note proposal has 31 pages. **CR1**: 1. Please ensure all tables are labelled with captions and all page numbers are visible. Consider adding paragraph numbers. 2. Please comply with the AF template headings and organize the information as per the heading.	**Yes.** The concept note proposal is 50 pages. **CR1:** 1. **Cleared.** 2. **Not cleared.** Please ensure titles are correctly numbered. **CR1(NEW):** Please ensure that the content in each section of Part II aligns with the	**CR1:** 2. **Cleared.** All titles and tables are correctly numbered. **CR1(NEW): Cleared.** **CAR1 (NEW):** **1. Cleared.** The stage of completion section of the proposal was updated on the cover page.

			requirements specified. **CAR1 (NEW):** 1. Please update the stage of completion section of the proposal on the cover page. 2. Please remove the co-financing figure on the cover of the proposal. 3. Please remove all decimal points for financing information presented in the proposal. See also **CAR17**.	**2. Cleared.** The co-financing figure was removed on the cover of the proposal. All decimal points have been removed throughout the CN.
	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**. However further information is required. The proposed project includes five specific objectives, including intermediate outcomes and targets for each one. The proposal provides a clear adaptation intent. The set of activities aim to address climate change in the province of Koshi (north of Nepal), including	**CAR2 (NEW):** Please confirm if the proposal contains USPs as some of the language suggests that some of the adaptation actions are not yet known. Please consult	**CR1(New1):** Please adjust the following: • The annexes are included in the total page limit (maximum 50 pages). If the ToC diagram is in Annex D, please ensure that it is clearly referenced in paragraph 15.

		activities such as early warning systems and nature-bases solutions. In addition, it includes the diagram of the Theory of Change (Figure 2, page 6), that shows how the activities will lead to substantial outcomes. However, both output and outcomes should be revised and the Adaptation Fund Strategic Objectives supported by this programme should be included. A clear, overarching objective is also missing in the narrative. **CR2:** Please include a general objective for the proposed programme, englobing the five specific objectives already included in the concept note. **CR3:** Kindly revise the main project's outcomes and outputs to ensure they are clearly and appropriately stated. For each output, explicitly detail the corresponding activities that will be undertaken. Please also remember to number each outcome, and number their associated outputs and activities as done in the ToC diagram	Guidance Document for Project/Programme with Unidentified Sub-Projects and amend the proposal accordingly. **CR2: Cleared.** As per information provided in Project/Programme Objectives (pages 3-4) **CR3: Not cleared.** • Please follow the AF template structure for concept notes. All information regarding components,	• In addition, please combine paragraphs 15, 16 and 17, as without the ToC diagram it is difficult to follow the different pathways. It is strongly recommended that all the ToC narrative be consolidated under paragraph 15, following the structure below: (i) Main problem and causes; (ii) Main objective and specific objectives; (iii) Components; (iv) Outcomes and outputs; (v) Risks and assumptions. The narrative should clearly present the vertical logic of the proposed project. • The activities associated with each output were presented more clearly in the previous submission. It would be helpful to clearly show which activity corresponds to each activity number. **CAR2 (NEW): Not cleared.**

		CR4: Please also provide the Theory of Change (ToC) narrative to show how the chosen interventions are most suitable adaptation responses under future scenarios. **CAR1**: Kindly indicate explicitly how the project supports one or more of the Adaptation Fund Strategic Objectives at Part II Section B of the proposal.	outcomes, outputs, and activities should be included in Part II.A. • Kindly specify targets for the proposed outputs under each component. **CR4: Cleared.** As per information provided in paragraph 48 (page 8). The concept note proposal also includes a Theory of Change Diagram (Figure 2). **CAR1: Cleared.** As per information provided in Part III.C (pages 39-40, paragraphs 135-139)	While paragraph 27 confirms that UPSs are part of the proposed project, please follow the [Guidance Document for Project/Programme with Unidentified Sub-Projects] and include in the CN the following: • A duly justified explanation for the use of USPs; • The specific benefits of not formulating the activities in advance; and • An explanation of how these benefits outweigh the potential risks of non-compliance with the ESP and GP. • At paragraph 102 please indicate that the USPs will also be subject to the ESMP. **CR3: Not cleared.** While the content under Part II.A is appropriate, please specify targets for the proposed outcomes and outputs under each component.

	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?	**No.** As per Section A (pages 11 - 12), the proposal provides a broad overview of economic, social and environmental benefits but estimates of these benefits are not quantified. In addition, it states the vulnerable communities in the Chure-Terai region as beneficiaries, but no more details are provided. The concept note does not clearly identify the specific vulnerable groups or demonstrate how benefits will be equitably distributed. On indigenous people, particular benefits provided for this group is not clearly stated or calculated. The proposal does not provide an initial gender analysis. **CAR2**: Please quantify the economic, social and environmental benefits in Part II Section B, whenever possible, including a brief explanation of the method used for these calculations. In cases where exact figures are not available, please provide reasoned estimates or qualitative proxies to support the anticipated impact of the project.	**CAR2: Not cleared.** • Please provide estimates of the economic, social, and environmental benefits in Part II, Section B. • Kindly expand the explanation of these benefits to clarify the rationale linking the proposed project activities to the expected economic, social, and environmental benefits. • Please include the specific actions the proposed	**CR2(New1):** Please include a brief explanation in the footnote to indicate how the participation target of 20% women was determined. **CAR2: Cleared.** As per the information provided in Part II.B, paragraphs 31–37, estimates for the economic, social, and environmental benefits have been included. In addition, the proposal outlines measures to avoid or mitigate negative impacts, such as the application of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) to ensure the participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as well as the adoption of a gender-

		CAR3: Please include an Initial Gender Analysis, in line with the Gender Policy requirements, to assess the distinct needs, capacities, roles, and knowledge resources of women and men, and/or to identify how evolving gender dynamics may influence potential changes. **CAR4:** 1. Please indicate the overall direct and indirect beneficiaries for this proposal. 2. Kindly state the estimated direct and indirect beneficiaries (gender-disaggregated) for each project outcome. Also, please specify the vulnerable groups (e.g., women, indigenous peoples) who will benefit from the project. **CR5**: Please describe how benefits will be equitably distributed, including how gender considerations have been integrated.	project will take to avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the AF ESP and the AF Gender Policy. **CAR3: Cleared.** As per information provided in Annex B (pages 44-46). **CAR4:** 1. **Cleared.** As per the information provided in Part II.B, paragraph 62 (pages 14–15), approximately 387,810 people will be direct beneficiaries, and a total of 1,939,050 people will be indirect beneficiaries. 2. **Not cleared.** While the concept note proposal provides information disaggregated by	responsive design for all interventions. **CAR4:** 2. **Cleared.** As per information provided in Table 4. The direct and indirect beneficiaries per outcomes 1, 2 and 3 are included. **CR5: Cleared.** As per the information provided in Part II.B, paragraphs 29–30, the equitable distribution of benefits will be ensured through equity-based targeting of project interventions, including inclusive selection criteria. In addition, a gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation system will be implemented to track participation and the distribution of benefits.

			gender, district, and ethnicity, please also provide the estimated direct and indirect beneficiaries (gender-disaggregated) for each project outcome. **CR5: Not cleared.** Kindly include in Part II.B, the approach for ensuring equitable distribution of benefits and the incorporation of gender considerations.	
	5. Is the project / programme cost effective?	**Yes**, however further information is needed. The proposal provides some logical explanation of cost-effectiveness of the project. There is some initial thinking around the analysis of alternatives e.g. NbS vs concrete embankments/grey infrastructure. However, the sustainability point of view if the cost-effectiveness is not demonstrated. A comparative cost-benefit analysis is expected during implementation. **CAR5**: Kindly include:	**CAR5:** (i) **Cleared.**	**CAR5:** (ii) **Cleared.**

		(i) the selected scope and approach of the project's cost-effectiveness; and (ii) the sustainability point of view of the proposed interventions. Where possible, provide quantitative estimates through proxies or qualitative justifications to support the comparison. Please also briefly expand on the analysis of alternatives and ensure a cost-benefit analysis is conducted during the PFG to inform the full proposal.	As per information provided in Part II.C, paragraph 79, page 18. (ii) **Not cleared.** Kindly elaborate further on the sustainability aspects of the proposed project. Please note this is not a reference to the AF Outcomes and outputs, but rather to explain how adaptation benefits and project outcomes continue long after the initial funding.	As per the information provided in Part II.C, paragraph 42, the sustainability of the project's benefits will be based on natural regeneration processes, as the interventions are primarily NbS. In addition, from a financial perspective, revenues are expected to be generated through ecotourism and community-based enterprises.
	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,** however further information is needed. Part II Section C (pages 13-15) outlines 6 national plans (specifically the NAP (2023-2050), NDC 3.0 and Nepal's 16th Five-Year Plan (2024/25–2028/29), 3 sub-national plans; and 2 international commitments. However, broad information is provided in each case. Notably the proposal is somewhat consistent with the		-

		plans as it promotes ecosystem-based approaches. **CAR6**: Kindly include the identified plans/strategies in a table-listing, including at least: (i) Specific name of the plan/strategy and years of implementation, (ii) Main objective, (iii) Explain the relevance to the proposed project, including its alignment with the existing plan or strategy. A suggested structure could be: *'The proposed project is aligned with [Plan XX], under [Specific Action XX], contributing to [Outcome XX].*'" **CAR7**: Please include any other sectoral plan/strategy related to the proposed project, including the ones related to water, agriculture, and SMEs. Please confirm whether the NAP was launched in 2023 as online show the period of 2021-2050.	**CAR6: Cleared.** As per information in Tables 6, 7, 8, and 9 (pages 19-22). **CAR7: Cleared.** As per information in Part II.D, paragraph 83 (the Government of Nepal endorsed the NAP in 2023) and Table 7.	

	7. Does the project / programme meet the relevant national technical standards, where applicable, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund?	**Unsure** As per Part II Section D (pages 15-16), the proposal identifies national legal and technical standards relevant to the project. In addition, the document states that an environmental and social management framework will be developed during the full proposal stage. However, a comprehensive list of the specific regulations and standards is required as evidence of compliance. **CAR8**: Kindly provide a comprehensive table listing of all specific technical standards applicable to the proposed project, including agricultural codes/regulations and water quality standards The table should be: (i) specific name/number of the standard/regulation, and goals/objectives, (ii) how it is related to the proposed project and the project's compliance status. In the case that compliance is required, please include the steps needed to comply with it	**CAR8: Not cleared.** Please include the key compliance requirements for the project as steps and provide details where applicable. In addition, kindly explain how it is related to the proposed activities and its compliance status.	**CAR8: Not cleared.** Please revise Table 10 to include the key compliance requirements of the project for each identified technical standard, clearly outlining the main steps to achieve compliance.

		and include the name of the competent authority.		
	8. Is there duplication of project / programme with other funding sources?	**Unsure**. As per Part II, Section E (Pages 16-17), the proposal refers to the GCF project "Building a Resilient Churia Region in Nepal (BRCRN)" implemented by the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE) with technical support from FAO. This project is within the intervention zone. It states that there is no duplication based on geographical coverage. Besides the BRCRN, two more projects are broadly mentioned. However, more comprehensive information is required as well as a sound justification for non-duplication. **CAR9**: Kindly include a comprehensive table listing all projects that are or have been implemented previously in Koshi, Nepal and that are complementary to the proposed project. For each project, please indicate the following: (i) Project title (ii) Donors/Funding Entity	**CAR9: Not cleared.** The table listing should be comprehensive. If there are no other complementary projects beyond BRCRN, please state that explicitly in the concept note proposal. In addition, please note that "no duplication" statement should be clearly justified (e.g. by	**CAR9: Cleared.** As per the information provided in Part II.F, paragraphs 62–67 and Table 11, there is no duplication with current projects. In addition, the proposal establishes mechanisms to avoid duplication throughout project implementation. *This should be further elaborated at the Full Proposal stage.*

		(iii) Main project interventions (iv) Timeline and specific location within country (v) Target population (vi) Implementing Entity (vii) Lesson learned, where applicable (viii) Overlaps and synergies with the proposed project, including how the proposed project will build upon interventions of existing and previous projects The no duplication statement should be clearly justified (e.g. by indicating the distinct geographic locations and/or types of interventions) for each related project identified.	indicating the distinct geographic locations and/or types of interventions). For example: "*There is no duplication of activities between BRCRN and GREEN-Koshi. The latter has been specifically designed to be complementary and synergistic, filling both geographic and thematic gaps*", should be accompanied by an explanation on how the proposed project will ensure that.	
	9. Does the project / programme have a learning and knowledge management component to capture and feedback lessons?	**Yes, to a limited extent.** The proposal does not have a separate learning and knowledge management component. As per Part II Section F (pages 17 – 19), the proposed project includes knowledge management and dissemination of lessons learned activities through different components. It includes knowledge products (e.g. policy		

		briefs and technical manuals); multiple platforms to share these products e.g. existing repository- Climate Change Knowledge Management Center (CCKMC); and peer learning instances. However, the proposal would benefit from additional details regarding the specific actions planned, the mechanisms for monitoring experiences, and how these actions would be sustained in the long run. **CR6** Please ensure there is a clear learning and knowledge management sub-component to highlight the well-thought-out knowledge management efforts. **CR7**: Kindly include details to respond to: • More details of the specific activities for Learning and Knowledge Management of the proposed project. This should include the institutions involved, specific activities, and main goals. For example, the policy briefs will be about what subject, or the case studies will be focused on what matter.	**CR6: Not cleared.** Please include explicitly which component will be the one dedicated to learning and knowledge management of the proposed project. **CR7: Not cleared.** Please refer to the roles of each institution in the Learning and Knowledge Management Strategy. If easier, you may include a table listing this information. The roles for each institution must be specific.	**CR6: Cleared.** As per information in paragraph 71, Component 5 is fully dedicated to LKM activities. **CR7: Cleared.** As per information in Table 12, which includes the role for: (i) NTNC; (ii) MoFE/CCMD; (iii) CIFOR-ICRAF; (iv) Provincial and local governments; and (v) Multi-stakeholder NbS Platforms.

		• who will be responsible for tracking the experiences gained, how this will be done, and when the tracking will take place. • how the knowledge generated will be sustained after the project concludes. **CR8:** Kindly specify what type of information will be collected and how it will be disseminated. For this, please refer to what multiple platforms will be used for dissemination (existing or new ones?) and how that is related to the CCKMC as central hub for dissemination. Also, kindly include the arrangements needed to support these actions.	**CR8: Not cleared.** Please specify the type of information to be collected. In addition, indicate the arrangements needed to support learning and knowledge management actions. For example: Does the link through the Climate Change Knowledge Management Center (CCKMC) require signing an agreement? What about financial arrangements?	**CR8: Cleared.** As per the information provided in Part II.G, the type of information to be collected is included in paragraph 75, and the arrangements with CCKMC are explained in paragraph 16.
	10. Has a consultative process taken place, and has it involved all key stakeholders, and vulnerable groups, including gender considerations in	**Yes**, but further information is required. As per Part II Section G (pages 19-20), the proposal refers broadly to preliminary consultations with a diverse set of stakeholders, including local		

	compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	government representatives, community-based user groups, NTNC field staff, and research partners.. However, the timeframe of this engagement is unclear as well as the details of the consultative process. **CAR10**: Kindly provide detailed information on the consultative process covering the following elements: (i) Participants of each meeting (i.e. Name of government agency, NGO etc), including the total number of attendees disaggregated by sex (ii) Date and location of each meeting (iii) Summary of the subjects/issues discussed, and any agreements reached (iv) Specify how their interests have been incorporated in proposal (v) Explanation of the gender considerations addressed, along with the considerations for other vulnerable groups.	**CAR10: Not cleared.** Please ensure the following in Table 12: (i) Expand on the subjects/issues discussed, and highlight the agreements reached (ii) Specify how their interests and gender considerations have been incorporated into the proposal, explicitly linking them to the outputs of the proposed project. For example, if the concept note states: "Yes. Dedicated measures to strengthen	**CAR10: Cleared.** As per the information provided in Table 13, the summary of stakeholder consultations now considers the number of participants disaggregated by gender, the issues discussed and decisions reached, and how interests and gender considerations were included in the proposal.

		Note this information may be included in a tabular format for easy reference. **CR9:** Using existing documents, provide an initial gender analysis which highlights gender dynamics and differentiated impacts between men and women from a national or sector-wide perspective in areas such as education, employment, health, income, and political participation. Please see CR7.	female leadership and economic opportunities," it should be expanded to refer to the specific outputs and activities where this was considered. **CR9: Cleared.** As per information in Annex B.	
	11. Is the requested financing justified on the basis of full cost of adaptation reasoning?	**Unsure.** As per Part II Section H (pages 20 – 21), the concept note outlines the rationale for the benefits associated with the component's activities, emphasizing that these benefits would not be achievable without Adaptation Fund resources. However, it does not provide clear information regarding additional funding sources. More details are needed.	**CR10: Cleared.** As per information provided in Part II.H, paragraph 114, page 29.	

		CR10: Please provide information about whether this project will meet its outcomes and outputs solely with the resources provided by the Adaptation Fund and clarify the co-financing (in-kind contribution) on Page 8. **CR11:** Please provide information on how the proposed project's objective will be achieved in regards adaptation. Also, refer to the costs of the proposed activities.	**CR11: Not cleared.** Please refer to the costs of proposed activities as estimates for this stage. Numbers may be adjusted during the full project preparation phase.	**CR11: Not cleared.** Please make reference to the costs of proposed activities. Please note that the costs of the proposed activities are estimates at this stage and may be adjusted during the full project preparation phase.
	12. Is the project / program aligned with AF's results framework?	**Yes**, however further information is required. As per Part III Section A (pages 26-28), the alignment of the project with the Adaptation Fund Results Framework is presented considering outcome and outputs for each component. However, there is some misalignment between the Outcomes and Output indicators. **CAR11:** Please update the table based on guidance and template provided at	**CAR11: Not cleared.** Please ensure that Adaptation Fund Outcomes and outputs corresponds to the updated Adaptation Fund's results framework. In addition, ensure that:	**CAR11: Not cleared.** Although Tables 15 and 16 were updated, please ensure the following: • Wording of AF outcomes and outputs (including indicators) are consistent with the AF Results Framework.

