

Readiness Proposal

With GWPO for Central African Republic (the)

29 December 2021 | Capacity building, pipeline development



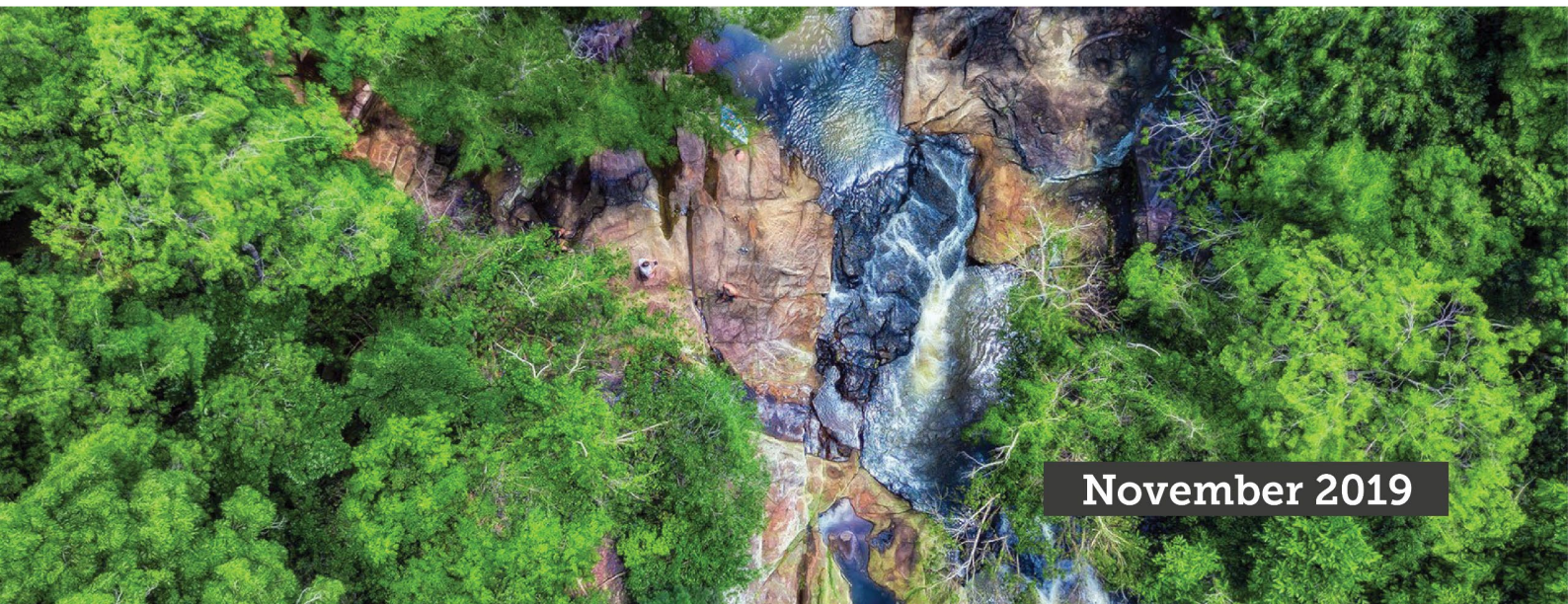
**GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND**

READINESS & PREPARATORY SUPPORT

PROPOSAL TEMPLATE



Proposal title:	Advancing the CAR Country Programme by supporting the NDA and country stakeholders in programme development for climate finance
Country:	Central African Republic
National designated authority:	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
Implementing Institution:	Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO)
Date of first submission:	Click or tap to enter a date. 30 June 2021
Date of current submission / version number	15 December 2021 V.4



November 2019

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Download the guidebook:
<https://g.cf/xxxxx>



How to complete this document?

This document should be completed by National Designated Authorities (NDA) or focal points with support from their Delivery Partners where relevant. Once completed, this document should be submitted to the GCF by the NDA or focal point via the **online submission system**, accessible through the Country Portal of the GCF website.

Please be concise. If you need to include any additional information, please attach it to the proposal.

If the Delivery Partner implementing the Readiness support is not a GCF Accredited Entity for project Funding Proposals, please complete the Financial Management Capacity Assessment (FMCA) questionnaire and submit it prior to or with this Readiness proposal. The FMCA is available for download at the [Library](#) page of the GCF website.

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If you are not sure how to complete this document, or require support, please send an e-mail to countries@gcfund.org.

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We will get back to you within five (5) working days to acknowledge receipt of your submission and discuss the way forward.

Note: Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender

Throughout this document, when answering questions and providing details, please make sure to pay special attention to environmental, social and gender issues, particularly to the situation of vulnerable populations, including women and men. Please be specific about proposed actions to address these issues. Consult Annex IV of the Readiness Guidebook for more information.

Please visit the Country Portal on the GCF website to submit this proposal via the **online system**.