		• Results Framework Alignment Table (Amended in November 2025) (77 kB, DOC)	• all indicators are numbered • the USD amount for each component is aligned with the information in Table 2.	• Complete the table using the instructions of the AF Results Framework. For example, while the wording is the same, please note that the upper part (here, Table 15) includes the specific objectives rather than the components. • Please follow the format indicated in the AF Results Framework. Please note that Tables 15 and 16 should be combined into a single table.
	13. Has the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes been taken into account when designing the project?	**Yes**, but further information is needed. As per Part II, Section I (pages 21-22), the concept note proposal outlines institutional, financial, environmental, social and knowledge and learning sustainability, providing an exit strategy for each area. It effectively emphasizes integration into local governance, community ownership and livelihood systems.	**CAR12: Not cleared.** Please ensure to specify the following:	**CAR12: Not cleared.** In Part II.J, paragraphs 96–98, the CN now outlines the mechanisms considered

		CAR12: Please clarify the following: (i) Have capacity retention mechanisms have been considered? (ii) Given the PES schemes are only exploratory more information is required to back its viability. (iii) Have maintenance arrangements been considered post-project? (iv) Who will lead the update of the national platforms such as Climate Change Knowledge Management Center?	• Have mechanisms for capacity retention been considered? • Have post-project maintenance arrangements been addressed? • Is there any agreement that ensure the CCMD within the MoFE will be responsible for updating national platforms such as the Climate Change Knowledge Management Center?	for capacity retention and indicates that post-project maintenance arrangements will depend on local governments. In addition, under Part II.G, the proposal states that the collaboration with CCKMC is expected to be formalized through an institutional agreement or memorandum of understanding. However, please indicate whether the arrangements with local governments for financial sustainability have already been established or if this is a future action agreed with the relevant governments.
	14. Does the project / programme provide an overview of environmental and social impacts / risks identified, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and	**Yes**, however further information is needed. As per Part II Section J (pages 22-24), the proposal notes it will align with AF's Environmental and Social Policy. It highlights potential environmental and social risk and potential		

	Gender Policy of the Fund?	impacts. The proposal does not state the category in which the screening process has classified the project/programme. The checklist of environmental and social principles has been completed, noting the level of each risk. It highlights mitigation measures but lack the details of the risk rated. **CAR13**: Please revise the Checklist of Environmental and Social Principles to ensure that column 3 (Potential impacts) includes the risk description which considers all potential direct, indirect, transboundary and cumulative impacts because of the project, as well as the mitigation measures associated with the risk described. **CAR14**: Please note for the checklist that Adaptation Fund Principles 1, 4 and 6 always apply. For more information, please visit: [AF's ESP guidance](). **CAR15**: Please ensure an initial gender assessment is included providing qualitative and quantitative data for gender roles, activities, needs, and	**CAR13: Not cleared.** Please ensure the following in Table 13: i) If no risk is identified for a given principle, a sound justification must be provided. ii) All risk should be started by "*There is a risk XX*". iii) Includes all potential direct, indirect, transboundary and cumulative impacts because of the project. iv) Includes the mitigation measures associated with each risk described. This should start by "*This risk will be mitigated by XX"* **CAR14: Not cleared.** Please note for the checklist that Adaptation Fund	**CAR13: Not cleared.** While Table 14 has been updated, please ensure the following: i) If no risk is identified for a given principle, a sound justification must be provided. In addition, if no risk is identified, no mitigation plans are needed. ii) Expand on the impacts of the identified risks, including all potential direct, indirect, transboundary and cumulative impacts. **CAR14: Cleared.** As per the information provided in Part II.K, Table 14, now Adaptation Fund Principles 1, 4 and 6 apply.

		available opportunities and challenges or risks for men and women (please see CR7, CR15). **CAR16**: Kindly state the category in which the screening process has classified the project (Category A, B or C) in section II.K. Please see the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund and its guidance document.	Principles 1, 4 and 6 always apply. Currently they appear as "*No further assessment required for compliance*" in Table 13. **CAR15: Cleared.** As per information in Annex B. **CAR16: Not cleared.** Kindly state the category in which the screening process has classified the project (Category A, B or C).	**CAR16: Cleared.** As per the information provided in Part II.K, paragraph 102, the proposed project is classified as category B.
Resource Availability	1. Is the requested project / programme funding within the cap of the country?	**Yes**. Nepal's remaining country cap is 30.47M.	**-**	**-**
	2. Is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee?	**Unsure**. **CAR17:** The calculations of the Total project cost is incorrect at the Components and financing table. Total project costs should be all components + executing entity costs and should therefore be $9,279,661. 1. Please amend the Project component and financing table to reflect	**CAR17: Not cleared.** Please adjust the concept note proposal to ensure the following: • Remove decimals, even	**CAR17: Not Cleared.** 1-4 Cleared. As per the information provided on the cover page, Table 2, and throughout the document. Decimals were removed,

		updated figures for total project costs. 2. Please remove the co-financing amount form the Project component and financing table (particularly since this is an in-kind contribution). Also please clarify under objective 1 outcome 2: increased stewardship and co-financing of eco-systems. 3. Please verify if the IE cost indicated which now stands at 7.76% is the actual percental that was intended to be included based on the fact that it should be 8.5% of the Total project costs which was not correctly reflected in the table. 4. Please remove all decimal points for the financing amounts in the proposal. 5. PFG: a. Please verify if NTNC will be executing the PFG or if the PFG will be executed by the line ministries identify in the PFG. If not please replace the	when they are ".00" • Remove from the Table 2 and in the concept note proposal, the in-kind contribution. • All figures are consistent throughout the document. For example, in the cover, the Amount of Financing Requested is USD 10,00,000, while in Table 2 is 10,068,432.00	as well as the in-kind contribution. (5). Unaddressed. PFG: **a.** Please verify if NTNC will be executing the PFG or if the PFG will be executed by the line ministries identify in the PFG. If not please replace the line ministries with NTNC if NTNC will be executing the PFG. **Not addressed.** b. Please ensure that the IE fee of 8.5% (maximum) has its own line item in the PFG request form. **Addressed**. c. Please update the start date of the PFG to after AFB46 in April 2026. – **Addressed.** Please rename "Project preparation coordination, reporting and compliance support" row as IE Fee. d. Given that there is a PFG implementation period which pushes the project commencement date back, please update

		line ministries with NTNC if NTNC will be executing the PFG. b. Please ensure that the IE fee of 8.5% (maximum) has its own line item in the PFG request form. c. Please update the start date of the PFG to after AFB46 in April 2026.		table 3 to reflect a more realistic date as the project start is dependant on the deliverables of the PFG.
P	3. Are the Project/Programme Execution Costs at or below 9.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget (including the fee)?	**Unsure.** While the budget is provided per component and in total, numbers do not add up throughout the concept note, and some items should be revised. **CAR18**: The proposal cover does not indicate that NTNC will be executing the proposal. However, at Part III Section A it is indicated that NTNC will also be executing alongside the other named executing entities. Please provide justification as to why NTNC is also serving as an Implementing Entity and Executing Entity and include the components/sub-components which NTNC will be executing.	**CAR18: Cleared.** As per information in the cover and in Part III. **CR12: Cleared.** As per information provided in Table 2. **CR 13: Not cleared. See CAR17.**	**CR13: Cleared.** See CAR17. **CR12: Re-opened.** 1. Please present budget at table 2 at the output level in the last column. 2. At table 2 Execution costs is presented as 1.4% of the total

		CR12: For IE and EE Fees, please use the [Adaptation Fund Calculator.](#) **CR13**: Please ensure all numbers are consistent throughout the document, including all tables and figures.		budget. Given that need for reporting costs etc. and that there are 2 executing entities identified for this proposal, please consider updating the EC costs to one that will be able to appropriately cover the costs items associated with EC. Please consult https://www.adaptation-fund.org/generic/costs-and-fees/.
Eligibility of IE	1. Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?	**Yes**. National Trust for Nature Conservation of Nepal is accredited until 19 November 2029.	**-**	**-**
Implementation Arrangements	1. Is there adequate arrangement for project / programme management, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?	n/a at concept stage		
	2. Are there measures for financial and project/programme risk management?	n/a at concept stage		
	3. Are there measures in place for the	n/a at concept stage		

	management of for environmental and social risks, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?			
	4. Is a budget on the Implementing Entity Management Fee use included?	n/a at concept stage		
	5. Is an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs included?	n/a at concept stage		
	6. Is a detailed budget including budget notes included?	n/a at concept stage		
	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?	n/a at concept stage		
	8. Does the M&E Framework include a break-down of how implementing entity IE fees will be	n/a at concept stage		

	utilized in the supervision of the M&E function?			
	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?	n/a at concept stage		
	10. Is a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones included?	n/a at concept stage		

ADAPTATION FUND

CONCEPT NOTE PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE COUNTRY

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme:	GREEN-Koshi: Grounding Resilience and Ecosystem Enhancement through Nature-based Solutions
Country:	Nepal
Thematic Focal Area:	Disaster Risk Reduction and Early Warning Systems Food Security Ecosystem-Based Adaptation
Type of Implementing Entity:	National Implementing Entity
Implementing Entity:	National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), Nepal
Executing Entities:	Ministry of Forests and Environment and National Trust for Nature Conservation
Amount of Financing Requested:	10,000,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Project Formulation Grant Request (available to NIEs only): Yes ☒ No ☐

Amount of Requested financing for PFG: 150,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

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

NOTE: LOEs should be signed by the Designated Authority (DA). The signatory DA must be on file with the Adaptation Fund. To find the DA currently on file check this page: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/designated-authorities

Stage of Submission:

☒ This concept has been submitted before

☐ This is the first submission ever of the concept proposal

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: 12/2/2025

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

Project/Programme Background and Context

1. **Problem Statement**: Koshi Province, a climatically and ecologically diverse region of Nepal, is experiencing intensifying climate-driven risks, ranging from erratic rainfall and glacial lake outburst floods to prolonged droughts and ecosystem degradation. These hazards are exacerbated by deforestation, unsustainable land use, declining water availability and limited institutional capacity. The intersection of fragile ecosystems, climate-sensitive livelihoods and deep-rooted social inequalities particularly affecting women, Indigenous Peoples and marginalized rural populations, makes Koshi one of Nepal's most vulnerable provinces to climate change. Without urgent and integrated adaptation action, the province's resilience, biodiversity and development gains will continue to erode.

2. **National Context**: Nepal is a landlocked Himalayan country with altitudes ranging 60–8848 masl. It hosts a wide range of ecosystems and communities with about 80% of the population in rural areas and 69% depending on subsistence agriculture (NSO 2023; Climate Risk Country Profile: Nepal 2021). Although Nepal has seen economic improvements with GDP per capita reaching USD 1467 in 2023/24 (MoF 2025), climate vulnerability remains a significant barrier to sustainable development. Agriculture and forestry contributed around 24.7% of GDP in 2023/24 (MoF 2025).

3. Land cover is dominated by forests (43.38%) followed by cropland (22.59%) and grasslands (14.71%) (FRTC 2024). Protected areas cover 23.39% and 10 wetlands are designated as RAMSAR sites across six provinces, totaling over 60,000 ha (MoFE 2018). Despite these protections, wetlands and ecosystems are increasingly degraded due to encroachment, unsustainable extraction, invasive species and land-use changes, especially in peri-urban and agricultural zones (MoFE 2018).

4. Climate data shows Nepal's average maximum temperature increased by 0.056 °C/year 1975–2014 (DHM 2017). Projections indicate a rise of 0.9–1.1 °C by 2045 and up to 1.8 °C by 2065, with precipitation projected to increase 2–6% in the medium and 8–12% in the long term (MoFE 2019). The ADB estimates annual climate-related losses could reach 2.2% of GDP by 2050 and nearly 9.9% by 2100 (ADB 2020).

5. **Koshi Province Context**: Koshi Province spans 25,905 km² (17.6% of Nepal's land area) from lowland Terai (70 masl) to Himalayan peaks over 8000 masl. It has 14 districts and a population of 4.96 million, with 67% relying on agriculture as primary or secondary livelihood (KPCC 2024). The poverty rate (17.19%) is slightly below the national average, and the province remains highly climate vulnerable.

6. Land use is dominated by forests (48.96%) and agriculture (31.90%) (KPCC 2024). Over 1350 lakes and ponds exist, including RAMSAR-listed Gokyo, Maipokhari and Koshitappu wetlands. However, these ecosystems are under pressure from land conversion, grazing and pollution, which reduce their ability to buffer floods, recharge groundwater and sustain livelihoods. Koshi has 42 of Nepal's 47 potentially dangerous glacial lakes and districts such as Morang, Jhapa and Sunsari are ranked as 'very high' or 'high' for climate-induced disaster risk. According to the national vulnerability index, 10 of its 14 districts are categorized as 'highly vulnerable' (Table 1, MoFE 2021). The Green Koshi project will focus on 5 districts in the Chure-Terai region of Koshi Province: Udayapur, Sunsari, Morang, Jhapa and Ilam (Figure 1).

Table 1. Overall vulnerability index of Koshi Province, Nepal (Source: MoFE 2021)

	Vulnerability ranking	District
1	Very High (0.778–1.0)	Sankhuwasabha
2	High (0.623–0.777)	Bhojpur, Dhankuta, Ilam, Khotang, Okhaldhunga, Solukhumbu, Taplejung, Terhathum, Udayapur
3	Moderate (0.502-0.622)	Morang, Panchthar

4	Low (0.179–0.501)	Jhapa, Sunsari
5	Very Low (0.0–0.178)	-

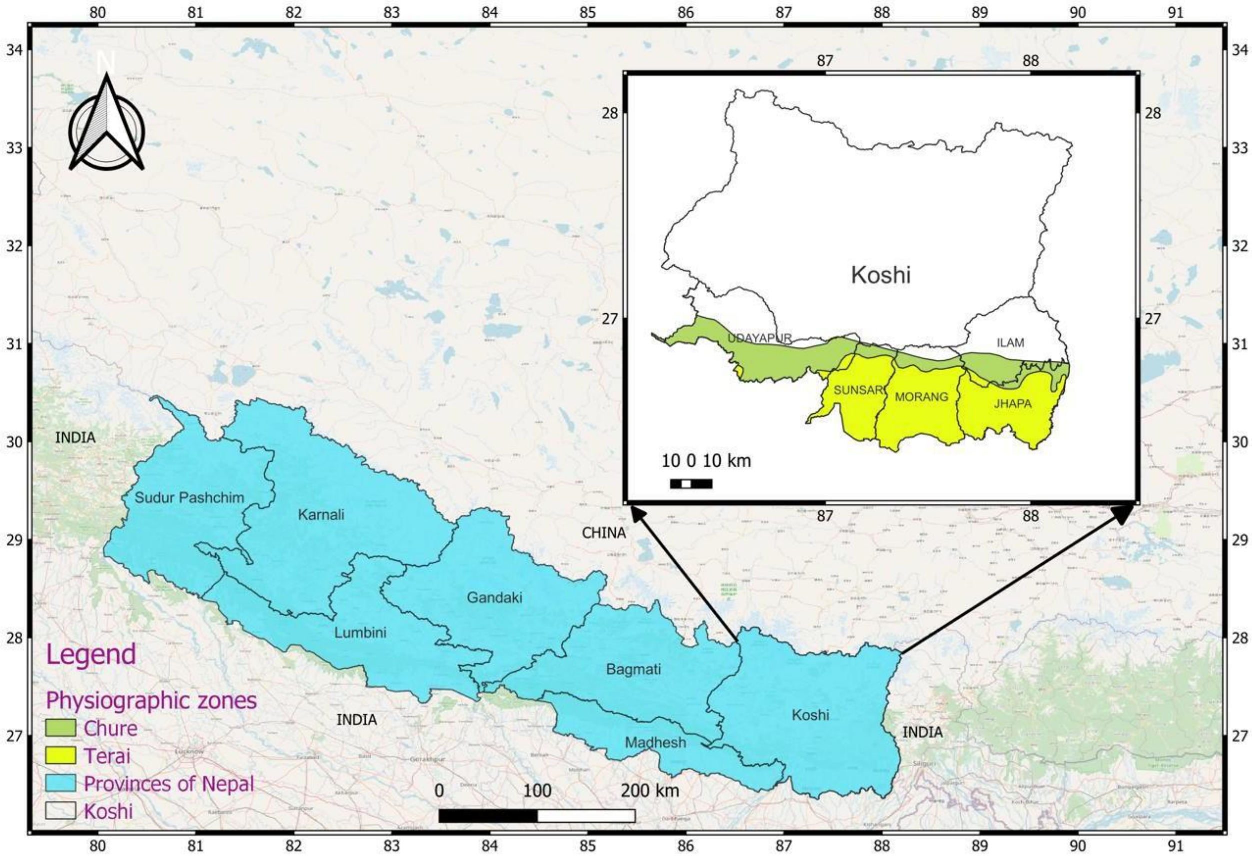


Figure 1. Map of Nepal showing proposed project location: Terai-Chure landscape in Koshi Province, Eastern Nepal

7. **Socio-ecological vulnerabilities**: Climate impacts are not felt equally. Dalits, Indigenous Peoples, women and land-poor farmers often lack access to land, water, information and finance (MoFE 2020a). Women disproportionately bear the burden of water collection and household food security. Social inequalities intersect with ecological vulnerabilities, further limiting the capacity of disadvantaged groups to adapt.

8. The degradation of natural ecosystems has led to reduced soil fertility, increased landslide risks and water scarcity. Shrinking wetlands threaten biodiversity and wetland-based livelihoods, such as fishing, reed harvesting and eco-tourism (MoFE 2018). Fragmented elephant habitats have intensified human–wildlife conflict, endangering lives and property.

9. **Rationale for intervention**: Koshi's vulnerability stems from the interplay of ecological fragility, high dependency on natural resources and institutional gaps in managing climate risk. While national and provincial policies prioritize adaptation, implementation remains constrained by limited resources and technical capacity at the local level.

10. There is a critical opportunity to deploy Nature-based Solutions (NbS) as cost-effective, inclusive and scalable responses. Integrated watershed management, wetland rehabilitation, agroforestry and community-based conflict mitigation can restore degraded ecosystems while directly enhancing food and water security. NbS-based enterprise development offers livelihood diversification pathways, particularly for women, youth and Indigenous communities.

Project/Programme Objectives

11. The **project objective** of the project is to enhance the climate resilience of vulnerable communities and ecosystems in Koshi Province by reducing exposure and sensitivity to climate-related hazards and strengthening adaptive capacity through integrated nature-based solutions, early warning systems, and climate-resilient livelihoods.

12. The programme supports the Adaptation Fund Strategic Objectives by: (i) reducing vulnerability to climate change impacts through ecosystem-based adaptation, disaster risk reduction and early warning systems; and (ii) increasing the adaptive capacity of communities, institutions and ecosystems to respond to climate variability and extremes.

13. This project objective is pursued through the following five **specific objectives**, expressed as components:
    - Integrated watershed management, restoring and managing wetlands, and nature-based tourism promotion
    - Climate-resilient agroforestry systems promotion and human–elephant conflict mitigation
    - Enterprise promotion and value-chain development for improved livelihoods
    - Capacity strengthening of institutions and communities
    - NbS mainstreaming and integrating in national, sub-national, and local policies, plans and programmes

14. **Long-Term Impact**: Through components 1–5, the project builds increased climate resilience and ecological integrity in Koshi Province through inclusive NbS that restore landscapes, strengthen institutions and secure sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable communities.

15. **Theory of Change narrative**: The project recognizes that climate risks in Koshi Province arise from the interaction of increasing hydro-climatic extremes with ecosystem degradation, livelihood fragility and governance gaps. Projections for Nepal indicate rising temperatures and more intense and variable precipitation alongside increased risks of glacial lake outburst floods, floods, landslides and droughts. In the Chure-Terai landscape, these hazards interact with deforestation, wetland degradation and unsustainable land use, amplifying water scarcity, erosion and disaster risk, and disproportionately affecting women, Indigenous Peoples, Dalits and land-poor farmers whose livelihoods depend on climate-sensitive sectors.

16. **Under Change Pathway 1**: Ecosystem restoration and resilient livelihoods, the project deploys NbS to restore and protect watersheds, wetlands and ecological corridors while diversifying climate-resilient livelihoods. Integrated watershed, wetland and agro-biodiversity restoration (components 1 and 2) reduce flood peaks, enhance base flows, stabilize slopes and safeguard critical water sources under a range of future rainfall and temperature scenarios. Climate-resilient and biodiversity-positive agroforestry systems, combined with human–elephant conflict mitigation and early warning systems, reduce pressure on natural forests, increase tree cover on farms and create diversified income streams that buffer households against climate-induced crop failures and market shocks. NbS-based enterprises strengthened value chains and innovative financing for ecosystem services in production landscapes (Component 3) translate restored ecosystems and agroforestry products into sustained economic opportunities, especially for women, youth and Indigenous groups while at the same time increasing ecosystem service provision.

17. **Under Change Pathway 2**: Inclusive governance and institutional capacity for NbS, the project tackles the institutional and policy barriers that limit the scale and durability of adaptation. By strengthening the skills, knowledge and tools of government agencies, community institutions, private sector and civil society actors (Component 4), the project enables locally led, gender-responsive planning, financing and implementation of NbS. Mainstreaming NbS into national, provincial and local policies, plans and budgets along with strengthening a nested multi-stakeholder platform and its monitoring system (Component 5) creates an enabling environment for sustaining and scaling successful NbS interventions beyond the project's lifetime. This also

enhances the contributions of Nepali communities to global knowledge exchange and learning.

18. **Across both pathways**, the project prioritizes no-regrets, ecosystem-based adaptation measures that remain beneficial under multiple climate futures, such as restoring forests and wetlands, improving soil and water management, local biodiversity and diversifying livelihoods. These measures are complemented by risk-informed planning, early warning systems and conflict-mitigation tools that reduce losses from floods and human–elephant interactions under more extreme climate conditions. If the planned outputs are delivered, the combined effect of restored ecosystems, diversified and more climate-resilient livelihoods and stronger, more inclusive institutions is expected to lead to the impact of enhanced resilience of communities, ecosystems and local economies in Koshi Province to current and future climate variability and change.

Project/Programme Components and Financing

19. The project adopts a landscape-scale approach to deliver multiple, measurable adaptation benefits through concrete activities targeting smallholders, including IP&LCs, women and youth. Key adaptation activities include reforestation and bioengineering for slope stabilization; agroforestry models for livelihood, agro-biodiversity, water and food security; community-led wetland restoration; development of NbS-based enterprises; and human–elephant conflict mitigation through NbS technologies, habitat connectivity and early-warning systems. A summary of project components, outputs, outcomes, and activities is presented in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Project/ Programme Components and Financing

Project/Programme Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Amount (US$)
1. Integrated watershed management, restoring and managing wetlands, and nature-based tourism promotion	**Output 1.1**: Gender-responsive local adaptation actions identified and implemented to promote NbS, including ecosystem restoration and disaster risk reduction. **Output 1.2**: Degraded and critical watersheds and wetlands, including elephants' corridors and habitats are identified and prioritized for restoration by applying an evidence-based landscape approach. **Output 1.3**: Nature-based tourism and cultural heritage potential assessed and revitalized to support sustainable livelihoods.	**Outcome 1** Landscapes in Koshi Province are restored and sustainably managed with reduced climate-related hazards and more balanced human–elephant co-existence.	3,000,000
2. Climate-resilient agroforestry systems promotion and human–elephant conflict mitigation	**Output 2.1**: Climate-resilient agroforestry systems co-designed, demonstrated and scaled with smallholders. **Output 2.2**: Community-based early warning systems and measures reducing climate risks and human–elephant conflict in target areas.	**Outcome 1** Landscapes in Koshi Province are restored and sustainably managed with reduced climate-related hazards and more balanced human–elephant co-existence. **Outcome 2** Smallholder farmers and local communities access	2,250,000

		more diversified, gender-responsive climate-resilient livelihood opportunities.	
3. Enterprise promotion and value-chain development for improved livelihoods	**Output 3.1**: Inclusive and climate-resilient SMEs and value chains for agroforestry and NTFPs developed and promoted with strong participation of women, youth and Indigenous groups. **Output 3.2**: Ecosystem services and carbon benefits of agroforestry systems assessed to inform sustainable financing and climate adaptation and mitigation strategies.	**Outcome 2** Smallholder farmers and local communities access more diversified, gender-responsive climate-resilient livelihood opportunities.	1,230,384
4. Capacity strengthening of institutions and communities	**Output 4.1**: Stakeholders (Government, NGOs, IP&LCs, private sector, CBOs and community institutions) with increased awareness of climate change impacts and the importance of adaptation. **Output 4.2**: Stakeholders (Government, NGOs, IP&LCs, private sector, CBOs and community institutions) with enhanced adaptive capacities to plan and implement proactive NbS for climate adaptation.	**Outcome 3** Institutions and communities in Koshi Province better plan, finance and sustain NbS for climate adaptation and inclusive development based on evidence and aligned with national policies.	1,200,000
5. NbS mainstreaming and integrating in national, sub-national, and local policies, plans and programmes.	**Output 5.1**: Sub-national and local policies, plans and budgets reviewed and updated to integrate NbS and ecosystem-based adaptation priorities to support the global goals for adaptation. **Output 5.2**: A nested multi-stakeholder platform established or strengthened to coordinate, advocate for, and monitor the integration of NbS in planning and budgeting processes.	**Outcome 3** Institutions and communities in Koshi Province and across Nepal better plan, finance and sustain NbS for climate adaptation and inclusive development based on evidence and aligned with national policies.	1,400,000
6. Project/Programme Execution cost			136,206
7. Total Project/Programme Cost			9,216,590
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)			783,410
Amount of Financing Requested			**10,000,000**

Projected Calendar:

Table 3. Project Calendar

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	July 2026
Mid-term Review (if planned)	Dec 2028
Project/Programme Close	July 2031
Terminal Evaluation	

PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

A. Describe the project/programme components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities of the project, and how these activities contribute to

climate resilience. For the case of a programme, show how the combination of individual projects will contribute to the overall increase in resilience.

20. The GREEN-Koshi project adopts an integrated landscape approach that combines ecological restoration, climate-resilient livelihoods, institutional capacity strengthening and policy mainstreaming. The design intentionally links NbS with ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) outcomes, addressing the complex drivers of vulnerability across ecological and socio- economic systems.

21. Component 1: Integrated watershed management, wetland restoration, and nature-based tourism. Component 1 strengthens climate resilience and contributes to Outcome 1 by restoring and sustainably managing climate-vulnerable landscapes in Koshi Province through Nature-based Solutions (NbS). Gender-responsive, participatory micro-watershed and climate-risk assessments are conducted to identify priority vulnerabilities and NbS intervention sites (Output 1.1; Activities 1.1.1–1.1.2), followed by community-led watershed restoration and training for operation, maintenance and monitoring (Activities 1.1.3–1.1.4). In parallel, degraded and critical wetlands, agro-biodiversity hotspots and elephant corridors are mapped, assessed and restored using an evidence-based landscape approach (Output 1.2; Activities 1.2.1–1.2.4), improving water regulation, flood buffering, habitat connectivity and ecosystem health under climate stress. To reinforce livelihood resilience and incentivize conservation, the project assesses and revitalizes nature-based tourism and cultural heritage potential, developing climate-sensitive tourism products and equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms (Output 1.3; Activities 1.3.1–1.3.3). Together, Outputs 1.1–1.3 reduce climate-related hazards, enhance ecosystem services and support safer human–elephant coexistence.

22. Component 2: Climate-resilient agroforestry systems and human–elephant conflict mitigation. Component 2 contributes to Outcomes 1 and 2 by reducing climate risks and strengthening climate-resilient livelihoods through integrated land-use and risk-management measures. Climate-resilient agroforestry systems are co-designed with smallholder farmers and community forest user groups, supported by nurseries supplying resilient planting material, on-farm extension services, demonstration plots and farmer-to-farmer learning (Output 2.1; Activities 2.1.1–2.1.4). These interventions improve soil health, water retention, productivity stability and income diversification under increasing climate variability, while reducing pressure on natural forests. Simultaneously, climate- and wildlife-related risks are addressed by mapping human–elephant conflict hotspots, installing community-based early warning systems, conducting preparedness drills, implementing non-lethal mitigation measures and integrating these actions into local disaster risk-reduction and land-use plans (Output 2.2; Activities 2.2.1–2.2.5). Outputs 2.1 and 2.2 jointly reduce climate-related losses, enhance preparedness and strengthen adaptive capacity at household and landscape levels.

23. Component 3: Enterprise promotion, value-chain development, and inclusive financing. Component 3 supports Outcome 2 by enhancing the economic viability and sustainability of NbS-based livelihoods, thereby strengthening adaptive capacity. Inclusive and climate-resilient SMEs and value chains for agroforestry and non-timber forest products (NTFPs) are developed through market and value-chain analysis, business model development, targeted business-development services, and investments in aggregation, processing and storage facilities (Output 3.1; Activities 3.1.1–3.1.5), with strong participation of women, youth and Indigenous Peoples. To enable long-term financing and scaling of adaptation benefits, the project assesses ecosystem services and carbon benefits of agroforestry systems by developing monitoring protocols, analyzing economic performance and trade-offs with grey infrastructure, and identifying pathways to climate, performance- and results-based finance accessible to smallholders (Output 3.2; Activities 3.2.1–3.2.3). Together, Outputs 3.1 and 3.2 expand diversified, gender-responsive and climate-resilient income opportunities while ensuring the financial sustainability of NbS investments.

24. Component 4: Capacity strengthening of institutions and communities. Component 4 contributes to Outcome 3 by strengthening the adaptive capacities of institutions and communities to plan, implement and sustain NbS-based climate adaptation. Awareness of climate change impacts and adaptation options is increased through the development of NbS and climate-adaptation training curricula, delivery of trainings, exchanges and exposure visits, and dissemination of targeted communication materials (Output 4.1; Activities 4.1.1–4.1.3). Building on this foundation, the project enhances practical implementation capacity by facilitating participatory planning that integrates climate risks and NbS, providing technical support for NbS sub-project design and delivery, developing simple and gender-responsive monitoring, evaluation and learning tools, and documenting and sharing good practices (Output 4.2; Activities 4.2.1–4.2.4). Outputs 4.1 and 4.2 together strengthen institutional and community capacity to sustain effective adaptation actions over time.

25. Component 5: Mainstreaming NbS into sub-national and local policies, plans and programmes. Component 5 reinforces Outcome 3 by institutionalizing NbS and ecosystem-based adaptation within policy, planning and budgeting frameworks to ensure long-term sustainability and scale. The project reviews global, national, sub-national and local policies and plans to identify NbS entry points, supports the integration of NbS into key policies, plans and regulations, and promotes climate-responsive budgeting to increase public allocations for NbS (Output 5.1; Activities 5.1.1–5.1.3). In parallel, a nested multi-stakeholder coordination platform is established or strengthened to coordinate action, advocate for NbS, track integration and performance, and facilitate policy dialogue and learning at local, provincial and national levels (Output 5.2; Activities 5.2.1–5.2.3). Together, Outputs 5.1 and 5.2 embed NbS into routine decision-making processes, enabling institutions and communities to sustain and scale climate-resilient development pathways.

26. Increased resilience through the combined components:

- Risk-informed NbS investments (Components 1–2) restore watersheds/wetlands and reduce hazard impacts (flood/erosion/water stress), while also reducing HEC-related livelihood shocks through mapping, EWS, and non-lethal measures.
- Livelihood diversification and value-chain strengthening (Components 1–3) reduce household sensitivity to climate variability by spreading risk across agroforestry, NTFPs, and climate-sensitive tourism, backed by enterprise support and finance pathways.
- Sustained capacity and institutions (Components 4–5) ensure adaptation is not one-off: stakeholders can plan, finance, monitor, and scale NbS over time through training, MEL, budget integration, and coordination platforms.

27. The project includes site-specific activities to be finalized during implementation through participatory planning and technical assessments (e.g. micro-watersheds, wetlands, agroforestry sites, human–elephant conflict mitigation and NbS-based enterprises), which are treated as **Unidentified Sub-Projects (UPSs)** in accordance with Adaptation Fund guidance. UPSs will be limited to small-scale, community-based, nature-based adaptation interventions with low to moderate environmental and social risk, and activities involuntary resettlement, large-scale civil works, critical habitat conversion or high-risk impacts are excluded. All UPSs will be screened and approved in line with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy and the project ESMF, with required safeguards instruments (including ESMPs and FPIC where applicable) completed prior to implementation, and information disclosed alongside a gender-responsive grievance redress mechanism.

B. Describe how the project/programme provides economic, social and environmental benefits, with particular reference to the most vulnerable communities, and vulnerable groups within communities, including gender considerations. Describe how the project/programme will avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

28. Overall, approximately 387,810 people will directly benefit from the project, of whom more than

50% are women, with proportional representation of Indigenous Peoples (43.8%), Dalits (8.8%), and other marginalized groups. An estimated 1,939,050 people will benefit indirectly from improved ecosystem services, reduced disaster risk, enhanced livelihoods, and strengthened institutional capacity. The estimated number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (gender-disaggregated) for each project outcome is presented in the table below. These estimates are indicative and appropriate to the concept note stage. Some overlap across outcomes is expected, as individuals may benefit from more than one outcome.

Table 4: Estimated number of direct and indirect beneficiaries disaggregated by gender

Outcome 1: Sustainably managed landscape restoration, disaster risk reduction with balanced human-elephant co-existence	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Direct beneficiaries	112657	120028	232685
Indirect beneficiaries	563286	600144	1163430
Total	***675943***	***720172***	***1396115***
Outcome 2: Accessing Improved income generation	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Direct beneficiaries	75105	80019	155124
Indirect beneficiaries	422464	450108	872572
Total	***497569***	***530127***	***1027696***
Outcome 3: Strengthened institutional and adaptive capacity	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Direct beneficiaries	65716	70017	135733
Indirect beneficiaries	328583	350084	678667
Total	***394299***	***420101***	***814400***

29. The project will enhance climate resilience while ensuring that adaptation benefits are equitably shared among women, men and marginalized communities. It recognises that climate risks disproportionately affect women, Indigenous Peoples, marginalised groups and poor households due to unequal access to resources, decision-making processes and livelihood opportunities. Project interventions will apply equity-based targeting, informed by social and climate vulnerability assessments conducted during the project preparation stage. These assessments will identify the most climate-exposed and socially disadvantaged groups, including women-headed households, smallholder farmers, Indigenous and forest-dependent communities, landless households and other vulnerable groups, ensuring that adaptation benefits are allocated based on vulnerability and need.

30. Access to project-supported training, livelihood support and nature-based enterprises will follow transparent and inclusive selection criteria, with targeted measures to support youth-, women-led and community-based initiatives. The project will implement a gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation system to track participation, benefit distribution and changes in adaptive capacity using sex- and socially disaggregated indicators. The project aligns with the Adaptation Fund Gender Policy and Action Plan and will develop a detailed Gender Action Plan at the full proposal stage to guide implementation and ensure accountability for equitable and gender-responsive outcomes.

31. Economic Benefits. The project will generate significant economic benefits by enhancing climate-resilient livelihoods, creating employment, and reducing economic losses from climate-induced hazards. Through the promotion of agroforestry, ecosystem restoration, watershed and wetland management, eco-tourism and NbS-based enterprises, direct beneficiary households are expected to increase annual incomes by approximately 15–20 percent through improved productivity, diversified income sources, and enhanced market access. Restoration and bio-engineering activities, including watershed and wetland rehabilitation, nursery establishment, and maintenance of ecosystem infrastructure, are projected to generate at least 100 full-time equivalent jobs through 20 NbS enterprises. In addition, flood, landslide, and erosion mitigation measures are expected to reduce climate-related economic losses to crops, infrastructure, and natural assets by 10–15 percent in targeted watersheds, contributing to greater income stability, reduced recovery costs, and improved economic resilience at both household and local government levels.

32. **Environmental Benefits.** The project will deliver substantial environmental benefits by restoring ecosystem functions, improving water security, and enhancing biodiversity across the proposed project intervention sites of Koshi Province. Integrated watershed and wetland management will improve groundwater recharge, regulate surface water flows, and enhance water quality, contributing to improved water security for approximately 400,000 people. The establishment of 1,000 hectares of climate-resilient agroforestry systems and the restoration of ecological corridors will stabilize degraded landscapes, reduce soil erosion and sedimentation, and strengthen habitat connectivity, supporting biodiversity conservation and ecosystem resilience. These interventions will also contribute to climate regulation through increased carbon sequestration and reduced disaster risks, while community-based coexistence strategies are expected to reduce human–elephant conflict by approximately 20 percent in targeted areas. Restored habitats and corridors using native species will improve ecological connectivity. The project will create carbon co-benefits through reforestation, agroforestry and wetland restoration.

33. **Social Benefits.** The project will generate strong social benefits by strengthening community governance, enhancing social inclusion, and building adaptive capacity among vulnerable populations. It helps reduce climate risks for approximately 15% of the population of Koshi Province. By prioritizing women, youth, and indigenous communities, the project will promote inclusive participation in NbS enterprises, training, and local planning processes, with at least 20 percent representation in livelihood and employment opportunities. Approximately 1,500 individuals-including local officials, farmers, forest users, and entrepreneurs will be trained in NbS, eco-tourism and climate adaptation activities which will strengthen knowledge and skills. The integration of indigenous and local knowledge with technical approaches will enhance culturally appropriate and sustainable adaptation outcomes. Indigenous Peoples, Dalits and marginalized groups participate in planning, implementation and benefit-sharing through FPIC-aligned processes

Table 5: Summary of Estimated Economic, Social and Environmental Benefits

Benefits	Project Component	Estimated Benefits	Alignment with AF Results Framework
Economic Benefits	1	~400,000 people experience reduced losses from floods, erosion, droughts and human–wildlife conflict through restored watersheds, wetlands and early warning systems	AF Outcome 1: Reduced exposure to climate hazards
	2	≥1,000 ha under climate-resilient agroforestry and NbS-based production systems, supporting diversified and resilient income sources	AF Outcome 4: Increased adaptive capacity
	1, 2, 3	15–20% increase in household income among participating households from agroforestry, NTFPs, ecotourism and NbS-based value chains	AF Output 6: Strengthened livelihood strategies
	3	≥20 NbS-based enterprises supported; ≥100 FTE jobs created, with ≥20% women, youth and Indigenous Peoples	AF Core Indicator: Diversified livelihoods
Social Benefits	1	Reduced exposure to floods, landslides, erosion and water stress for ~15% of Koshi Province	AF Outcome 1

		population	
	4	~1,500 people trained (disaggregated by gender and social group) in climate adaptation, NbS, ecosystem governance and DRR	AF Output 3.1 & 2.1
	1, 2, 3, 4	≥40% women participation in training and community processes; increased leadership roles in CFUGs, watershed and livelihood institutions	AF Gender Policy
	1, 2, 3, 4	Indigenous Peoples, Dalits and marginalized groups participate in planning, implementation and benefit-sharing through FPIC-aligned processes	AF ESP: Access and Equity
	1, 2, 3	Improved food and nutrition security	AF Outcome 4
Environmental Benefits	1	≥20 sub-watersheds and ≥15 degraded wetlands restored and sustainably managed	AF Outcome 5: Increased ecosystem resilience
	1, 2	Improved water regulation, groundwater recharge, reduced sedimentation and erosion across Chure–Terai landscapes	AF Outcome 5
	2	Restored habitats and corridors using native species; improved ecological connectivity and human–wildlife coexistence	AF ESP: Biodiversity
	1, 2	Climate benefits through reforestation, agroforestry and wetland restoration (non-monetized co-benefit)	AF Co-benefits

34. **Linking activities to benefits.** These benefits are directly linked to the proposed activities. Early warning systems reduce exposure to climate-related hazards by enabling timely response, thereby lowering economic losses and safeguarding lives. Ecosystem restoration and agroforestry reduce sensitivity to floods, droughts and erosion while improving ecosystem productivity and services. Climate-resilient livelihood interventions enhance adaptive capacity by diversifying income sources and reducing dependence on climate-sensitive activities. Institutional strengthening ensures that these benefits are sustained and scaled beyond the project period.