When submitting the proposal, please name the file:
GCF Readiness -[Country]-[yyymmdd]

1. SUMMARY

1.1 Country submitting the proposal	<p>Country name: Central African Republic</p> <p>Name of institution representing NDA or Focal Point: National Climate Change Coordination</p> <p>Name of contact person: Boris Bemokolo</p> <p>Contact person's position: Focal Point, Director of Climate Change Innovation Funding Mobilization</p> <p>Telephone number: +236 75 09 63 25</p> <p>Email: borisbemokolo@yahoo.fr</p> <p>Full office address: BP. 686, Bangui, Central African Republic</p> <p>Additional email addresses that need to be copied on correspondences: climatrca@gmail.com</p>	
1.2 Date of initial submission	30 June 2021	
1.3 Last date of resubmission	15 December 2021	Version number V.4
1.4 Which institution will implement the Readiness and Preparatory Support project?	<p><input type="checkbox"/> National designated authority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Accredited entity</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delivery partner</p> <p>Please provide contact information if the implementing partner is not the NDA/focal point</p> <p>Name of institution: Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO)</p> <p>Name of official: Dario Soto-Abril</p> <p>Position: Executive Secretary & CEO</p> <p>Telephone number: +46 76 677 8607/ +46 81 213 8607</p> <p>Email: dario.soto-abril@gwp.org</p> <p>Full office address: Postal address: PO Box 24177, SE-104 51 Stockholm, Sweden Visiting address: Linnégatan 87D, 115 23 Stockholm, Sweden</p> <p>alex.simalabwi@gwp.org victorine.kome@gwpcaf.org nadine.fragniere@gwp.org julienne.roux@gwp.org anjali.lohani@gwp.org rene.schieritz@gwpsaf.org kidanemariam.jembere@gwpsaf.org</p> <p>Additional email addresses that need to be copied on correspondences:</p>	

1.5 Title of the Readiness support proposal

Advancing the CAR Country Programme by supporting the NDA and country stakeholders in programme development for climate finance

1.6 Type of Readiness support sought

Please select the relevant GCF Readiness objective(s) below (click on the box – please refer to Annex I and II in the Guidebook):

- I. Capacity building
- II. Strategic frameworks
- III. Adaptation planning
- IV. Pipeline development
- V. Knowledge sharing and learning

1.7 Brief summary of the request

With the support of UNDP and COMIFAC, the Central African Republic (CAR) obtained two Readiness grants from the Green Climate Fund in 2016 and 2017 respectively. These were used to strengthen the capacities of the National Designated Authority (NDA), to put in place a strategy for mobilizing climate finance, and to develop project pipelines to be submitted to the GCF. CAR has developed a GCF Country Programme, in which some of the country's most urgent Readiness needs have been identified. From this GCF Country Programme, and through consultation conducted by the NDA and the Global Water Partnership Organization's (GWPO's) local presence in CAR – the GWP Central African Republic Country Water Partnership (GWP CAR CWP) – with local stakeholders, a number of additional gaps and underlying barriers have been identified that inhibit CAR's access to climate finance. The main Readiness gaps addressed by this proposed Readiness request are as follows (note that underlying barriers are described in Section 2):

- *Limited capacity to track climate finance flows.* The NDA is still lacking a climate finance tracking tool, which is required to adequately monitor and manage climate finance flows.
- *Country-level stakeholders have limited knowledge of the GCF.* Multiple CAR stakeholders that have a potential role to play in addressing the country's urgent adaptation needs and mitigation opportunities – including potential executing entities, civil society organisations and the private sector – have limited knowledge, awareness and capacity for accessing the GCF.
- *Priority project ideas are not being advanced into Concept Notes and full funding proposals for the GCF.* CAR has not yet had a country-level Funding Proposal approved at the GCF. This Readiness request will fast-track CAR's GCF pipeline advancement by developing and submitting two high-quality Concept Notes targeting the water sector from its GCF Country Programme.
- *CAR's priority project pipeline has not been adequately screened for gender-responsiveness and social inclusion.* Lacking adequate screening at the earliest project design level, gender-responsiveness and social inclusion are likely to not be considered till later design stages of climate finance projects – a classic reason why projects fail to meaningfully create opportunities to advance gender equality and social inclusion.

This 2021 Readiness request proposes to close these gaps by developing a climate finance tracker to strengthen the NDA's decision-making and operationalization; training stakeholders on GCF protocols, procedures, and financial structuring of GCF project proposals to strengthen their capacity to engage in CAR's GCF programming, including by identifying future methods of engagement amongst these stakeholders – especially the private sector – to enhance inclusive climate finance programming; developing and submitting two project concept notes to the GCF through processes that strengthen project development capacity within CAR;

and by screening the CAR climate finance pipeline using a gender and social inclusion framework for CAR that will be developed based on the GCF policies on gender, environmental and social safeguards and indigenous peoples.