35. **Actions to avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the AF ESP and the AF Gender Policy.** The project will apply the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy (AF ESP) and Gender Policy throughout design, implementation, and monitoring to avoid, minimize, and mitigate potential negative impacts while maximizing equitable and sustainable adaptation benefits. All proposed activities will undergo environmental and social screening to identify risks related to land use, biodiversity disturbance, water access, labor conditions, and social exclusion, with site-specific mitigation measures incorporated into implementation plans. Ecosystem restoration, agroforestry, and infrastructure interventions will prioritize native species, avoid critical habitats, and apply low-impact, nature-based techniques to prevent soil disturbance, invasive species introduction, and downstream hydrological impacts. Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) will be ensured for Indigenous Peoples and local communities, with transparent consultations conducted prior to any land-use change or corridor restoration. The project will adopt gender-responsive design by ensuring meaningful participation of women and marginalized groups in decision-making bodies, targeting at least 20 percent representation in training, employment, and enterprise support, and scheduling activities in ways that do not increase unpaid care burdens. Safeguards will be applied to prevent elite capture, labor exploitation, and inequitable benefit distribution through clear beneficiary selection criteria, fair wage standards, and gender-responsive grievance redress mechanisms accessible at community and municipal levels. Gender and social disaggregated M&E indicators will be used for monitoring and Mid-term and terminal evaluations aligned with AF requirements. Monitoring, adaptive management, and independent reporting will be used to ensure compliance with AF ESP and Gender Policy requirements and to promptly address any unforeseen environmental or social risks during implementation.

36. **Environmental Risk Management.** All proposed activities will undergo environmental and social screening in accordance with AF ESP to identify and categorize risks related to land use change, biodiversity disturbance, soil erosion, water access, and occupational health and safety. Site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) will be developed and integrated into implementation plans where risks are identified. Ecosystem restoration, agroforestry, and infrastructure interventions will prioritize native and climate-resilient species, avoid critical and protected habitats, and apply low-impact, nature-based solutions to prevent soil degradation, invasive species introduction, and downstream hydrological impacts. Construction and restoration activities will follow best practices for waste management, erosion control, and water protection to minimize temporary and cumulative environmental impacts.

37. **Social Safeguards and Community Rights.** Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) will be ensured for Indigenous Peoples and affected local communities prior to any land-use change, ecosystem restoration, or infrastructure development. Transparent, inclusive consultations will be conducted at all project stages, with information shared in accessible formats and local languages where necessary. Clear and equitable beneficiary selection criteria will be applied to prevent elite capture and ensure fair access to project benefits, particularly for vulnerable households.

38. **Gender Equality and Social Inclusion.** The project will adopt a gender-responsive design consistent with the AF Gender Policy by ensuring meaningful participation of women and marginalized groups in planning, governance, and implementation structures. At least 20 percent representation of women and marginalized groups will be targeted in trainings, employment opportunities, and enterprise or livelihood support activities. Activities will be scheduled and designed to avoid increasing unpaid care and domestic workloads, and to enhance women's access to resources, skills, and decision-making power. Capacity-building activities will integrate gender awareness and prevention of gender-based discrimination and harassment.

39. **Labor Standards and Grievance Redress.** Fair wage standards, safe working conditions, and non-discriminatory labor practices will be applied for all project-supported employment. A gender-responsive, accessible grievance redress mechanism (GRM) will be established at community and municipal levels to address complaints related to environmental impacts, social exclusion, labor conditions, or gender-based concerns in a timely and confidential manner.

40. **Monitoring, Evaluation, and Adaptive Management.** Environmental and social safeguards compliance will be monitored using gender- and socially disaggregated indicators aligned with AF requirements. Mid-term and terminal evaluations will assess compliance with AF ESP and Gender Policy, including the effectiveness of mitigation measures. Adaptive management and independent reporting will be used to promptly address any unforeseen environmental or social risks identified during implementation.

C. Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project/programme:

41. **Cost-effectiveness rationale: maximizing resilience gains per dollar.** The project adopts a cost-effective adaptation strategy by prioritizing Nature-based Solutions (NbS) over conventional grey infrastructure. NbS interventions deliver equal or superior climate-resilience benefits at substantially lower lifetime costs by addressing climate risks at their ecological source. Investment decisions are guided by evidence-based criteria, including cost per hectare restored, expected reductions in erosion, flood peaks and drought stress, livelihood co-benefits, low operation and maintenance requirements, and the potential for sustainable revenue generation through agroforestry, ecosystem services and nature-based tourism. By sequencing interventions to first restore degraded upstream watersheds and wetlands—where preventive impacts are highest, the project reduces downstream expenditures on embankment repairs, dredging, disaster response and recovery, resulting in high marginal returns on public

investment.

42. **Sustainability, avoided losses, and long-term economic value.** The project's cost-effectiveness is further enhanced by its strong environmental, institutional and social sustainability. NbS interventions rely on natural regeneration processes and community-managed maintenance systems, significantly lowering long-term financial burdens compared to capital-intensive grey infrastructure. At the same time, NbS generate recurring revenue streams, including agroforestry value-chain profits, eco-tourism revenues, payments for ecosystem services and community enterprise earnings, which can be reinvested into ecosystem management and adaptation activities. Socially, the integration of NbS with community-based early warning systems and non-lethal human–elephant conflict mitigation reduces recurrent economic losses, injuries, fatalities and retaliatory actions avoiding substantial future costs to households and government authorities. During the Project Formulation Grant (PFG) phase, a full cost–benefit analysis will be undertaken to compare NbS and grey infrastructure alternatives over a 20–30-year horizon, incorporating avoided damages, ecosystem service values, and resilience gains to demonstrate robust net present value and benefit–cost ratios. Following project completion, routine maintenance and continuation of NbS interventions will be financed through a combination of local government budget allocations, revenues generated from NbS-based enterprises and tourism activities, and community-managed funds linked to ecosystem services, thereby eliminating reliance on external grant financing.

43. **Scalability, learning, and synergies with existing programmes.** The project is designed to be scalable and catalytic, increasing cost-effectiveness beyond the initial investment. NbS are mainstreamed into provincial and local plans, budgets, disaster-risk-reduction strategies and land-use frameworks, creating institutional pathways for replication without long-term reliance on external financing. Knowledge products, such as field manuals, policy briefs, and NbS investment cases, will support uptake by other provinces and federal ministries. Community-to-community learning exchanges and strengthened agroforestry and wetland-based value chains further enable demand-driven scaling. The project builds on and complements existing initiatives, notably the GCF-funded Building a Resilient Chure Region in Nepal, leveraging institutional experience, avoiding duplication and maximizing synergies. Alignment with the Chure–Terai Madhesh Conservation Development Master Plan and the Koshi Province Second Periodic Plan enhances efficiency, coordination and long-term impact.

44. **Alignment with Adaptation Fund results and economic evidence.** The project is fully aligned with the Adaptation Fund's objective of reducing vulnerability and increasing adaptive capacity. It contributes directly to multiple AF outcomes, including reduced exposure to climate hazards (Outcome 1), strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation processes (Outcome 3), increased ecosystem resilience (Outcome 5), diversified and climate-resilient livelihoods (Outcome 6), improved policies and planning frameworks (Outcome 7), and the diffusion of innovative adaptation practices (Outcome 8). Empirical evidence underscores the project's strong value for money: reforestation and bio-engineering measures typically cost USD 1,500–2,000 per hectare, substantially less than hard infrastructure, while wetland restoration in Nepal and South Asia yields benefit–cost ratios between 2.1 and 4.5. NbS investments have been shown to generate benefits worth two to five times their initial costs over a 20-year period when ecosystem services and avoided damages are included. By reducing future public expenditure on disaster response and infrastructure repair while strengthening inclusive, NbS-based value chains, the project delivers high economic, social and environmental returns, making it a highly cost-effective adaptation investment.

D. Describe how the project/programme is consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, including, where appropriate, national adaptation plan (NAP), national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications, or national adaptation

programmes of action, or other relevant instruments, where they exist.

45. The project is fully aligned with Nepal's national and sub-national climate adaptation and sustainable development priorities. It responds directly to the country's commitments under national policies and international frameworks, ensuring coherence with ongoing development efforts. The formal collaboration with technical partner, CIFOR-ICRAF, under an MoU with MoALD, which outlines strategic areas of collaboration, including agroforestry, watershed management, sustainable land use and climate adaptation, strongly supports direct oversight of links to Government policies and programmes during the participatory design stage of the project.

46. **National alignment**: The project is consistent with Nepal's 16th Five-Year Plan (2024/25–2028/29), which emphasizes environmentally friendly, green and climate-resilient development pathways. The Plan advocates for integrating climate adaptation measures into all sectors, promoting clean energy, sustainable land use and green growth; objectives that this project operationalizes through ecosystem restoration, climate-resilient agroforestry and community-based adaptation. The project also supports the National Climate Change Policy (2019), which seeks to enhance the adaptation capacity of vulnerable communities, strengthen ecosystem resilience and promote green economic growth. By focusing on NbS, the project contributes directly to the policy's strategic outcomes related to ecosystem restoration, disaster risk reduction and community empowerment.

47. The project also aligns with **Nepal's Third NDC under the UNFCCC**, which prioritizes ecosystem-based adaptation, integrated watershed management, forest restoration and climate-resilient livelihoods. The project's focus on agroforestry systems and wetland restoration responds directly to NDC targets related to the forestry, agriculture and water sectors.

48. The **National Adaptation Plan (NAP) (2021–2050),** which was endorsed by the Government of Nepal in 2023*,* further guides the project's approach. The NAP prioritizes ecosystem-based adaptation, integrated watershed management and gender-responsive planning, all of which are central elements of GREEN-Koshi, which will contribute to NAP priority sectors, such as forests, agriculture, water resources and biodiversity, while also supporting disaster risk reduction efforts.

49. The project is also in harmony with the objectives of the upcoming **National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP 2025–2030) and Nepal's Long-Term Strategy for Net-Zero Emissions*,*** both of which call for ecosystem restoration, biodiversity conservation and enhanced community stewardship of natural resources.

50. Further, it is consistent with **sectoral strategies**, such as the National Forest Policy (2019), which promotes agroforestry and private forest development, and the National Agriculture Policy (2004), which highlights sustainable natural resource management as a core pillar for agricultural resilience.

Table 6. Overview of national policies, plans and strategies, their main objectives and the proposed project's relevance and alignment

Name of policy/plan/strategy and years of implementation	Main objective	Relevance of the proposed project
16th Five-Year Plan (2024/25–2028/29)	Achieving "Good Governance, Social Justice and Prosperity" through structural transformation. It emphasizes environmentally friendly, green and climate-resilient development pathways.	The proposed project is aligned with the 16th Plan, under outputs 1 to 5, contributing to outcomes 1 to 3.
National Climate	Building a climate-resilient society to promote socio-economic prosperity, enhancing adaptation capacity for	The proposed project is aligned with the National Climate Change Policy 2019,

Change Policy 2019	vulnerable communities and ecosystems, and fostering a low-carbon development pathway.	under outputs 1.1, 2.2, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, contributing to outcomes 1 to 3.
Third Nationally Determined Contribution 2025-2035	Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, transition to green energy, and enhance climate adaptation and resilience.	The proposed project is aligned with the third Nationally Determined Contribution, under outputs 1 to 5, contributing to outcomes 1 to 3.
National Adaptation Plan 2021-2050	Reducing vulnerability to climate change by building resilience and adaptive capacity and integrating climate change adaptation into all levels of government planning and policies.	The proposed project is aligned with the National Adaptation Plan under outputs 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, contributing to outcomes 1 to 3.
Long-Term Strategy for Net-Zero Emissions 2021	achieving carbon neutrality by 2045 through promoting clean energy like hydropower, solar, and biogas; decarbonizing the transportation sector with electric vehicles and railways; enhancing sustainable agriculture practices; maintaining and increasing forest cover; and strengthening international cooperation.	The proposed project is aligned with the Long-Term Strategy for Net-Zero Emissions under outputs 1.1, 2.1, 3.2, 4.1, 5.1, 5.2, contributing to outcomes 1 to 3.
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2030	Conserve, restore, and sustainable manage Nepal's biodiversity and contribute to green, resilient and inclusive development.	The proposed project is aligned with the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan under outputs 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 5.1, 5.2, contributing to outcomes 1 and 3.
National Forest Policy 2019	Achieve sustainable forest management, improve forest productivity, and enhance national prosperity through forest resources.	The proposed project is aligned with the National Forest Policy 2019 under outputs 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 5.1, 5.2, contributing to outcomes 1 and 3.
Chure-Terai Madhesh Conservation Development Master Plan 2017–2037	Attain ecological balance, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable livelihood enhancement through an integrated and multi-stakeholder approach.	The proposed project is aligned with the Chure-Terai Madhesh Conservation Development Master Plan under outputs 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, contributing to outcomes 1 to 3.

51. Sectorally, the project relates to the plans and strategies related to water, agriculture and SMEs presented below.

Table 7. Overview of relevant sectoral policies, plans and strategies, their main objectives and the proposed project's relevance and alignment

Name of policy/plan/strategy and years of implementation	**Main objective**	**Relevance of the proposed project**
National Water Resources Policy 2020	Achieve economic prosperity through multipurpose, coordinated and sustainable use of water.	The proposed project is aligned with the National Water Resources Policy 2020 under output 1.2, contributing to outcome 1.
National Wetland Policy 2012	Protect and manage wetlands and make sustainable and wise use of wetland resources.	The proposed project is aligned with the National Wetland Policy 2012 under output 1.2, contributing to outcome 1.
Agriculture Development Strategy (2015-2035)	A self-reliant, sustainable, competitive and inclusive agricultural sector that drives economic growth and contributes to improved livelihoods and food and nutrition security.	The proposed project is aligned with the Agriculture Development Strategy under outputs 1.1, 2.1, 3.1 contributing to outcome 1.
Industrial Policy 2011	Contribute to national economy through sustainable broad-based industrial coordinated and collaborative cooperative partnership development of public, private sectors to support poverty alleviation.	The proposed project is aligned with the Industrial Policy 2011 under output 3.1, contributing to outcomes 1 and 2.

52. Sub-national alignment. At the provincial level, the project aligns closely with the Second Periodic Plan (2024/25– 2028/29) of Koshi Province, which prioritizes climate-smart agriculture, ecosystem restoration, disaster risk reduction and the mitigation of climate change impacts. The plan also underscores the promotion of greenery and nature-based tourism, areas directly targeted by the GREEN-Koshi interventions. Additionally, the project is consistent with the Provincial Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of Koshi Province, which highlights the restoration of degraded ecosystems, mainstreaming of NbS into development planning and capacity strengthening for adaptation governance. At a more localized level, the project complements the objectives of the Chure-Terai Madhesh Conservation Development Master Plan (2017–2037), which focuses on ecosystem conservation, risk-informed land-use planning and improved governance of natural resources in the fragile Chure and Terai landscapes.

Table 8. Overview of relevant provincial policies, plans and strategies, their main objectives and the proposed project's relevance and alignment

Name of policy/plan/strategy and years of implementation	Main objective	Relevance to the proposed project
Second Periodic Plan (2024/25-2028/29) of Koshi Province	Make the province happy and prosperous. It prioritizes climate-smart agriculture, ecosystem restoration, disaster risk reduction and the mitigation of climate change impacts. The Plan also underscores the promotion of greenery and nature-based tourism.	The proposed project is aligned with the Second Periodic Plan (2024/25-2028/29) of Koshi Province under outputs 1 to 5, contributing to outcomes 1 to 3.
Provincial Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of Koshi Province, 2024	Restore degraded ecosystems, mainstream NbS into development planning and capacity building for adaptation governance.	The proposed project is aligned with the Provincial Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of Koshi Province under outputs 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, contributing to outcomes 1 to 3.

53. **International agreements.** By addressing ecosystem degradation, promoting climate-resilient livelihoods and empowering vulnerable groups, the project contributes to Nepal's international commitments under the UNFCCC, UNCBD and UNCCD.

Table 9. Overview of relevant international conventions, their main objectives and the proposed project's relevance and alignment

Name of policy/plan/strategy and years of implementation	Main objective	Relevance of the proposed project
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change 1992	Stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations at a level that prevents 'dangerous' human-induced interference with the climate system.	The proposed project is aligned with the UNFCCC under outputs 1.1, 2.2, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, contributing to outcomes 1 to 3.
UN Convention on Biological Diversity 1992	Conserve biological diversity, its sustainable use and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources.	The proposed project is aligned with the UNCBD under outputs 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 5.1, 5.2, contributing to outcomes 1 and 3.
UN Convention to Combat Desertification 1992	Combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in affected areas through integrated action and international cooperation to achieve sustainable development.	The proposed project is aligned with the UNCCD under outputs 1.1, 1.2, contributing to outcome 1.

54. **Poverty reduction and gender strategies.** The project supports Nepal's poverty reduction goals by diversifying livelihoods and improving resilience among rural and marginalized populations. It also addresses gender inequalities by ensuring that women, Indigenous Peoples and other vulnerable groups are actively engaged and benefit equitably from project activities, in line with national policies. The project is strategically aligned with Nepal's national, provincial and local development priorities and global climate commitments. It provides a coherent, integrated approach to sustainable development and climate

adaptation, ensuring that project outcomes contribute meaningfully to both national goals and international frameworks.

55. The project is strategically aligned with Nepal's national, provincial and local development priorities and global climate commitments. It provides a coherent, integrated approach to sustainable development and climate adaptation, ensuring that project outcomes contribute meaningfully to both national goals and international frameworks.

E. Describe how the project/programme meets relevant national technical standards, where applicable, such as standards for environmental assessment, building codes, etc., and complies with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

56. The project will comply with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund. All activities will adhere to the Environmental and Social Principles of the Fund. It will also adhere to NTNC's ESMF which focuses on promoting environmentally sound and sustainable conservation while its GESI policy aims to address social disparities and ensure inclusive participation in conservation efforts. The project will strictly adhere to national regulatory requirements for environmental and social protection during implementation. It will also follow gender-related policies and legislation for a gender-responsive agenda.

57. **National Legal and Technical Standards: Environmental Protection Act (2019) and Environmental Protection Rules (2020)**: All activities will be screened to determine whether Initial Environmental Examinations or Environmental Impact Assessments are required. The project will secure relevant environmental clearances prior to implementation.

58. **Forest Act (2019)**. Restoration and agroforestry activities on community and public lands will comply with forest management regulations and the operational plans of Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs).

59. **Local Government Operation Act (2017)**. Activities will be integrated into the annual plans and budgets of local governments through participatory planning processes.

60. **Infrastructure codes and guidelines**. Any construction (e.g. nurseries, water retention structures, eco-tourism infrastructure) will follow the National Building Code and disaster-resilient design guidelines.

Table 10. Overview of technical standards				
Thematic area	**Applicable law/policy/standard (Nepal)**	**Key compliance requirements for the project**	**Responsible agency**	**Implications for project activities**
1. Climate Change & Resilience	National Climate Change Policy 2019; NDC 3.0 2025-2035	Align NbS interventions with national adaptation/mitigation priorities; incorporate climate-risk screening; include MRV for GHG reduction/co-benefits	Ministry of Forests and Environment	Ensure NbS designs integrate adaptation benefits (soil moisture, slope stability, agroforestry), contribute to NDC targets and include climate-resilient infrastructure
2. Environmental Assessment	Environment Protection Act 2019 & its Regulation 2020	Mandatory project screening; prepare BES, IEE or EIA based on thresholds; conduct public consultation; secure environmental approval before implementation	Ministry of Forests and Environment; provincial ministries	Integrate environmental safeguards into planning, identify sensitive areas, incorporate ESMP including mitigation for soil, water, biodiversity impacts
3. Forests & Land Use	Forest Act 2019 and its Regulation 2022; Community Forestry Guidelines 2024	Obtain clearance if forest land is affected; comply with CFUG operational plans; conduct inventory and compensation plantation if required	Ministry of Forests and Environment, Division Forest Offices, CFUGs	Required for plantation, watershed restoration, slope stabilization, nursery establishment in or near forest lands
4. Biodiversity Conservation	Forest Act 2019 and its Regulation 2022; National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and its Regulation 1974	Conduct biodiversity baseline; avoid habitat degradation; implement conservation measures; seeking research permit; follow PA-level permitting if activity occurs near protected areas	Ministry of Forests and Environment, Division Forest Offices, Protected Area Offices	Design NbS actions such as habitat restoration, riverbank stabilization, agroforestry corridors in line with national conservation priorities
5. Agriculture Inputs & Extension	Seed Act & Seed Regulations; Pesticide Act & Regulations; fertilizer control orders/directives	Ensure only registered seed, fertilizer and biopesticides are used; provide safe-use training; avoid hazardous pesticides; proper storage & disposal	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development; Seed Quality Control Centre; Plant Protection Directorate	Controls selection of planting materials, nursery practices, soil fertility management and pest management within NbS demonstration sites
6. Water Resources & Quality	National Drinking Water Quality Standards 2022	Conduct water quality assessments; comply with microbial/chemical standards; obtain abstraction or irrigation permits; ensure sustainable watershed management	Ministry of Water Supply; Water Resources Offices	Applies to watershed restoration, spring-source protection, wetland rehabilitation, irrigation improvements and community water systems
7. Pollution & Waste Management	Environment Protection Act 2019 & its Regulation 2020; Solid Waste Management Act 2011; Environmental Standards	Manage construction/nursery waste; avoid chemical contamination; ensure safe disposal of agrochemicals or plastics; implement erosion & sediment control	Ministry of Forests and Environment; Local Governments	Necessary for nurseries, community ponds, slope bioengineering works, training centres
8. Social & Community Engagement	Local Government Operation Act 2017; Land Acquisition Act 1977; Indigenous Peoples considerations under national law	Ensure community consultation; respect FPIC principles where applicable; integrate gender and social inclusion; use local government approval procedures	Local governments; CFUGs	Required for site selection, community forestry activities, benefit-sharing, livelihood co-design
9. Disaster Risk Reduction	Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act 2017	Incorporate DRR functions in NbS design (flood attenuation, slope stabilization, ecosystem buffers); coordinate with local DDRC	Ministry of Home Affairs; local governments	NbS components must contribute to hazard reduction, early warning and resilient landscape restoration
10. Occupational Health & Safety	Labor Act 2017 and its Regulations 2018	Ensure health and safety of workers and employees	Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security	The project will ensure workplace safety of employees and workers during implementation of project activities

61. **Alignment with Adaptation Fund safeguards.** An Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be developed during the full proposal stage. It will include screening tools aligned with the Adaptation Fund's 15 ESP principles; define risk classification thresholds and mitigation protocols; be updated based on IEE/EIA findings as required; ensure FPIC for Indigenous Peoples and marginalized groups; grievance redress mechanism protocols and roles at community, local government and implementing entity levels; training modules for local government and civil society partners on safeguard compliance, grievance handling, and inclusive stakeholder engagement; an Environmental and Social Risk Screening Summary.

F. Describe if there is duplication of project/programme with other funding sources, if any.

62. GREEN-Koshi has been designed to be complementary and synergistic, filling both geographic and thematic gaps through (i) targeting a defined set of districts and sites not covered by the same combination of interventions; (ii) focusing on integrated outcomes that combine nature-based solutions, disaster risk reduction (including early warning), and climate-resilient livelihoods; and (iii) applying structured coordination with MoFE/CCMD, provincial/local governments and project stakeholders to harmonise workplans, avoid double-financing, and build on existing investments. There is no duplication of activities between GREEN-Koshi and other identified initiatives, including the GCF-funded Building a Resilient Churia Region in Nepal (BRCRN).

63. The main and project in the area targeting conservation and livelihood resilience in the Koshi region is the GCF-funded project, BRCRN. Beyond BRCRN, the federal government's Chure-Terai Madhesh Conservation Development Board and Koshi Province's Ministry of Tourism, Forests and Environment have been implementing regular annual activities for conservation and management of forests and watershed management. These efforts are, however, not sufficient in terms of area coverage and budget required. Additionally, these efforts remain fragmented and lack an integrated, resilience-focused approach at landscape scale.

64. GREEN-Koshi is uniquely positioned to build on these foundations by mainstreaming climate adaptation through NbS, institutionalizing inclusive planning processes and bridging the financing and capacity gaps at the subnational level. Some areas of GREEN-Koshi overlap geographically with the intervention zone of the BRCRN project, implemented by the Ministry of Forests and Environment with technical support from FAO. BRCRN focuses primarily on addressing climate-induced challenges in the Chure hills by promoting climate-resilient land-use practices, forest conservation and institutional capacity-building to reduce deforestation and climate vulnerability. Beyond the GCF-funded Building a Resilient Chure Region in Nepal (BRCRN) project, which will conclude in May 2027, no other ongoing or planned projects with overlapping geographic coverage or intervention scope were identified in the proposed project area, and GREEN-Koshi has been designed to complement BRCRN by addressing remaining geographic and thematic gaps without duplication.

Table 11. Snapshot of GCF funded project: Building a Resilient Churia Region in Nepal (BRCRN)

Project title	• Building a Resilient Churia Region in Nepal (BRCRN)
Donors/Funding Entity	Green Climate Fund
Main project interventions	• Support integrated river system-level planning among sub-national government, community-based organizations (CBOs) and other partners, and strengthen their capacities to monitor natural resources and climate change impacts to inform future planning and investment decisions; • Support CBOs to directly adopt and invest in climate-resilient sustainable natural resource management approaches by providing

	training, expert guidance and inputs, materials, tools and equipment needed to overcome barriers to adoption; and • Strengthen extension services and awareness to support sustained and widespread adoption of project promoted practices.
Timeline and specific location within country	• Timeline: May 2020-May 2027 • Location: 26 river systems of Churia Hills of Koshi, Madhesh and Bagmati Provinces of Nepal comprising of 121 municipalities. The 26 river systems cover a combined area of 702,011 ha and approximately 3.2 million population. The Churia hills are located between the mid hill areas to the north and the plains in the south of Nepal (Terai), where the Churia hills perform critical ecological and socio-cultural functions both upstream and downstream.
Target population	• *Direct beneficiaries* – At least 200,681 households with approximately 963,268 people will directly benefit from the project. At least 50% of beneficiaries will consist of women with proportional representation of indigenous peoples (31%), Dalits (13%) and other marginalized groups. • *Indirect beneficiaries* – In total 3,216,248 people will indirectly and directly benefit from the project.
Implementing Entity	• Ministry of Forests and Environment with Technical Assistance of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
Lesson learned, where applicable	• Raising awareness and building the technical capacity of local communities, and government officials on sustainable natural resource management. • Integrated planning across river systems. • Community-based approaches adopted for addressing complex problems of Churia conservation. • High satisfaction rates of project beneficiaries for riverbank stabilization and afforestation interventions. • Resilient infrastructure has been found effective. • Equal participation of indigenous peoples and traditionally excluded castes and ethnicities in Nepal in project activities
Overlaps and synergies with the proposed project, including how the proposed project will build upon interventions of existing and previous projects	• The BRCRN project focuses on the 26 river systems of Churia hills where 17 river systems are from Koshi province. The proposed GREEN Koshi project does not overlap the intervention areas of the BRCRN such as it does not include the Terai region for project intervention. Furthermore, some components such as Human-wildlife conflict (HWC) mitigation; Wetland management; Community-led ecotourism development; and NbS-based enterprise development and market linkages are not included in the BRCRN project. The project will terminate in May 2027.

65. Beyond the initiatives listed above and those already referenced in the concept note narrative, no other active or recently completed projects were identified through initial desk review and stakeholder consultations as implementing the same combination of interventions (NbS + early warning/DRR + livelihoods + institutional strengthening) in the same target sites within Koshi Province; this will be reconfirmed and documented during full proposal development and inception coordination.

66. Furthermore, the project will establish practical mechanisms to avoid duplication throughout the project period: **(i) Geographic targeting and site registry:** a centralized, site-level registry of supported villages, CFUGs, wetlands, and structures will be maintained and systematically cross-checked against records held by MoFE, FAO, and provincial and local governments; **(ii) Coordination and joint planning:** quarterly coordination meetings with MoFE/CCMD, relevant provincial ministries, and other project PMUs will be conducted to align workplans, share implementation updates, and prevent overlap or double financing; and **(iii) Screening at the activity approval stage:** all proposed sub-activities will be screened to confirm that they are not supported by other funding sources, with screening results formally documented as part of ESMF implementation records.

67. **Geographical coverage:** While BRCRN operates only in the Chure hills, GREEN-Koshi adopts a broader landscape approach, covering both the Chure and Terai, maintaining ecological connectivity from upland watersheds to downstream wetlands and farmlands areas not covered by BRCRN.

68. **Implementation Logic:** BRCRN applies a river system-based planning model, focused on individual watersheds. GREEN-Koshi employs integrated landscape management recognizing interdependence of ecosystems, communities and climate risks across administrative and ecological boundaries.

69. **Thematic Scope:** GREEN-Koshi includes components not addressed under BRCRN, such as: Human–wildlife conflict mitigation, especially in biodiversity corridors with elephant movement; Community-led ecotourism development, linked to wetland restoration and conservation livelihoods; NbS-based enterprise development and market links, with strong focus on gender equality and Indigenous Peoples' participation.

70. **Coordination with BRCRN and other actors** will be ensured through joint technical platforms, shared stakeholder engagement processes and alignment with provincial development priorities. Lessons from BRCRN, particularly on forest governance and climate-informed planning, will inform GREEN-Koshi's design and adaptive management. The Adaptation Fund's support will enable Nepal to extend resilience outcomes beyond the reach of existing initiatives, addressing critical gaps in biodiversity protection, human–wildlife coexistence, eco-livelihoods and the inclusion of underrepresented groups.

G. If applicable, describe the learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned.

71. Component 5 includes a dedicated learning and knowledge management sub-component responsible for consolidating, synthesising, and disseminating lessons learned and evidence generated across all project components. This component strengthens both change pathways of the project by enabling continuous learning on ecosystem restoration and resilient livelihoods, as well as on inclusive climate governance. Through this role, Component 5 ensures that learning and knowledge generated by the project are systematically captured, shared through platforms such as the Climate Change Knowledge Management Centre, and used to inform policy, planning and scaling of NbS beyond the project period.

72. The National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), as the Executing Entity, will coordinate the tracking of experiences and lessons learned, with CIFOR-ICRAF serving as a key executing partner responsible for technical leadership on learning design, evidence synthesis, and quality assurance, in close collaboration with provincial and local government partners.

73. Learning will be co-created with communities, government institutions, and technical partners through training, exchange visits, multi-stakeholder dialogues, and participatory monitoring. The project will integrate Indigenous and local knowledge by creating dedicated spaces for Indigenous Peoples and local communities to document and share their ecological practices, climate coping strategies, and stewardship approaches. These insights will enrich the co-design of NbS and ensure that adaptation measures are culturally grounded and context appropriate. The learning process will also be gender-responsive, ensuring equitable participation of women, particularly Indigenous and marginalized women, who hold critical experiential knowledge. Training material, case studies, and participatory planning tools will reflect gender-differentiated climate risks, roles, and adaptation strategies. Women's leadership in community learning platforms will be actively supported.

Table 12. Roles and responsibilities for Learning and Knowledge Management

Institution	Role in Learning & Knowledge Management
NTNC (Executing Entity)	Overall coordination and oversight of learning and knowledge management; convening learning reviews; ensuring integration of lessons into implementation and reporting.
MoFE / CCMD	Facilitate national-level uptake of learning; link project knowledge to national policy processes; support hosting, updating and dissemination through national platforms such as the Climate Change Knowledge Management Center (CCKMC).
CIFOR-ICRAF (Key Executing Partner)	Technical leadership on learning and knowledge management; design of the learning framework; synthesis of evidence and lessons; development of policy briefs, case studies and technical notes; quality assurance and linkage to regional and global knowledge platforms.
Provincial and Local Governments (Koshi Province)	Provide implementation insights and data; participate in learning reviews; apply lessons to planning and budgeting processes; support sub-national dissemination.
Multi-stakeholder NbS Platforms	Serve as forums for peer learning and policy dialogue; validate lessons and good practices; support scaling and replication discussions.

74. The Green Koshi will establish a structured learning and knowledge management system to generate, curate and disseminate evidence and lessons for scaling Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and climate-resilient development.

75. **Type of information collected.** The project will collect and document: (i) technical and scientific information (baseline assessments, NbS design and restoration methods, agroforestry and ecosystem management practices, early warning system configurations); (ii) operational and implementation knowledge (community-based management approaches, maintenance protocols, cost–benefit insights, value-chain development lessons); (iii) policy and planning knowledge (policy briefs, planning and budgeting tools, lessons for mainstreaming NbS into local, provincial and national plans); (iv) monitoring, evaluation and learning data (quantitative indicators, qualitative outcome stories, gender- and inclusion-disaggregated evidence); and (v) indigenous and local knowledge, documented in culturally appropriate formats.

76. **The Climate Change Knowledge Management Center (CCKMC)** will serve as the central national hub for knowledge dissemination. All validated project knowledge products (guidelines, briefs, case studies, digital learning materials) will be curated and hosted through CCKMC. Dissemination will follow a multi-platform approach, combining CCKMC with linked government and partner portals, a learning management system for modular e-learning, and in-person channels such as stakeholder dialogues, community exchanges and policy roundtables. All platforms will reference and feed into CCKMC to ensure coherence and avoid duplication. The project will strengthen CCKMC's capacity to curate knowledge, manage repositories and host online learning modules, ensuring wide dissemination to provincial and local governments, community groups, and civil society.

77. Collaboration with CCKMC will be formalized through an institutional agreement or memorandum of understanding, clarifying roles related to content hosting, quality control, data governance, and dissemination. The project budget includes dedicated allocations for learning and knowledge management, covering content development, digital integration, dissemination events and technical support to CCKMC. Anchoring knowledge assets and Communities of Practice within CCKMC will ensure sustainability and continued use beyond the project period.

78. **A Community of Practice** will be embedded into this infrastructure to support ongoing reflection, knowledge exchange and lesson generation. Methods such as outcome harvesting and most significant change may be used to structure evidence-based learning. Lessons learned will be tracked through structured reflection sessions, facilitated multi-stakeholder learning events and digital analytics (e.g. views, downloads). These lessons will inform adaptive management throughout implementation and will be synthesized annually for wider national and regional sharing.

79. To ensure sustainability beyond the project period, the knowledge products, digital repositories and Communities of Practice will be anchored within CCKMC and relevant provincial platforms. This will allow continued use of learning materials, replication of NbS models and long-term uptake of inclusive climate governance practices across Nepal.

80. **Design of the Strategy:** Once this project concept moves to full development, a strategy will be elaborated across five pillars. (i) **Situational analysis of the Koshi landscape:** This will provide an overview of available knowledge, data and institutions and lead to the creation of a publicly accessible and interactive Knowledge House. (ii) **Comprehensive stakeholder analysis:** Including identification of stakeholder roles in NbS design and implementation, their existing knowledge levels and desired competencies. This includes particular attention to integrate Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' knowledge into all stages of capacity development and knowledge generation. (iii) **Identification of learning needs**: Insights gathered from the stakeholder analysis will guide the identification of learning needs and help determine the knowledge, skills and attitudes (competencies) required for stakeholders to contribute effectively to the project's objectives. This includes particular attention to gender-responsive learning and knowledge management. (iv) **Learning needs assessment; & (v) Conversion into learning modules**: The results of the learning needs assessment will guide the collaborative learning process and lead to the production of crisp, modular learning content accessible online, offline or in blended formats.