The primary beneficiaries of the proposed Readiness request will be the CAR NDA and major stakeholders in climate finance programming in CAR such as potential executing entities, civil society organisations and the private sector.

1.8 Total requested amount and currency

US\$443 130

1.9 Implementation period

18 months

1.10 Is this request a multiple-year strategic Readiness implementation request?

- Yes
 No

For more information on how a country may be eligible to access Readiness support through this modality, please refer to **Annex IV of the Readiness Guidebook**.

1.11 Complementarity and coherence of existing readiness support

- Yes
 No

1. NDA Strengthening and Country Programming support for Central African Republic through UNDP - CLOSED

With UNDP in 2016, CAR implemented a preparatory activity aimed at strengthening the capacity of the NDA and developing CAR's Country Programme, while also identifying upstream Direct Access Entity candidates. This proposed GWPO-led Readiness request will advance the Country Programme by developing Concept Notes.

2. Strategic Frameworks support for Central African Republic through COMIFAC - CLOSED

The Readiness grant implemented by COMIFAC in 2017 aimed primarily at mobilizing climate finance by developing technical guidelines, developing a strategy document for climate finance, and developing a repertoire of project ideas. This proposed GWPO-led Readiness request will build on the developed climate finance mobilisation strategy by developing a climate finance tracker, as identified by this strategy document, and advancing the CAR GCF pipeline by developing two priority project ideas into GCF Concept Notes.

3. CAR REDD+ Readiness Preparation Support - ACTIVE

The REDD+ Readiness Project is funded for a total of US\$3.8 million from the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership, with ~US\$2.7 million disbursed by the end of 2020, and aims to develop a national REDD+ strategy. This GWPO-led GCF Readiness request will make use of best practices from the MRV system developed under the REDD+ strategy and incorporate REDD+ data into the proposed national climate finance tracker for the NDA.

4. Untitled 2021 IFDD-led proposal – IN PREPARATION

A 2021 GCF Readiness proposal for CAR has been submitted to GCF in June 2021 with the "Institut de la Francophonie pour le Développement Durable" (IFDD) as Delivery Partner. The

IFDD proposal focuses on developing a no-objection procedure, strengthening Direct Access, revising the Country Programme and development of concept notes to implement CAR's GCF Country Programme. This GWPO-led Readiness request has been developed in co-ordination with the NDA and IFDD to ensure that the two proposals are complementary and fulfil all immediate Readiness needs articulated by the CAR NDA.

List of Acronyms

Abbreviation	Meaning
AE	Accredited Entity
CAR	Central Africa Republic
COMIFAC	Central Africa Forests Commission
DAE	Direct Access Entity
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GWP	Global Water Partnership
GWP CAF RWP	GWP Central Africa Regional Water Partnership
GWP CAR CWP	GWP Central Africa Republic Country Water Partnership
GWPO	Global Water Partnership Organisation
IFDD	Institut de la Francophonie pour le Development Durable
LDC	Least Developed Country
LDCF	Least Developed Country Fund
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NDA	National Designated Authority
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NPC	National Project Coordinator
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
POS-CC	Strategic and Operational Planning for Climate Change Responses
PSC	Project Steering Committee
RCPCA	Peace Recovery and Consolidation Plan
REDD+	Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation
TORs	Terms Of Reference
TRG	Technical Reference Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
WWF CCPO	World Wildlife Fund Cameroon Country Programme Office

2. SITUATION ANALYSIS

2.1 Background

1. CAR is a Central African country covering an area of 623,000 km². It is landlocked by Chad to the north, Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo to the south, Cameroon to the west, Sudan and South Sudan to the east. The country is characterized by an equatorial warm and humid climate, characterized by two seasons: a dry season and a rainy season. Rainfall ranges from 800 mm in the north to 1600 mm in the south, and the average annual temperature ranges from 15 degrees Celsius in the south to 38 degrees Celsius in the north. Future climate change scenarios indicate a temperature increase of between 1.4 and 2.2 degrees Celsius, assuming low greenhouse gas emissions, and 1.8 to 2.7 degrees Celsius, assuming high greenhouse gas emissions. Forecasts of precipitation change are less clear, with some models predicting a slight increase in annual precipitation while others project irregular variations in precipitation. CAR experiences extreme climate hazards such as torrential rains followed by floods and droughts; the probability of return of these hazards is likely to increase with climate change.¹
2. CAR's relief consists of a vast peneplain dominated by two mountain ranges at its eastern and western ends and connected by a central ridge that separates the two main water systems, namely the Chari-Logone basin to the north and the Congo Basin to the south. From South to North, biological diversity is organized into five (5) large phytogeographic zones each with a specific fauna: the Guinean forest area of the dense wet forest; the Sudan-Ubanguian zone housing the dense, semi-wet, clear and dry forests; the Sudan-Guinean and Sudan-Sahelian areas composed of various types of savannahs and the Sahelian area consisting of steppes.²
3. The CAR population of around 5 million is predominantly rural (62.1%), and young (49.4% being under the age of 18). The country is sparsely populated and unevenly occupied, at 7.2 inhabitants per km². Decades of military and political crises have severely inhibited the country's efforts to advance sustainable development; amidst this context, the needs to address the vulnerability of the country's economy, its people's livelihoods, and its ecosystems to climate change has been neglected and need to urgently be addressed. CAR is one of the poorest countries in the world with an estimated Human Development Index of 0.341 in 2013 and poverty affects more than half of the population, accompanied by food insecurity and a lack of basic social services.³
4. Various endogenous constraints to the country's development exist, including the low level of industrialization and the lack of sea routes. These are compounded by the impacts of climate change. Importantly, vulnerability to climate change and low adaptability to adverse impacts pose serious threats to social cohesion, stability, natural resources management, and sustainable development.
5. In the coming years, climate change is expected to lead to an increasing change in precipitation patterns, with more frequent and longer droughts, and an increase in extreme events. Rising temperatures and reduced precipitation will further reduce the length of the rainy season, increasing the evaporation and desiccation of already poor soils and affecting agricultural calendars. This will affect food crops such as cassava, millet, maize or peanuts. Pastoralism, which is the livelihood of a large number of rural people, could also be affected by changes in the rainfall regime, as access to water is crucial during transhumance. This in turn risks exacerbating conflicts with farmers.
6. Climate change is a major risk to CAR that threatens the achievement of its sustainable development goals. Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), CAR finalized and submitted its first two National Communications (2003 and 2015) and presented its National Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2015.
7. The NDC outlines priority areas for which resilience to climate change needs to be strengthened (agricultural and food security sectors, health, natural resource management and infrastructure) in order to contribute to national cohesion, the stabilization of the country and the restoration of state authority and action. Its adaptation component aims to serve as a strategic and ambitious instrument to consolidate, report and update the commitments and progress of the Central African Republic.

¹ Intended Nationally Determined Contribution of the Central African Republic. UNFCCC. 2015.

² Ibid

³ Ibid

2.2 Institutional Context

2.2.1 National Climate Coordination Body

8. The government of the CAR has established a National Climate Coordination (CN-Climat) body within the Ministry of the Environment. The CN-Climat is responsible for the development and strategic orientation of national climate change policy. Individual line ministries designate focal points to interface with CN-Climat on adaptation and mitigation.⁴

2.2.2 National Designated Authority – vertical climate funds.

9. The National Designated Authority (NDA) of CAR is responsible for the allocation and monitoring and evaluation of all vertical climate funds – including the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Adaptation Fund (AF). It includes a technical committee, which is responsible for planning, prioritising and monitoring projects, as well as managing and overseeing the use of resources of each of the funds. The NDA is housed within the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development and is presided over by the director of the line ministry cabinet.

2.2.3 REDD+ Committees

10. The DRC has a National REDD+ committee responsible for the entire national REDD+ strategy. This committee is chaired by the Prime Minister and is composed of 26 members – including representatives from ministries, the private sector, civil society organisations, local communities and indigenous peoples.⁵ At the sub-national level, REDD+ inter-prefectural committees facilitate the implementation of the REDD+ strategy. These committees are chaired by the respective prefects and comprise prefectural representatives of major stakeholder groups outlined above.

2.3 Policy Context

11. The following national policies relevant to climate change have been identified in CAR. The priority adaptation options for CAR have been outlined below. As a result of a strong focus on resilience building for this proposed Readiness request, most of the priorities outlined are adaptation oriented.

2.3.1 2015 NDC

12. Central African Republic's NDC is focused primarily on sustainable, low-carbon development and increased resilience of the following sectors: agricultural and food security; health; natural resource management; and infrastructure.⁶

Adaptation Priorities

13. The NDC identifies 8 adaptation priorities at the national level with clear and specific objectives. These include:
- Policy reform;
 - Improving knowledge and awareness on climate change and climate change adaptation;
 - Sustainable management of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems;
 - Improved land-use planning;
 - Improving and developing basic infrastructure;
 - Ensuring energy security;
 - Improving public health systems; and
 - Sustainable management of water resources.
14. The NDC identifies a number of adaptation projects as are either ongoing or in the pipeline, as presented in Table 1.

⁴ Plan National Initial D'adaptation Aux Changements Climatiques De La Republique Centrafricaine (DRAFT). UNDP. 2021.

⁵ Ibid

⁶ Intended Nationally Determined Contribution of the Central African Republic. UNFCCC. 2015.