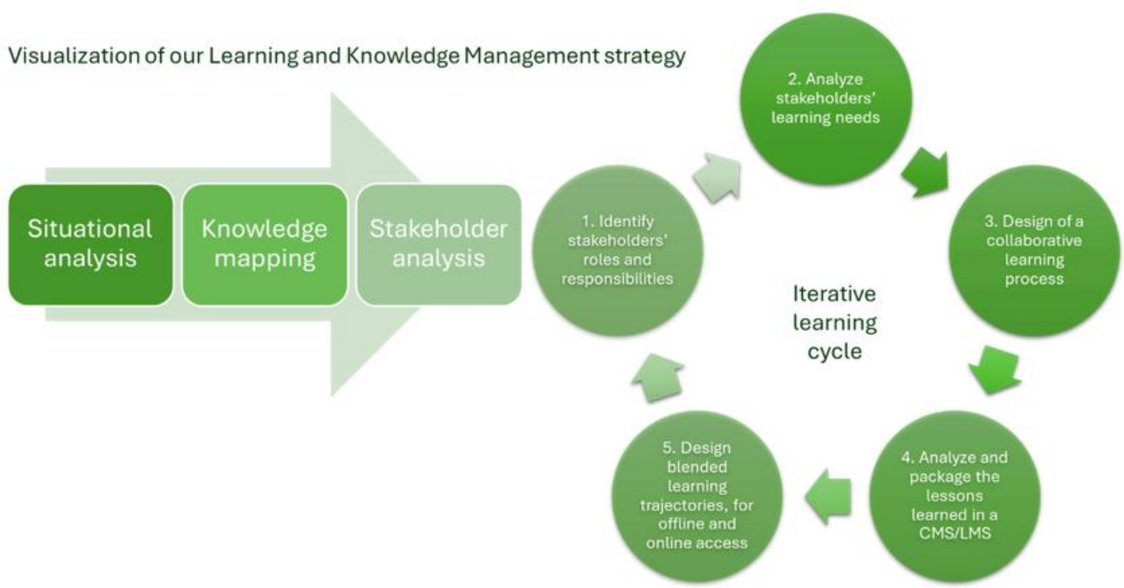


Figure 3. Visualization of learning and knowledge management strategy

81. **Digital Capacity Development and Knowledge Management Support:** In collaboration with the CCKMC, the project will design and maintain a digital infrastructure for knowledge curation, storage, learning product development, and dissemination. This will be based on a publicly accessible Content Management System paired with an open Learning Management System. Knowledge products (articles, briefs, videos, stories) will feed into micro-learnings and modular e-courses.

82. **Sharing and Dissemination of Lessons Learned**: The project will establish a learning and knowledge management infrastructure that consolidates knowledge products, learning materials and documented lessons into an accessible system. This will include technical briefs, guidelines, manuals, case studies, micro-learnings and modular e-courses, enabling wide dissemination within Nepal and to broader regional audiences. Capacity development for CCKMC staff will ensure they can manage this system effectively, while project learning specialists will support the design, packaging and scaling of learning products. Progress will be monitored through participation records for in-person events and digital analytics for online platforms. Metrics such as views, downloads and completion rates will help assess user engagement, while short assessments embedded in micro-learnings will track improvements in stakeholder capacities. To evaluate the effectiveness of the learning strategy, the project will systematically analyze lessons learned and facilitate regular reflection with stakeholders and partners. Guiding questions, such as what has been learned, how behaviours are changing and which underlying assumptions support long-term change will be used to promote deeper 'triple-loop' learning. Communication experts from CCKMC and CIFOR-ICRAF will support dissemination through web-based stories, social media, and other outreach tools. Adequate budget provisions are allocated to ensure that learning, capacity development, and knowledge management function as core drivers of project impact and sustainability.

83. Lessons generated through the project will inform adaptive management during implementation and guide future programming in similar landscapes. By prioritizing inclusive knowledge generation and broad dissemination, the project will strengthen its own effectiveness while contributing to a robust evidence base on the role of NbS in strengthening climate resilience. The insights produced will support the scaling of successful practices across Nepal and offer valuable reference points for other climate-vulnerable regions. Ultimately, this learning approach will deepen local ownership of adaptation, enhance community and institutional capacities, and contribute to behavioural change. The resulting model of restored ecosystems, resilient livelihoods, and strengthened governance will serve as a replicable framework for landscape-based learning within Nepal and beyond.

H. Describe the consultative process, including the list of stakeholders consulted, undertaken during project preparation, with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

84. This project concept is grounded in preliminary consultations with a diverse set of stakeholders, including local government representatives, CFUGs, NTNC field staff and research partners who bring extensive experience in participatory, inclusive approaches to climate adaptation and natural resource governance in Nepal and globally as documented in the below table (photographs of meetings included in Annex C).

Table 13. Summary of stakeholder consultations

Participant	Date and location	Issues discussed/ decisions reached	Interest incorporated	Gender Considerations
Federal Government 1. Suman Subedi, Undersecretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment 2. Ms. Deepal Oli, Undersecretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment	July 2025, Kathman-du	**Issues discussed:** (i)Escalating climate risks in Koshi Province affecting watersheds, wetlands and climate-sensitive livelihoods (ii)Limited integration of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) into sub-national planning and budgeting (iii)Need to align proposed interventions with NAP, NDC 3.0 and Climate Change Policy	Inputs informed Output 5.1 (integration of NbS into policies and plans) and Output 5.2 (multi-stakeholder platform). Alignment with national policies embedded across Components 1–5.	Gender equality highlighted as a core requirement. Incorporated through Output 1.1 (gender-responsive local adaptation actions), Output 3.1 (inclusive SMEs) and

Male:1. Female:1		(iv)Importance of embedding gender equality and social inclusion in adaptation programming **Agreements reached:** (i)Agreement to prioritize NbS as a core adaptation approach under the proposed project (ii)Agreement to integrate project outputs into national and provincial policy and planning processes *(iii)Agreement that MoFE/CCMD will support coordination, policy linkage and knowledge dissemination*.		Activity 4.2.3 (gender-responsive MEL tools).
Koshi Provincial Government 1. Dr. Indra P Sapkota- Director, Forest Directorate 2. Mr. Megha Raj Rai, DFO, Jhapa 3. Mr. Rishi Parajuli, Asst. Foredt Officer, Jhapa 4. Mr. Rabindra Subedi, Chief of Prime Minister Agriculture Modernization Project, Jhapa *Male: 4* *Female: 0*	March 2025, Jhapa	**Issues Discussed** (i)High climate vulnerability of the Chure–Terai landscape and increasing risks to forests, agriculture and water systems (ii)Limited provincial and municipal budget allocation for climate adaptation and NbS (iii)Need for coordination between provincial line agencies and local governments **Agreements Reached** (i)Agreement to prioritize NbS-based watershed and landscape restoration as a provincial adaptation priority (ii)Agreement that provincial forest and agriculture agencies will coordinate with municipalities during implementation (iii)Agreement to support integration of project activities into district-level planning and implementation mechanisms	Inputs informed Component 5 by defining coordination roles for provincial and district-level agencies. Provincial priorities were integrated into Outputs 1.2 (landscape prioritization) and 4.2 (institutional capacity strengthening).	(i)Provincial stakeholders acknowledged unequal access of women and marginalized groups to extension services and adaptation finance. (ii)Addressed through Output 4.2 (capacity strengthening with inclusive targeting) and Output 3.1, which prioritizes women-led and inclusive enterprises.
Local Government 1. Ms. Khadga Maya Parajuli, Deputy Mayor, Arjundhara Municipality 2. Sunil Niraula, Administrative Officer, Bhadrapur Municipality *Male: 1* *Female: 1*	March 2025, Jhapa	**Issues Discussed** (i)Insufficient municipal budget to independently finance climate-resilient infrastructure and ecosystem restoration (ii)Increasing climate risks affecting vulnerable households, agriculture and water access (iii)Need for external technical and financial support aligned with municipal priorities **Agreements Reached** (i)Agreement to integrate project-supported NbS activities into annual municipal plans and budgets (ii)Agreement to provide local coordination, facilitation and institutional support during implementation (iii)Agreement to align project activities with municipal disaster risk reduction and land-use plans	(i)Inputs directly informed Activity 1.1.2, ensuring municipal priorities guide NbS site selection. (ii)Municipal integration is reflected across Outputs 1.1, 2.2 and 5.1, strengthening local ownership.	Women municipal representatives highlighted disproportionate impacts of floods and water stress on women's unpaid labor. Addressed through Output 1.1 (gender-responsive local adaptation actions) and scheduling of trainings to reduce time burdens under Component 4.
CFUGs 1. Mr. Yogesh Bhattarai	March 2025, Jhapa	**Issues Discussed**	Inputs guided selection of intervention sites under Output 1.2 and	Women CFUG members highlighted time

2. Mr. Shanti Chimariya 3. Mr. Bhola Neupane 4. Ms. Shanti Sharma 5. Mr. Balkrishna Sapkota 6. Ms. Laxmi Karki 7. Ms. Kalpana Rai *Male: 4* *Female: 3*		(i)Increasing exposure to floods, erosion and declining forest productivity (ii)Limited livelihood diversification options under climate stress (iii)Need for community-led ecosystem restoration and external support **Agreements Reached** (i)Agreement to support community-led NbS implementation within community forests (ii)Agreement to participate in restoration, monitoring and maintenance activities (iii)Agreement to collaborate with municipalities and project partners during implementation	community-led restoration under Activities 1.1.3–1.1.4. Livelihood concerns directly informed Output 3.1 on NbS-based enterprises.	constraints and limited leadership roles. Addressed through Output 1.1 (gender-responsive planning), leadership opportunities under Component 4, and women-targeted enterprise support under Output 3.1.
Total *Male: 12* *Female: 6*				

85. Stakeholder consultations were operational in nature and directly informed project outputs, activities and institutional arrangements. Agreements reached during consultations shaped site selection, coordination mechanisms, gender-responsive livelihood design and policy integration, ensuring that stakeholder inputs are embedded in implementation rather than remaining advisory.

86. NTNC's longstanding work in engaging Indigenous Peoples, women's cooperatives and marginalized farming communities has informed the project's approach to locally led adaptation, agroforestry-based livelihoods and participatory ecosystem restoration. NTNC's action research and facilitation tools have proven effective in aligning stakeholder priorities while fostering equity, transparency and sustainability. In addition, the proposal builds on consultations with key Government actors, including senior officials NTNC, Chure-Terai Madhesh Conservation Development Board, Koshi Province Forest Directorate and Division Forest Offices in the proposed project area. These discussions emphasized the urgency of addressing interconnected challenges of water stress, land degradation, biodiversity loss and livelihood vulnerability, particularly in the Terai–Chure interface zones. Stakeholders highlighted the need for integrated, landscape-scale solutions that are both climate-resilient and socially inclusive. In response, the preliminary project design presented herein incorporates multi-stakeholder platforms and community governance mechanisms to ensure ownership, transparency and accountability.

87. A comprehensive stakeholder engagement plan will be developed during the full proposal phase to expand outreach and ensure meaningful participation of women, Indigenous Peoples, Dalits, youth and other marginalized groups throughout implementation. Engagement processes will be guided by principles of FPIC, participatory planning and social inclusion in alignment with both national policy and Adaptation Fund safeguards.

I. Provide justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning.

88. The funding requested from the Adaptation Fund is essential to cover the full cost of implementing all adaptation activities identified under the GREEN-Koshi project. The project has been designed so that all planned outcomes and outputs will be delivered solely through Adaptation Fund financing, without dependence on additional external or domestic resources. Although the proposal includes a small in-kind contribution of USD 20,000 from Government and local partners, this contribution is non-essential, supportive in nature and does not finance or condition any core activities or results.

89. All components and activities required to achieve the project's adaptation objective are fully costed and covered by the Adaptation Fund request. Without external financial support, the target communities, local governments and key institutions in Koshi Province would not have the resources or capacity to implement the necessary ecosystem-based adaptation measures at the scale, coverage and technical rigour required to address escalating climate risks. Public and private financing mechanisms for NbS remain nascent in Nepal and despite strong policy commitments including the NAP, NDC 3.0, and Climate Change Policy (2019), the fiscal space of provincial and municipal governments is severely constrained.

90. Local governments face competing development priorities, low discretionary budgets and limited access to climate finance, leaving them unable to undertake large-scale watershed restoration, wetland rehabilitation, agroforestry systems expansion, or human–wildlife conflict mitigation without external support. The requested Adaptation Fund resources will therefore enable the project to cover the entire cost of adaptation, including the following linked intervention areas:

91. Ecosystem restoration: Reforestation, watershed rehabilitation, wetland restoration and slope stabilization through NbS directly reduce climate risks such as floods, droughts, sedimentation and erosion. These interventions increase water retention, restore ecological buffers, and strengthen landscape-scale resilience; benefits that cannot be achieved without climate finance.

92. Climate-resilient livelihoods: The development of agroforestry systems, climate-resilient value chains and NbS-based enterprises diversifies incomes and strengthens local economies against climate shocks. These livelihood transformations require initial financing for nurseries, inputs, training and enterprise incubation; costs that cannot be shouldered by vulnerable households or local governments alone.

93. Capacity strengthening and institutional strengthening: Training local governments, community-based organizations, CFUGs and Indigenous communities is essential to ensure long-term adaptation governance. Funding is required for curricula development, extension services, technical support, monitoring systems and early-warning capacities.

94. Policy integration and knowledge dissemination: Mainstreaming NbS into local and provincial policies and budgets, establishing multi-stakeholder platforms and developing knowledge products and learning systems requires external support in the short term to generate long-term institutional sustainability. National institutions including MoFE, MoALD, provincial ministries and local governments will play critical roles in sustaining outcomes, but they lack the financial capacity to launch such large-scale, integrated adaptation programmes without the Adaptation Fund. The Fund's investment is therefore not supplementary; it is indispensable to ensuring that vulnerable groups particularly women, Indigenous Peoples, Dalits and smallholders receive tangible, measurable adaptation benefits. Moreover, the Fund's support ensures that adaptation results are long-lasting and transformative. By restoring ecosystems, reducing exposure to climate hazards, strengthening adaptive capacities and embedding NbS within Government systems, the project creates structural change that will continue beyond its lifetime. This reduces future dependence on external assistance and positions the province and nation to scale NbS-based adaptation independently. In summary, the requested Adaptation Fund resources represent the full cost of adaptation required to implement concrete, on-the-ground NbS interventions; build and sustain climate-resilient livelihoods; strengthen institutions to manage climate risks; and mainstream adaptation into long-term governance systems. This investment will deliver enduring benefits for both people and ecosystems in Koshi Province while significantly advancing Nepal's national adaptation and development priorities.

J. Describe how the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes has been taken into account when designing the project/programme.

95. Sustainability is a central pillar of the GREEN-Koshi project with the design incorporating long-term mechanisms to ensure that ecological, social, financial and institutional benefits continue beyond project completion. The project adopts a multi-dimensional sustainability approach that is institutional, financial, environmental, social and knowledge-based, supported by clear exit pathways and capacity-retention measures.

96. **Institutional sustainability:** The project embeds NbS into the core planning, regulatory and budgeting processes of provincial and local governments. Through participatory planning, legal support and creation of standard operating procedures, NbS will be mainstreamed into annual and 5-year plans, DRR strategies, land-use plans and sectoral budgets. Capacity retention mechanisms are integral to project design and include a training-of-trainers approach, institutional embedding of NbS tools and guidelines within provincial and municipal systems, and phased handover of responsibilities to local governments, CFUGs and wetland management committees. Skills developed under the project will be applied through formal roles within existing institutions, ensuring continuity beyond project closure. Capacity-retention mechanisms, including formal training modules, on-the-job learning and the adoption of NbS tools and guidelines ensure that local officials and community institutions retain knowledge after project closure. A phased handover strategy will gradually transfer responsibilities for watershed management, early-warning systems and agroforestry extension to municipalities, CFUGs and wetland committees. Institutional continuity is further reinforced through the NTNC's Field Office and existing CIFOR-ICRAF MoU with MoALD, which provides a platform for ongoing collaboration in agroforestry, capacity development, and ecosystem management.

97. **Financial sustainability:** The project cultivates long-term financing mechanisms rooted in community enterprises, eco-tourism revenue, agroforestry value chains and emerging instruments, such as ecological fiscal transfers. Livelihood and enterprise models are designed to generate sustained income streams that fund ongoing maintenance of nurseries, wetland systems, agroforestry plots and monitoring activities. Local governments will establish budget lines for operation and maintenance of EWS and NbS assets, supported by provincial climate finance allocations. Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) schemes are included on an exploratory and pilot basis to assess their technical, economic and institutional viability rather than as guaranteed financing mechanisms. The project will undertake ecosystem service valuation, cost–benefit analysis and stakeholder willingness-to-pay assessments to determine whether PES models are feasible and scalable in the Koshi context.

98. Post-project operation and maintenance arrangements have been considered. Local governments will integrate maintenance of early warning systems and NbS assets into annual plans and budgets, while CFUGs, wetland committees and producer groups will manage restored ecosystems and livelihood assets through existing governance structures and revenues generated from enterprises, eco-tourism and value chains.

99. **Environmental sustainability:** The project restores and protects ecosystems that generate long-term climate resilience benefits, such as clean water supply, reduced erosion, enhanced soil fertility and enhanced biodiversity. All restoration interventions prioritize native species, ecological connectivity and landscape-scale approaches to ensure enduring environmental performance. Community institutions will receive training on adaptive ecosystem management, including habitat-health monitoring, sustainable harvesting regimes and enforcement of community rules, ensuring continued stewardship after project completion.

100. **Social sustainability:** The project strengthens social institutions and promotes inclusive governance models that ensure lasting local ownership. CFUGs, wetland committees, producer cooperatives and women-led enterprises will take central roles in planning, implementation and monitoring, embedding stewardship responsibilities within local structures. Targeted capacity development for women, Indigenous Peoples and youth enhances long-term leadership in conservation and NbS-based livelihoods. By reducing human–elephant conflict through ecological interventions and EWS strengthening, the project also lowers the long-term social and economic burden on communities, preventing cycles of conflict that undermine resilience.

101. **Knowledge and learning sustainability:** All project-generated tools, manuals, protocols, monitoring systems and best practices will be documented and integrated into national and subnational knowledge platforms. The Climate Change Knowledge Management Center (CCKMC), hosted under the Climate Change Management Division (CCMD) of the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE), will serve as the national repository for climate knowledge. The project will contribute technical content, data, learning products, and capacity support, while CCMD will retain responsibility for managing, updating, and sustaining the national knowledge platforms beyond the project period. Community-to-community exchanges, youth storytelling, joint monitoring missions, and policy dialogues will institutionalize continuous learning and knowledge sharing. Together, these mechanisms will ensure that knowledge remains accessible, scalable, and relevant well beyond the life of the project, with CCMD leading long-term platform ownership and updates.

K. Provide an overview of the environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project/programme.

102. **Environmental and Social Risk Category:** Based on the environmental and social screening conducted in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy, the project is classified as Category B. The project is expected to have moderate, site-specific environmental and social risks that are not irreversible and can be readily mitigated through the implementation of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), including screening, mitigation, monitoring and grievance redress measures.

103. The GREEN-Koshi project has been designed to deliver primarily positive environmental and social impacts by restoring degraded ecosystems, strengthening community resilience and enhancing local capacities. However, recognizing that even well-intentioned adaptation projects can carry risks, a preliminary assessment has been undertaken. This aligns with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy and will be further deepened during the full proposal development. Environmental impacts and risks: The project is expected to generate substantial environmental benefits, including improved watershed and wetland health; increased biodiversity and habitat restoration; enhanced soil stability and fertility; and greater carbon sequestration through forest cover expansion.