Table 1: Priority Adaptation Projects Defined in CAR's 2015 NDC

Existing adaptation projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Resilience and food security project in the city of Bangui and its surroundings of Ombella-Mpoko; ✓ Southwest Region Development Project (SODP); ✓ Strengthening agroecological systems in the Lake Chad Basin (PRESIBALT); ✓ Sustainable management of wildlife and bushmeat in Central Africa, GCP/RAF/455/GFF
Pipeline adaptation projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Climate Change Integration Program in Development Strategies and Plans; ✓ Development of the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan; ✓ Assessing needs and developing the national technology transfer strategy; ✓ Preparing for eligibility for the Green Climate Fund; ✓ National Early Warning Program; ✓ CAR Flood Management Program; ✓ Oubangui riverbank development project; ✓ Drought Management Program in CAR; ✓ National Agricultural Investment Program, Food Security and Climate Change Resilience; ✓ National Transhumance Management Program; ✓ Multi-landscape management of biodiversity resources through non-wood forest products; ✓ Promoting urban and peri-urban forestry in car's major cities; ✓ Implementation and follow-up of forest management plans; ✓ Strengthening climate resilience and the transition to low-carbon development in the Central African Republic through sustainable forest management through better land use planning; ✓ Prevention of waterborne diseases and other seasonal pathologies; ✓ Development of drinking water systems in CAR.

Mitigation Priorities

15. The NDC has identified a number of key mitigation actions, including unconditional measures on reforestation, promotion of energy efficient lighting and the promotion of improved cookstoves. Unconditional measures identified in the NDC include actions related to improved management of forest resources, increased uptake of renewable energy generation, enhanced efficiency in the use of biofuels and a programme on the reduction of short-lived climate pollutants. CAR is currently receiving funding to enhance the country readiness for REDD+, with a Readiness project underway that is aimed at enhancing the institutional setup for REDD+ and developing a national REDD+ strategy.
16. The National Adaptation Programme of Action (and A) is a mechanism within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, unique to least developed countries (LDCs), designed to assist them in identifying options for high priority and urgent adaptation actions, and to facilitate financing of priority options via the Least Development Countries Fund (LDCF).
17. The CAR's NAPA was developed in 2008, using funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and managed by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Vulnerability/adaptation studies undertaken across the 7 regions of CAR have allowed for a clear identification of vulnerability throughout the country have made it possible to set national sectoral priorities for adaptation measures. These include: agriculture and food security sector, forestry sector, water resource sector, energy sector, health sector, and natural disasters sector. Adaptation projects identified in NAPA are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Priority Adaptation Projects in CAR's 2008 NAPA

Themes of priority projects	Priority Project Title
Integrated management and promotion of Agricultural and Forestry Resources (in urban and rural areas)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Community Eco-Development Institutions Strengthening Project (PRICED); ✓ Promotion of Urban and Peri-urban Forest Forestry ✓ Aboriginal Vegetation Management for ✓ Rehabilitation of Degraded Pastoral Spaces in Bossemptete ✓ Community involvement in reforestation and forest management in the south-eastern area of Ombella Mpoko ✓ Development of Climate Change-resistant varieties in the central and northern regions of CAR
Integrated water resource management and hydropower promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promoting the carbonization of wood waste from forest companies ✓ Development of drinking water systems in the town of Imohoro
Integrated management strategic natural disasters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Implementation of an Early Flood Warning System and Increased Drought in CAR ✓ Building the capacity of local communities on the risks of sudden climate change ✓ Prevention of water and other seasonal diseases in rural areas

2.3.2 Peace Recovery and Consolidation Plan (RCPCA; Vision 2017 – 2021)

18. CAR has developed and adopted this three-pillar strategic plan for national recovery and peacebuilding, which has received support from all development partners. In order to cope with a high poverty rate (with 62% of the population living below the poverty line) and a chronic economic deficit, additional funding for the National Peace Recovery and Consolidation Plan (RCPCA) is required. It is within this framework that, in line with the recommendations of the Africa Development Bank's Least Advanced Countries Fund and the World Bank's Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC), the RCPCA is seeking funding in the form of grants to support adaptation of interventions to the effects of climate change in accordance with its 2018 GCF Country Programme.

19. The third pillar of the RCPCA aims to boost economic activity and increase production capacity in order to stimulate recovery and growth. CAR has vast natural resources, but their exploitation has been hampered by years of underinvestment and mismanagement. Since investment has been too low for decades, the country's economic infrastructure is in poor condition. To rectify this, the third pillar will address the lack of investment in economic infrastructure, improve the business climate for the private sector and create employment opportunities and livelihoods. It sets itself to this and three strategic objectives:

- Re-launch and sustainably develop productive sectors: agriculture and livestock, extractive and forestry industries;
- Rehabilitating and building infrastructure: transmission, electricity and communication networks;
- Ensuring the right conditions for private sector development and employment: improved business support and financial services, job training, entrepreneurship and employment.

2.3.4 Strategic and Operational Planning for Climate Change Responses (POS-CC): 2017-2020The Strategic and Operational Planning for Climate Change Responses (POS-CC) is a planning and management tool in CAR. It will contribute towards sustainable development by providing appropriate solutions to the challenges related to climate change while promoting poverty reduction and advancement in human development.

21. The POS-CC has outlined some policy and programming guidelines for the CAR water sector. The guidelines for the water resources sector in relation to climate change are:

- ✓ Implementation of the national water policy;
- ✓ Promoting Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in accordance with the IWRM's action plan adopted by the Government;
- ✓ The development of river bank protection;
- ✓ Managing water risks by setting up an early warning system to better prevent damage in areas most exposed to flooding;
- ✓ Development at the level of any area at risk of a water disposal plan;
- ✓ Cooperation and dialogue on cross-border waters;
- ✓ Mobilization and monitoring of stormwater, surface water and groundwater;
- ✓ Taking climate parameters into account in the sizing and construction of hydraulic structures.

2.3.5 CAR GCF Country Programme

22. The GCF Country Programme allows the National Designated Authority (NDA) and national actors to take into account the strategic priorities of the GCF and those of the Central African Republic (CAR).
23. A number of priorities were identified during the stakeholder consultation process for the CAR GCF Country Programme. The Working Group and the partners directly involved in the development of the CAR Country Programme to engage with the GCF – validated in July 2018 – identified some priority adaptation needs that are grouped in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Adaptation priorities identified in the stakeholder consultation process for the CAR's 2018 GCF Country Programme

Actors/Institutions consulted	Priorities
Ministry of Agriculture (Directorate General of Agriculture)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promoting climate-appropriate crop systems and improving soil fertility; ✓ Promoting irrigated crops and access to energy sources; ✓ Promotion of varieties resistant to the effects of drought; ✓ Promoting early warning systems; ✓ Strengthening the capacity of state officials and agents in the implementation of adaptation projects; ✓ Promoting sustainable agriculture; ✓ Promoting irrigated crops and early varieties; ✓ Development of climate-resistant varieties; ✓ Integrating accommodation into programs.
General Directorate of Hydraulics (DGH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Integrated water resource management; ✓ Providing the population with quality drinking water; ✓ Valuing surface and aquifer sources; ✓ Sustainable and integrated management of water and sanitation resources.
ACER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promoting public streetlights; ✓ Promoting solar panel-based fast-impact projects; ✓ Re-reading the electrification texts.
Forestry Directorate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sustainable forest management through the involvement of indigenous peoples; ✓ Implementation of forest management legislation.
National Environment Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mobilize parafiscal revenues (environmental taxes);

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Contribute to the financing of activities in the context of environmental protection; ✓ Environment/Sustainable Development and Climate Change; ✓ Forestry.
OCDN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sustainable development and management of community forests; ✓ Sustainable management of soil fertility as a source of carbon sequestration.
CIED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reducing deforestation and forest degradation (REDD); ✓ Sustainable forest management through the process of enforcement of forest regulations, governance and trade or process FLEGT ("Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade") in English.
WWF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Restoration of forest landscapes for sustainable supply of energy-wood cities; ✓ Sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation; ✓ Reducing deforestation and ecosystem degradation.
IUCN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Climate change and REDD; ✓ Forest conservation and governance; ✓ Mobilizing and building capacity on best practices and governance issues in the private sector, particularly mining, logging and the extractive sector; ✓ GDF, which will include participatory mapping, inventories, profit-sharing mechanisms, KBA identification and protection; ✓ Landscape restoration, ecosystem resilience and livelihoods.
WRI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Restoration of forest landscapes; ✓ Sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation; ✓ Climate change and REDD.
African Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure the central Chinko area and then extend safety and control to the boundaries of the park; to protect wildlife and ecological areas; ✓ Seek to provide a buffer zone through interaction and programs with local communities and encourage regional development; ✓ Work with the government and partners to develop a land use plan and a transhumance strategy to safeguard the region as a whole; ✓ Build a sustainable and robust infrastructure for Chinko.
UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Supporting peace, security and reconciliation; ✓ Providing basic services to people across the country, particularly in the areas of water, health and education, by initiating a gradual transfer of capacity and resources to national structures; ✓ Ensuring food security and resilience; ✓ Strengthen macroeconomic stability and good governance; ✓ Energize and develop productive sectors: agriculture and livestock, extractive and forestry industries; ✓ Repairing and building infrastructure: transmission, electricity and communication networks; ✓ Establishing the conditions for private sector development and employment: improved business support and financial services, vocational training, entrepreneurship and employment; ✓ General capacity building and implementation support.