104. **Key environmental risks** include disturbance to local biodiversity during reforestation or wetland restoration, especially if non-native species are introduced or if ecological functions are altered without proper planning; soil erosion or disturbance during land preparation for agroforestry or slope stabilization; and unintended ecological consequences, such as the spread of invasive species, if not proactively managed. These risks will be addressed through a robust Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) to be developed in the next phase. The ESMF will include context-specific screening tools; species selection protocols prioritizing native biodiversity; application of land restoration best practices; and monitoring indicators for environmental impacts. Ongoing environmental monitoring and community-based feedback mechanisms will support adaptive management.

105. **Social impacts and risks**: Socially, the project aims to generate transformative benefits by enhancing livelihood security through climate-resilient agroforestry and nature-based enterprises; empowering women, Indigenous Peoples and youth; and reducing human–wildlife conflict through participatory mitigation strategies.

106. **Key social risks**: Exclusion of vulnerable groups (e.g. Dalits, landless households, women) if participation processes are not inclusive or accessible; escalation of human–wildlife conflict, particularly if elephant habitat corridors are poorly designed or early-warning systems are inadequate; and resource-access disputes or grievances related to changes in land use or benefit-sharing arrangements.

107. To mitigate these risks, the project will ensure inclusive stakeholder engagement throughout the project cycle, with specific strategies to include women (preliminary gender analysis included in Annex B), Indigenous peoples and marginalized groups; apply FPIC principles; establish a gender-sensitive grievance redress mechanism at both community and institutional levels; and implement stakeholder training in early-warning systems and risk response protocols, particularly in areas prone to HWC. This will be complemented by awareness campaigns and contingency planning, in partnership with local forest and wildlife authorities.

108. **Safeguards compliance and ESMF Development:** All project activities will be screened against the Adaptation Fund's 15 environmental and social principles. Identified risks will be addressed through tailored mitigation plans embedded in project design. The project will also adhere to Nepal's Environmental Protection Act (2019) and relevant forest land-use and biodiversity-related policies and regulations. Relevant national approvals and environmental clearances will be obtained where required. A comprehensive ESMF will be finalized during the full proposal stage. It will guide safeguard risk screening and classification; mitigation planning and implementation; monitoring and evaluation, including periodic safeguard audits; and stakeholder-informed adaptive management, based on real-time feedback.

109. By proactively addressing these potential risks, the GREEN-Koshi project will uphold the highest environmental and social safeguards. This approach enhances the integrity, equity, and long-term sustainability of its adaptation outcomes.

110. Based on the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy screening, the project is classified as Category B, as it involves moderate, site-specific environmental and social risks that are reversible and can be readily mitigated through an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).

111. All identified environmental and social risks (in table 14 below), including indirect and cumulative impacts, will be further assessed and managed through the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) to be finalized during full proposal development

Table 14. Environmental and social risk screening

Checklist of environmental and social principles	**No further assessment required for compliance**	**Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance**
Compliance with the Law		**Low:** There is a risk that project activities could inadvertently fall out of compliance with evolving national or sub-national environmental or social regulations. **This risk will be mitigated by** systematic legal screening of all activities, continuous consultation with competent authorities, and obtaining all required permits and approvals prior to implementation.
Access and Equity		**Moderate:** There is a risk that project benefits could be inequitably distributed, resulting in indirect or cumulative exclusion of poorer households, women, Indigenous Peoples, or remote communities from access to project-supported services, assets, or livelihoods. **This risk will be mitigated by** applying equity-focused targeting criteria, implementing FPIC-based consultation processes, ensuring transparent beneficiary selection, and monitoring benefit distribution using disaggregated indicators.
Marginalized and		**Moderate:** There is a risk that marginalized and vulnerable groups (including Dalits, landless households, Indigenous Peoples and persons with disabilities) may face indirect exclusion from decision-making processes or limited ability to benefit from project activities due to social barriers and power asymmetries.

Vulnerable Groups		**This risk will be mitigated by** proactive outreach, inclusive consultation processes, representation quotas in community institutions, and safeguard monitoring with gender- and social-disaggregated indicators.
Human Rights		**Low:** There is a risk that inadequate consultation or information disclosure could indirectly affect the rights of local communities. **This risk will be mitigated by** applying FPIC principles, ensuring inclusive consultations, and maintaining an accessible grievance redress mechanism.
Gender Equality and Women's Empowermen t		**Moderate:** There is a risk that existing gender inequalities could be reinforced if women face indirect barriers to participation, leadership, or benefit-sharing, or if project activities unintentionally increase women's unpaid care burden. **This risk will be mitigated by** implementing a Gender Action Plan, setting targets for women's participation and leadership, designing flexible activity schedules, and tracking outcomes through gender-disaggregated monitoring and evaluation.
Core Labour Rights		**Low:** There is a risk that contracted, or community labour may not fully adhere to national labour standards. **This risk will be mitigated by** enforcing compliance with national labour laws, applying fair wage standards, and monitoring occupational health and safety.
Indigenous Peoples		**Moderate:** There is a risk that project activities affecting land use, ecosystems, or livelihoods could indirectly or cumulatively affect Indigenous Peoples' customary practices, access to resources, or cultural integrity. This risk will be mitigated by ensuring FPIC, culturally appropriate engagement, recognition of Indigenous knowledge systems, and Indigenous representation in planning, implementation, and monitoring structures.
Involuntary Resettlement		**Low/Non-existent:** There is no anticipated risk of involuntary resettlement, as the project does not involve land acquisition, physical displacement, or economic displacement. If unforeseen circumstances arise, this **risk will be mitigated by** applying national legislation, FPIC principles, and consultative, negotiated solutions to avoid displacement.
Protection of Natural Habitats	**X**	**Low:** There is a risk that restoration or infrastructure-related activities could cause localized, indirect or cumulative disturbance to natural habitats if not properly planned. **This risk will be mitigated by** avoiding ecologically sensitive core zones, prioritizing native species, applying low-impact NbS techniques, and preparing site-specific ESMPs in line with Adaptation Fund ESP guidelines.
Conservation of Biological Diversity	**X**	**Low – positive Impact:** There is a low risk of negative impacts on biodiversity; however, indirect or cumulative impacts could arise if inappropriate species selection or management practices are applied. **This risk will be mitigated by** using native and climate-resilient species, conducting biodiversity screening, monitoring ecological outcomes, and adapting management practices based on field evidence.
Climate Change	**X**	**Positive Impact:** There is no adverse climate risk associated with the project. On the contrary, activities generate positive direct and cumulative impacts by enhancing climate resilience, reducing exposure to climate hazards, and increasing carbon sequestration through ecosystem restoration and agroforestry.
Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	**X**	**Low:** There is a low risk of localized pollution or inefficient resource use during nursery establishment or small-scale construction activities. **This risk will be mitigated by** applying waste management guidelines, promoting organic land management practices, avoiding hazardous chemicals, and enforcing national environmental protection regulations.
Public Health	**X**	**Low – positive impact:** There is no significant risk to public health. Indirect positive impacts are expected through improved ecosystem services, food security, and livelihoods. Any minor occupational health risks **will be mitigated by** applying health and safety protocols and community awareness measures.
Physical and Cultural Heritage	**X**	**Low:** There is a low risk that project activities could inadvertently affect physical or cultural heritage sites. **This risk will be mitigated by** site screening, community consultations, chance-find procedures, and conducting assessments during full proposal development to ensure avoidance of culturally significant sites.
Land and Soil Conservation	**X**	**Positive impact:** There is no adverse risk to land and soil resources. The project generates positive direct and cumulative impacts by improving soil stability, fertility, and erosion control through reforestation, agroforestry, and bioengineering interventions. Soil stability and fertility improved through reforestation, agroforestry and bioengineering.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

A. Demonstrate how the project/programme aligns with the Results Framework of the Adaptation Fund

112. The GREEN-Koshi project is fully aligned with the Adaptation Fund Results Framework by directly contributing to reduced exposure to climate-related hazards, increased adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities and ecosystems, and strengthened institutional capacity for climate-resilient development. Implementation arrangements translate these results into practice through integrated Nature-based Solutions, early warning systems, climate-resilient livelihoods, and policy mainstreaming across local, provincial, and national levels. Project results will be monitored using Adaptation Fund core indicators and gender- and socially disaggregated data, in compliance with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy. By embedding adaptation measures within existing planning and budgeting systems, the project ensures coherence with the Adaptation Fund's strategic objectives and measurable results.

113. The National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), serving as the National Implementing Entity (NIE) for the Adaptation Fund, will act as the Implementing Entity for the project. The Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE) has formally endorsed the initiative and will serve as a co-executing entity alongside NTNC, drawing on its extensive experience and strong collaboration with national stakeholders across the public and private sectors, academia, and civil society. CIFOR-ICRAF as the key executing partner, shall collaborate with MoFE and NTNC in the field-level execution of Project activities pursuant to a formal agreement, and shall be responsible for implementing delegated activities, ensuring accountability, and managing and disbursing funds as delegated by NTNC.

114. Project Steering Committee (PSC). The PSC will serve as the highest decision-making body, responsible for providing strategic direction, approving major project decisions, and ensuring alignment with national priorities. It will oversee project assurance functions, including monitoring and evaluation, performance oversight, accountability, and learning. The PSC will review and approve multi-year and annual work plans, monitor their execution, and assess progress. The committee will include representatives from relevant government ministries, Implementing Entity, key executing partners, community representatives and other project partners. One member will be selected to serve as the PSC Secretary.

115. Project Management Unit (PMU). The PMU will be jointly supported by MoFE and NTNC and will oversee day-to-day project management and implementation. The NTNC Project Lead will mobilize technical experts, managers, and administrative staff to coordinate activities across project components. The PMU will report to the PSC and ensure that implementation adheres to approved work plans. NTNC, as the NIE, will manage overall project delivery, including coordination with the Adaptation Fund Board, supervision of project activities, budget oversight, fund disbursement, progress monitoring, and integration of lessons learned. The PMU will also lead Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) in line with Adaptation Fund environmental and social safeguards, manage procurement, mobilize technical expertise, and implement risk mitigation measures.

116. Operational Arrangements. A strong governance structure will guide project implementation, emphasizing transparency, accountability, and coordinated action. The project will adopt an integrated, participatory, and locally driven approach that enables community-based organizations, NGOs, and local governments to access resources directly and influence decision-making over adaptation priorities and actions. Through this structure, the project will strengthen collaboration, improve communication, ensure compliance with policies and safeguards, and enable efficient resource allocation. By engaging government institutions, technical experts, and community representatives ensuring active participation of women and indigenous people, the project will advance climate resilience, support sustainable development, and empower vulnerable communities across the project landscape.

Table 15. Alignment of project objectives with Fund outcomes

Project Objectives	Project Objective Indicator(s)	Fund Outcome	Fund Outcome Indicator	Budget (USD)
Component 1. Integrated watershed management, restoring and managing wetlands and nature-based tourism promotion	Oc1.1 Ecosystems and natural resources brought under protection, restoration, or improved management in response to climate variability and change [1000 ha climate resilient agroforestry, 20 watersheds, 15 wetlands, 15 ecotourism infrastructure;]	**Outcome 5**: Increased ecosystem resilience in response to climate change and variability- induced stress	Core Indicator 5: Ecosystems and natural resources brought under protection, restoration, or improved management in response to climate variability and change [# of hectares, disaggregated by land, marine, coastal, and cultural heritage area]	3,000,000
Component 2. Climate-resilient agroforestry systems promotion and human-elephant conflict mitigation	Oc2.1 People adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood practices 80% of ~400,000 beneficiaries reached, 40% women]]	**Outcome 6**: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas.	Core Indicator 6.1: People adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood practices [# of people, disaggregated by gender]	2,250,000
Component 3. Enterprise promotion, value-chain development and inclusive financing for improved livelihoods	Oc2.2 Households with increased income, or avoided decrease in income [~88,800HH, 31% female-headed]	**Outcome 6:** Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas	Core Indicator 6.2: Households with increased income, or avoided decrease in income [# of households, disaggregated by # of female-headed households]	1,230,384
Component 4. Capacity strengthening of institutions and communities	Oc3.1 Institutions with strengthened capacity to understand and better address climate risks and resilience [12 government institutions, 50 CFUGs, 5 SMEs, 5 CSOs]]	**Outcome 2:** Strengthened institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socioeconomic and environmental losses	Indicator 2: Institutions with strengthened capacity to understand and better address climate risks and resilience [# of institutions, disaggregated by scale and sector]	1,200,000
Component 5. NbS mainstreaming and integrating in sub-national and local policies, plans and programmes	Oc3.2 Policies, strategies, and/or plans adopted, implemented, and/or enforced that integrate climate risk and resilience considerations [1 NBS strategy implemented],	**Outcome 7:** Improved policies and regulations that promote and enforce resilience measures	Indicator 7: Policies, strategies, and/or plans adopted, implemented, and/or enforced that integrate climate risk and resilience considerations [#, disaggregated by scale and by policy step, i.e. developed, adopted, implemented, enforced]	1,400,000

Note: All project indicators with baseline and target values will be confirmed during the preparation phase.

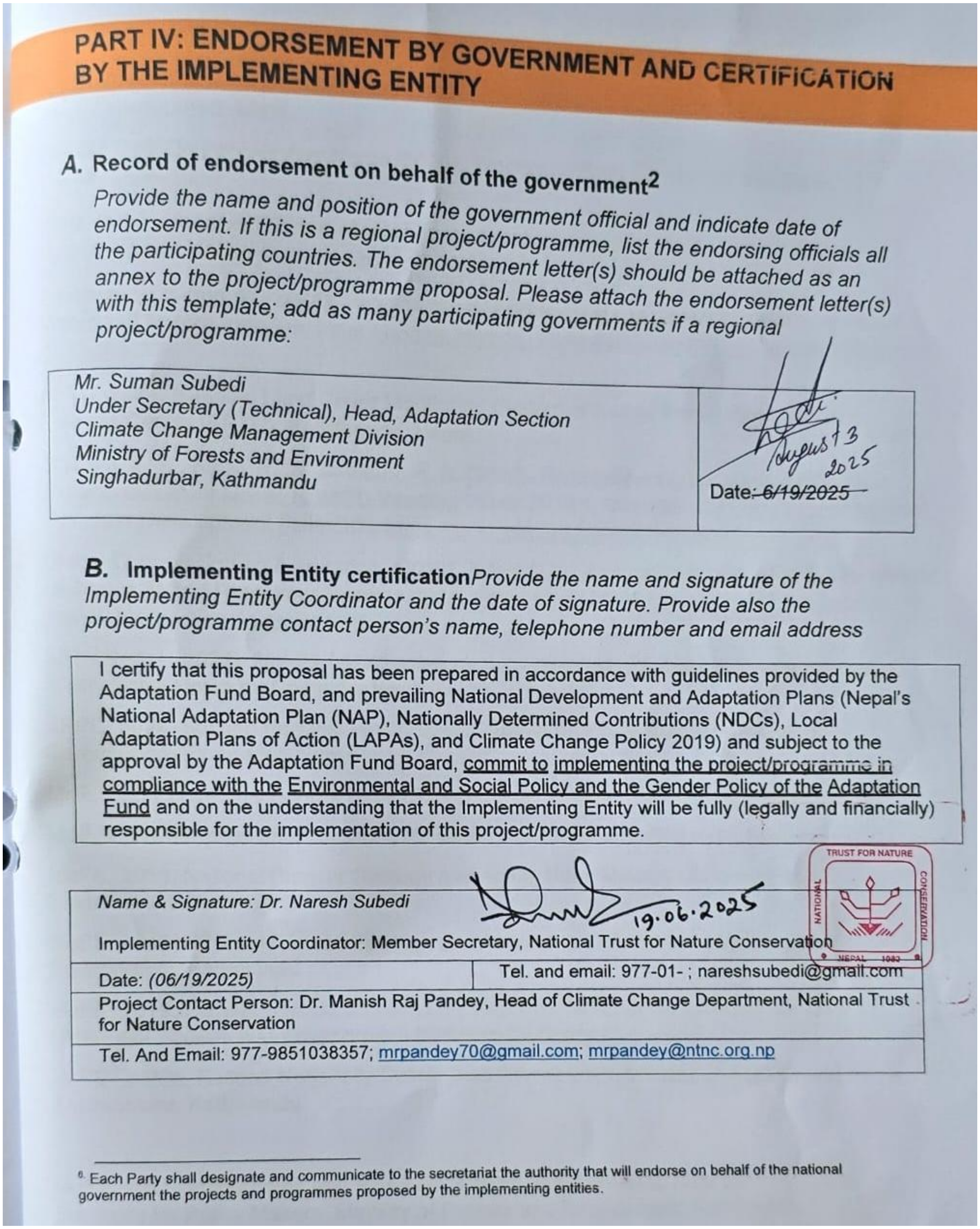
Table 16. Alignment of project outcomes with Fund outputs

Project Outcome(s)	Project Outcome Indicator(s)	Adaptation Fund Output	Adaptation Fund Output Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
Outcome 1. Landscapes in Koshi Province are restored and sustainably managed, with reduced climate-related hazards and more balanced human–elephant co-existence.	Oc1.1: Ecosystems and natural resources targeted by activities to improve protection, restoration, and/or management [1000 ha climate resilient agroforestry, 20 watersheds, 15 wetlands, 15 ecotourism infrastructure	***Output 5.1:*** Vulnerable ecosystem services and natural resource assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	Indicator 5.1.1: Ecosystems and natural resources targeted by activities to improve protection, restoration, and/or management [# of resources, by type]	5,314,000
Outcome 2. **Smallholders and local communities access more diversified, gender-responsive climate-resilient livelihood opportunities.**	Oc2.1: People adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood practices [# of people, disaggregated by gender] [80% if ~400,000 beneficiaries, 40% women receive direct support and capacity building]	Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability	Indicator 6.1.1: People receiving targeted support for new and/or improved livelihoods to manage climate risk [# of people, disaggregated by gender and by type of support]	1,900,000
Outcome 3. **Institutions and communities in Koshi Province better plan, finance and sustain NbS for climate adaptation and inclusive development based on evidence and aligned with national policies.**	Oc3.1: Institutions with strengthened capacity to understand and address climate risks and resilience [12 government institutions, 50 CFUGs, 5 SMEs, 5 CSOs and other kay stakeholders] Oc3.2: Policies, strategies, and/or plans adopted, implemented, and/or enforced that integrate climate risk and resilience considerations [1NBS strategy implemented] [Oc3.5: Climate resilience knowledge products and/or tools used by stakeholders [5 policy briefs, 5 technical manuals, 3 field guides, 15 case studies and multimedia materials]]	Output 2.1: Strengthened capacity of national and sub-national centres and networks to respond rapidly to extreme weather events Output 7.1: Improved integration of climate-resilience strategies into country development plans. Output 3.2: Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate	Indicator 2.1.1: Institutions supported to strengthen capacity to understand and address climate risks and resilience [# of institutions, disaggregated by scale and sector] 7.1.1: Policies, strategies, and/or plans developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk considerations [# of policies, strategies, and/or plans, disaggregated by scale] Indicator 7..1.2: Policies, strategies, and/or plans formulated through the participation of one or more vulnerable	1,066,750

		knowledge and learning	groups [# of policies, strategies, and/or plans, disaggregated by scale] Indicator 3.2.1: Climate resilience knowledge products and/or tools developed and shared with stakeholders [# of products/tools]	

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government[2]



PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government[2]

Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement. If this is a regional project/programme, list the endorsing officials all the participating countries. The endorsement letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the project/programme proposal. Please attach the endorsement letter(s) with this template; add as many participating governments if a regional project/programme:

Mr. Suman Subedi *Under Secretary (Technical), Head, Adaptation Section* *Climate Change Management Division* *Ministry of Forests and Environment* *Singhadurbar, Kathmandu*	August 13 2025 Date: ~~6/19/2025~~

B. Implementing Entity certification *Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number and email address*

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 (Nepal's National Adaptation Plan (NAP), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPAs), and Climate Change Policy 2019) 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.