FAO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for the development of agriculture and livestock; ✓ Development of resilience funds; ✓ Governance and social cohesion.
EcoBank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for the development of agriculture, trade; ✓ Support for marginalised people; ✓ Support for young entrepreneurship.
AfDB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Develop renewable energy (solar) to compensate for the energy deficit ✓ Environment and climate change; ✓ Contribution to security and peace; ✓ Support for the development of sustainable agriculture; ✓ Governance in the mining sector; ✓ Infrastructure development (health and energy).
European Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for the development of road infrastructure; ✓ Support for biodiversity conservation; ✓ Support for forest governance; ✓ Support for civil society organizations.
Provincial Workshops	<p><u>Sector: Energy, Water-Energy: Renewable Energy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promoting photovoltaic energy; ✓ Promoting hydroelectric power; <p><u>Area: Forest</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reforestation; ✓ Restoration; <p><u>Sector: Agriculture</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promote farming practices to increase carbon storage in soils; ✓ Develop and promote sustainable agricultural systems that can increase agricultural and agropastoral productivity; ✓ Capacity building in the agricultural sector; <p><u>Sector: Transport</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Rehabilitating roads/bridges and building bridges; ✓ Use of biofuels; ✓ Promoting public transport in rural areas; ✓ Clean mobility initiatives; ✓ Create transport agencies; <p><u>Area: Building-City-Lighting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Building low-emissions social housing; ✓ Electrification of housing and public housing; <p><u>Sector: Industry</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Meet environmental installation and production standards; ✓ Improved production conditions;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promote the use of biofuels; <p><u>Sector: Residual materials</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure all recycling of industrial waste; ✓ Support for solid waste and wastewater management technology; ✓ Use waste-to-energy technologies; ✓ Setting up sewer and water treatment systems; ✓ Promote the use of bio-degradable plastics; ✓ Develop a waste management plan for major cities.
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2.4 Problem Statement

24. The proposed Readiness request will address the problem of Central African Republic having limited institutional capacity to support climate finance programming at the scale needed by the country. Towards overcoming this problem, the Goals of this Readiness request are to: i) strengthen the capacity of the NDA to monitor potential sources of climate finance, as well as track the country's climate finance pipeline and actual flows, thus increasing the country's capacity to access, oversee utilization of, assess and report on the status, gaps and effectiveness of climate finance; ii) enhance the country-level networks of climate finance stakeholders by training non-NDA stakeholders on climate finance and linking these stakeholders with the NDA through formalised arrangements; and iii) advance the country's GCF pipeline by developing concept notes and ensuring CARs project pipeline is optimised to be gender responsive and socially inclusive.
25. There are currently four main challenges that are preventing the NDA from realizing these goals: Firstly, the NDA does not have the tools and capacity to track climate finance flows in the country; it therefore cannot measure and manage what it does not track. Secondly, key stakeholders in climate finance beyond the NDA (including the private sector) do not yet have sufficient knowledge of the GCF and its financing windows, operational modalities, and requirements, neither do they have the capacity for GCF project development. Thirdly, CAR has not yet submitted a single national funding proposal to the GCF, and the country project pipeline does not yet have sufficient project ideas that are being taken forward as Concept Notes. Fourth, CAR's priority projects in its GCF Country Programme have not been adequately screened for gender-responsiveness and social inclusion; absence of adequate screening at the earliest project design level, gender-responsiveness and social inclusion are likely to not be considered till later design stages of climate finance projects – a classic reason why projects fail to meaningfully create opportunities to advance gender equality and social inclusion and in turn, can risk exacerbating existing gender and social inequities.

2.5 Gaps and Underlying Barriers

2.5.1 Limited capacity to track climate finance flows

26. **Readiness gap:** The CAR Country Programme outlines the country-level need for a climate finance tracker, in order to adequately oversee climate finance flows throughout the country. Currently, the CAR NDA does not have the capacity to track, co-ordinate and sequence climate finance flows for the country. The lack of a climate finance tracker is a key gap that prevents the CAR NDA from adequately fulfilling its role as the lead agency co-ordinating climate finance flows in the country.
27. **Underlying barriers:** The CAR NDA does not currently have sufficient financial resources and technical capacity to design, develop and use a suitable climate finance tracking tool with the purposes of coordinating access and implementation of climate finance, and for sharing relevant information with key GCF programming stakeholders in the country to advance its GCF investment pipeline.

2.5.2 Country-level stakeholders have limited knowledge of the GCF

28. **Readiness gaps:** The NDA, private sector, potential executing entities, civil society and research institutions currently have limited knowledge of the GCF and its financing windows, its operational modalities, and its requirements and procedures. This lack of knowledge impairs the engagement of needed GCF programming stakeholders in the country to advance CAR's GCF pipeline, which results in a lack of development of high-quality project proposals for GCF in the country. Specifically, there is minimal in-country expertise to identify, conceptualise and financially structure projects to meet CAR's urgent needs of adaptation and mitigation.

Importantly, there is limited capacity to optimize climate finance projects for achieving positive environmental, social, and economic benefits, and intentionally address gender gaps at systems, relational and agency levels, to contribute towards gender equality. Private sector involvement in climate finance is minimal at this stage, and concrete solutions for engaging the private sector strategically have not been identified.