Name & Signature: Dr. Naresh Subedi 19.06.2025 Implementing Entity Coordinator: Member Secretary, National Trust for Nature Conservation	
Date: *(06/19/2025)*	Tel. and email: 977-01- ; nareshsubedi@gmail.com
Project Contact Person: Dr. Manish Raj Pandey, Head of Climate Change Department, National Trust for Nature Conservation	
Tel. And Email: 977-9851038357; mrpandey70@gmail.com; mrpandey@ntnc.org.np	

[6] 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.

Government of Nepal
Ministry of Forests and Environment

P.O. Box No. 3987
Singh Durbar, Kathmandu

Ref. No. 30

Government of Nepal Ministry of Forest and Environment Singhadurbar, Kathmandu

Letter of Endorsement by Government

Date: August 3, 2025

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

Subject: **Endorsement for the concept note proposal "GREEN Koshi: Grounding Resilience and Ecosystem Enhancement through Nature-based Solutions"**

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Nepal, I confirm that the above national concept note 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 Nepal.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the concept note with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) and executed by Ministry of Forests and Environment and National Trust for Nature Conservation.

Sincerely,

Suman Subedi
Designated Authority, Adaptation Fund
Under Secretary, Adaptation Section
Ministry of Forests and Environment
Email:s_subedi2003@yahoo.com
suman.subedi@nepal.gov.np

Secretary :– 4211567 Fax:- 4211868

Annex A. References

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Annex B. Preliminary gender analysis and adaptation action plan

1. **Context and purpose**
   - Identify key gender dimensions in the land-based sector, including agriculture and forestry in Koshi Province, Nepal.
   - Aims to inform the design of a gender-responsive adaptation project.
   - Highlights the roles, gaps and differentiated climate change impacts and proposed measures to promote equitable and inclusive participation and benefits for women, men and marginalized groups.
   - Alignment: Adaptation Fund Gender Policy and Action Plan (2021-2026), The National Gender Equality Policy of Nepal 2021 and Nepal' NAP 2021-2050

2. **Methodology**
   - Review of national gender policies and climate adaptation frameworks.
   - Analysis of secondary literature on gender roles in forestry and agriculture in Nepal.
   - Compilation of available sex-disaggregated information relevant to project design.

3. **Gender roles in forestry and agriculture**

3.1 Agriculture

- Agriculture remains the main livelihood source in Koshi (Timsina 2024).
- Lower hill areas are dominated by cereal crops; higher hill areas: cattle grazing, herbs and tourism.
- Agrarian pattern has changed, displacing traditional cereal crops practice to more commercial crops like vegetables and other high-value crops: cardamom, ginger, seed and fruits; affected by the community forest programme, road construction and introduction of improved agriculture development programme.
- Women contribute 60-70% of agricultural labour.
- Roles of women: subsistence crop production, seed selection, planting, maintenance, post-harvest processing, livestock care.
- Roles of men: control of land, cash-crop decisions, market transactions and mechanized operation.
- Increasingly abandoned, barren land due to out-migration of youth and men.
- Increasingly women's responsibility to manage farms and make agricultural decisions due to out-migration.
- Challenges: women's access to productive resources, credit, technologies and decision-making reminds limited.
- Roles of IPs and marginalized groups to be better determined.

3.2 Forestry

- The province is rich in community forests, which provide households with fuelwood, fodder and NTFPs.
- Men and women have different roles: Women tend to daily forest activities: collecting resources, maintaining nurseries; men dominate in decision-making in CFUGs.
- National policy requires 50% female participation in CFUG committees.
- Challenges: limited women's participation and leadership in CFUGs due to social norms, time burdens and limited access to information and education.
- Roles of IPs and marginalized groups to be better determined.

4. Gender gaps and barriers

Table B1. Preliminary assessment of gender gaps and barriers

Dimension	Gap/issue	Implication for adaptation
Access to resources	• Limited number of women own productive land • Limited access to education and capacity strengthening (training, extension service) • Limited access to formal financial support (credit etc)	Reduces women's capacity to invest in climate-smart agriculture
Decision-making	• Few women in leadership of CFUGs compared to males • Limited participation of women and marginalized groups in CFUGs	Limited women's influence over adaptation priorities and benefit sharing
Labour and time burden	Women dominate in multiple tasks in agriculture, forestry, households	Less time for capacity and adaptation training
Information and technology	Agriculture and forestry extension programmes tend to target males (head of household)	Women have lower access to climate information and technology
Income and markets	Women mainly engage in subsistence agriculture, with limited access to market and income information and control	Restricts ability to diversify and sustain adaptive livelihoods

5. Gender-differentiated climate change impacts

- Koshi is highly prone to climate change, with intensifying climate exposure to agriculture and forestry productivity, including floods, droughts and landslides.
- Women's vulnerability increased: highly dependent on natural resources, with limited adaptative assets and capacity. Floods and landslides increase workload of women to secure water, food and fuel.
- Men's vulnerability: income loss (disrupted cash crops, instability of migration-related work).
- Different adaptation capacity: Men: more access to finance, information and alternative work; Women: mostly relay on informal networks and community support.

6. Opportunities for gender-responsive adaptation

The difference between climate change impacts on women and men needs addressing through gender-responsive planning to ensure equitable benefits for women and men from interventions.

GREEN-Koshi offers opportunities to strengthen gender quality while enhancing resilience.

Table B2. Recommended actions

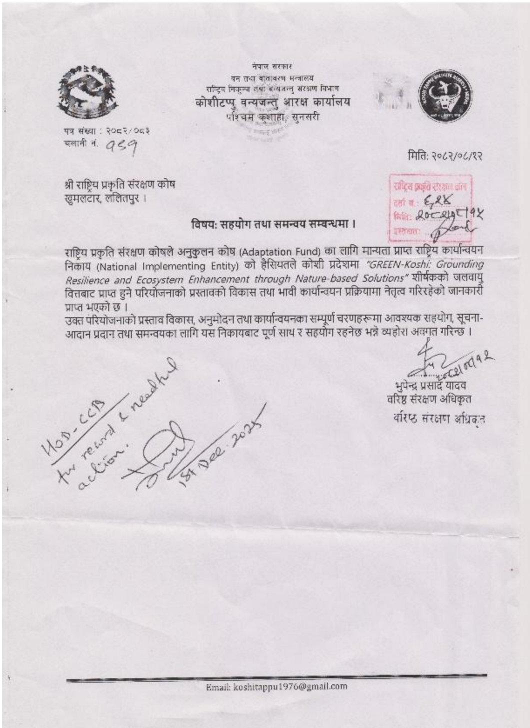
Action area	Proposed measure	Expected result	Indicator
Deliver climate-resilient agroforestry training	Conduct training for women and marginalized groups on climate-resilient agroforestry	Improvement in women's capacity and skill to implement	% women trained % women participating
Access nature-based tourism and cultural businesses	Facilitate access to financial support	Increased women's access to financial support to improve businesses	% women accessing financial support % women initiating or participating in nature-based tourism and cultural businesses
Increase women' s participation in activities for climate-resilient agroforestry	Involve women in the establishment of agroforestry demo plots and monitoring	Increased women's leadership of agroforestry	% women leaders of agroforestry practices
Monitoring and evaluation	Collect and report gender-disaggregated data on participation and resilience outcomes	Evidence-based tracking of gender impact	All indicators disaggregated by gender

7. Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation will include gender-sensitive indicators, including % of women and men trained in climate-resilient agroforestry, % of women accessing financial support, increase in number of women with access to productive assets and income sources.

Annex C. Selected visual documentation of stakeholder consultations

I. Letter of Consent



नेपाल सरकार
वन तथा वातावरण मन्त्रालय
राष्ट्रिय निकुन्ज तथा वन्यजन्तु संरक्षण विभाग
कोशीटप्पु वन्यजन्तु आरक्ष कार्यालय
पश्चिम कुशाहा, सुनसरी

पत्र संख्या : २०८२/०८३
चलानी नं. ९६९

मिति: २०८२/०८/१२

श्री राष्ट्रिय प्रकृति संरक्षण कोष
खुमलटार, ललितपुर ।

राष्ट्रिय प्रकृति संरक्षण कोष
दर्ता नं.: ६२४
मिति: २०८२/०८/१५

विषय: सहयोग तथा समन्वय सम्बन्धमा ।

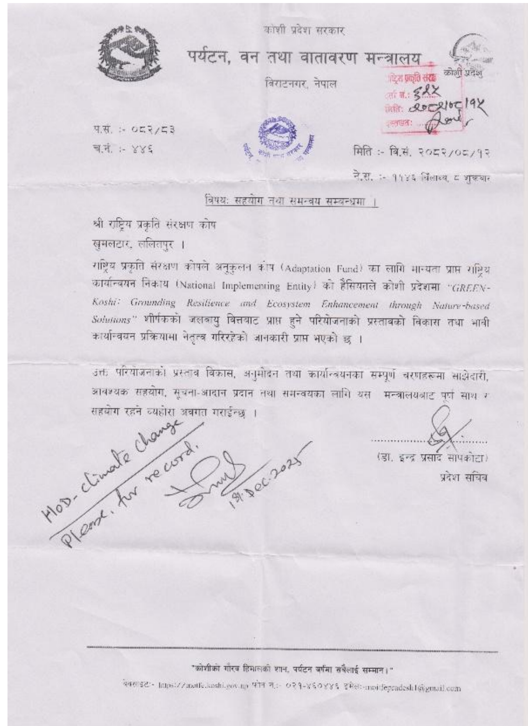
राष्ट्रिय प्रकृति संरक्षण कोषले अनुकुलन कोष (Adaptation Fund) का लागि मान्यता प्राप्त राष्ट्रिय कार्यान्वयन निकाय (National Implementing Entity) को हैसियतले कोशी प्रदेशमा *"GREEN-Koshi: Grounding Resilience and Ecosystem Enhancement through Nature-based Solutions"* शीर्षकको जलवायु वित्तबाट प्राप्त हुने परियोजनाको प्रस्तावको विकास तथा भावी कार्यान्वयन प्रक्रियामा नेतृत्व गरिरहेको जानकारी प्राप्त भएको छ ।

उक्त परियोजनाको प्रस्ताव विकास, अनुमोदन तथा कार्यान्वयनका सम्पूर्ण चरणहरूमा आवश्यक सहयोग, सूचना-आदान प्रदान तथा समन्वयका लागि यस निकायबाट पूर्ण साथ र सहयोग रहनेछ भन्ने व्यहोरा अवगत गरिन्छ ।

२०८२/०८/१२

भुपेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव
वरिष्ठ संरक्षण अधिकृत
वरिष्ठ संरक्षण अधिकृत

HOD-CCB
for record & needful action.
1st Dec 2025



कोशी प्रदेश सरकार
पर्यटन, वन तथा वातावरण मन्त्रालय
विराटनगर, नेपाल

राष्ट्रिय प्रकृति संरक्षण
दर्ता नं.: ६२५
मिति: २०८२/०८/१५

प.स. :- ०८२/८३
च.नं. :- ४४६

मिति :- वि.सं. २०८२/०८/१२
ने.स. :- ११४६ थिंलाथ्व, ८ शुक्रबार

विषय: सहयोग तथा समन्वय सम्बन्धमा ।

श्री राष्ट्रिय प्रकृति संरक्षण कोष
खुमलटार, ललितपुर ।

राष्ट्रिय प्रकृति संरक्षण कोषले अनुकुलन कोष (Adaptation Fund) का लागि मान्यता प्राप्त राष्ट्रिय कार्यान्वयन निकाय (National Implementing Entity) को हैसियतले कोशी प्रदेशमा *"GREEN-Koshi: Grounding Resilience and Ecosystem Enhancement through Nature-based Solutions"* शीर्षकको जलवायु वित्तबाट प्राप्त हुने परियोजनाको प्रस्तावको विकास तथा भावी कार्यान्वयन प्रक्रियामा नेतृत्व गरिरहेको जानकारी प्राप्त भएको छ ।

उक्त परियोजनाको प्रस्ताव विकास, अनुमोदन तथा कार्यान्वयनका सम्पूर्ण चरणहरूमा साझेदारी, आवश्यक सहयोग, सूचना-आदान प्रदान तथा समन्वयका लागि यस मन्त्रालयबाट पूर्ण साथ र सहयोग रहने व्यहोरा अवगत गराईन्छ ।

(डा. इन्द्र प्रसाद सापकोटा)
प्रदेश सचिव

HOD- climate change
Please, for record.
1st Dec. 2025

"कोशीको गौरव हिमालको शान, पर्यटन वर्षमा सबैलाई सम्मान।"
वेबसाइट:- https://moitfe.koshi.gov.np फोन नं.:- ०२१-४६०४४६ इमेल:-moitfeprade sh1@gmail.com

Unofficial Translation:

The Ministry of Tourism, Forests and Environment of Koshi Province and the Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, hereby notify the National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) that it has taken due note of the formulation of the "GREEN–Koshi" Adaptation Fund Proposal under the leadership of NTNC.

The Ministry and Wildlife Reserve affirm its commitment to extend all necessary support, coordination, and facilitation throughout the proposal development and approval processes, as well as during the subsequent implementation phase of the project.

Furthermore, a handwritten directive has been issued requesting that this communication be duly registered by the Head of the Climate Change Department.

II. Minutes from Focal Group Discussion

आज मिति २०८२।०८।१२ गते राष्ट्रिय प्रकृति संरक्षण कोषद्वारा अनुकुलन कोष (Adaptation Fund) का लागि मान्यता प्राप्त राष्ट्रिय कार्यान्वयन निकाय (National Implementation Entity) को हैसियतले कोशी प्रदेशमा "GREEN – Koshi: Grounding Resilience and Ecosystem Enhancement through Nature - based Solutions" शीर्षकको जलवायु वित्तबाट प्राप्त हुने परियोजनाको विकासको लागि स्थानिय स्तरमा सरोकारवालाहरुसँग राय, सुझाव तथा परामर्श सङ्कलन गर्ने उद्धेश्यले निम्न अनुसारको उपस्थितिमा बैठक बसी छलफल तथा निर्णय गरियो ।

<u>उपस्थिति</u>

१. श्री वृद्धि सागर पौडेल, महानिर्देशक, राष्ट्रिय निकुन्ज तथा वन्यजन्तु संरक्षण विभाग, काठमाडौं
२. श्री डा.इन्द्र प्रसाद सापकोटा, सचिव, पर्यटन वन तथा वातावरण मन्त्रालय कोशी प्रदेश बिराटनगर
३. श्री डा.नरेश सुवेदी, सदस्य सचिव, राष्ट्रिय प्रकृति संरक्षण कोष
४. श्री भुपेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव, वरिष्ठ संरक्षण अधिकृत, कोशीटप्पु वन्यजन्तु आरक्ष कार्यालय
५. श्री मेजर रमेश गुरुङ, गुल्मपति, भिमकाली गुल्म, कुसाहा व्यारेक सुनसरी
६. श्री जंग बहादुर खड्का, अध्यक्ष मध्यवर्ती क्षेत्र व्यवस्थापन समिति कोशीटप्पु वन्यजन्तु आरक्ष
७. श्री नन्दीलाल चौधरी, अध्यक्ष तपेश्वरी मध्यवर्ती सामुदमयिक होमस्टे
८. श्री वीरेन्द्र गौतम, कार्यालय प्रमुख, राष्ट्रिय प्रकृति संरक्षण कोष, कोशी संरक्षण केन्द्र
९. श्री अंकित पौडेल, रेन्जर , ~~अधिकृत~~, कोशीटप्पु वन्यजन्तु आरक्ष
१०. श्री केदार प्र. दास, रेन्जर , ~~अधिकृत~~, कोशीटप्पु वन्यजन्तु आरक्ष
११. श्री पुरुषोत्तम मुडवरी, व.भेटेरीनरी प्राविधिक, कोशी संरक्षण केन्द्र
१२. श्री जयकान्त चौधरी अध्यक्ष [illegible] घाघरा समिति
१२. श्री विवेक अधिकारी लेखा सहायक कोशी संरक्षण केन्द्र
१४. श्री लोक बहादुर [illegible] मगर पाल्टन कुसाहा सुनसरी

<u>छलफलका विषय तथा निर्णय</u>

परियोजनाको प्रस्ताव सम्वन्धमा

कोशी प्रदेश लक्षित निर्माणाधीन परियोजनाको प्रस्तावमा स्थानिय वासिन्दा तथा पारिस्थितिकीय प्रणालीमा देखिएका जलवायु परिवर्तन सम्वन्धि मुख्य मुद्दाहरु समेटिएकोप्रति बैठकमा अवगत भयो । सहभागीहरुबाट प्रस्तुत विषयवस्तु उपयुक्त रहेको राय प्राप्त भयो ।

स्थानिय जोखिममा परेका समुदायहरुको जलवायु उत्थानशीलता (Climate Resilience) अभिवृद्धि गर्न आवश्यक जनसहभागिता, स्थानिय संरचना तथा सरोकारवाला निकाय । संघ संस्थाको समन्वय र सहभागितालाई प्रस्तावमा यथोचित रुपमा समेटिएको सुनिश्चित हुनु पर्ने राय प्राप्त भयो ।

प्रस्तावको मस्यौदाका लागि प्राप्त भएका राय, सुझाव र परामर्शलाई यथोचित रुपमा सम्बोधन हुने गरी समावेस गरी सम्वन्धित निकायमा पठाउँन उपयुक्त हुने सर्वसम्मत निर्णय गरियो ।

Unofficial translation:

The consultation participants advised that the proposal should comprehensively incorporate the required elements of community engagement, local institutional arrangements, and coordination and collaboration with relevant government bodies and associations, with a view to enhancing the climate resilience of communities exposed to local risks.

It was unanimously resolved that the proposal shall be revised to appropriately address the feedback, suggestions, and inputs received during the consultations, and thereafter be submitted to the concerned authorities for further consideration.

III. Photographs of consultation

Discussion 1 with Community Forest Users

Discussion 2 with Community Forest Users

Discussion 3 with Deputy Mayor and team

Discussion 4 with Forest Director, Koshi Province

Annex D. Theory of Change