29. **Underlying barriers:** There are no existing trainings on gender-responsive and socially-inclusive access to and programming of GCF resources, particularly for non-NDA stakeholders in the CAR. Moreover, the NDA and key private sector stakeholders do not have mechanisms to collaboratively engage in formalised arrangements that will enhance private sector engagement for future GCF programming.

2.5.3 Priority project ideas are not being advanced into Concept Notes and full funding proposals for the GCF

30. **Readiness gaps:** Despite CAR's prioritization of six project ideas in its Country Programme, only one project has so far been developed into a Concept Note, but not yet submitted to the GCF (the project focuses on establishing an early warning system and support disaster risk management; UNDP is the Accredited Entity). Lacking adequate Concept Notes with detailed pre-feasibility studies, the country is not able to tap into much needed climate finance to address its urgent adaptation needs and to take advantage of its mitigation opportunities. In the big picture, the CAR NDA is not in control of facilitating advancement of its GCF Country Programme into a credible, implementable programme pipeline. As already stated above, CAR has minimal in-country expertise to identify, conceptualise and financially structure projects to meet its urgent needs of adaptation and mitigation.

31. **Underlying barriers:** There is little knowledge of, and experience on, the process of developing Concept Notes and Funding Proposals for the GCF in CAR. While the NDA is aware of the slow progress of submission for the UNDP-led Concept Note mentioned above, it is unable to identify the exact cause(s) of delay. Without adequate in-country capacity for driving GCF pipeline advancement (technical capacity to drive advancement itself, or adequate technical knowledge to be able to liaise with and coordinate with external partners), CAR is overtly reliant on external development partners to develop Concept Notes and Funding Proposals that are at a quality standard required by the GCF.

2.5.4 CAR's priority project pipeline has not been adequately screened for gender-responsiveness and social inclusion

32. **Readiness gap:** The priority projects in CAR, outlined in the GCF Country Programme and the draft National Adaptation Plan, have only received limited screening for gender responsiveness. No information is available on how well other social inclusion considerations (such as the rights of indigenous peoples) have been integrated into these priority projects. Without addressing these important criteria at initial stages of project prioritization and design, they risk, as is often the case, being left out until advanced project design stages – at which point integration of gender and social inclusion aspects will merely involve paying lip service to the GCF Gender Policy and the Gender Indigenous People's Policy, as well as other recommended best practices on social inclusion.

33. **Underlying barrier:** CAR does not have a technically sound, institutionalised framework for integrating gender and social inclusion criteria at the earliest stages of prioritization and design of both adaptation and mitigation projects. Institutionalization of such a framework requires building, and maintaining, significant political buy-in that results in a conducive enabling environment for the operationalization of such a framework (including allocating finance for it).

2.5.5 Addressing Underlying Barriers via proposed GWPO-led 2021 GCF Readiness grant

34. This proposal outlines several urgent interventions and outputs to overcome the above-identified barriers and pivot away from their resulting consequences, as summarized in Table 4. These interventions are implemented via specific activities and generate specific outputs designed to collectively improve the country's readiness capacity to access climate finance by enabling it to develop and advance its GCF project pipeline and track climate finance flows in genuinely inclusive ways.

Table 4: Outputs expected in the proposed 2021 GWPO-led Readiness target specific gaps, their underlying barriers, and their resulting consequences

Gaps & Underlying Barriers	Consequence	Proposed 2021 Readiness Output to Address Barrier
Limited capacity to track climate finance flows, <i>due to insufficient finance and technical capacity</i>	Lacking a climate finance tracker and the capacity to oversee and co-ordinate climate finance, the NDA is limited in operationalizing its mandate to monitor and make decisions on climate finance flows in the country	Output 1.1.1: Climate finance tracker for the NDA established
Country-level stakeholders have limited knowledge of the GCF, <i>due to absence of training materials and absence of platforms for networking and collaborative programme development</i>	Key stakeholders (including potential executing entities, line ministries, civil society organisations, and the private sector) are challenged to engage in GCF programming	Output 1.3.1: Stakeholders trained on GCF protocols, procedures and on financially structuring GCF Project Proposals
Priority project ideas are not being advanced into Concept Notes and full funding proposals for the GCF, <i>due to insufficient in-country technical expertise</i>	Lack of finance for the most urgent climate change priorities in CAR	Output 4.3.1: 2 GCF Concept Notes for suitable adaptation projects with a water focus submitted to the GCF
CAR's priority project pipeline has not been adequately screened for gender-responsiveness and social inclusion, <i>due to absence of a technically sound, institutionalised framework for integrating gender and social inclusion criteria</i>	Gender and social inclusion criteria risk being left out until advanced stages of project design, at which point it is likely too late to meaningfully take advantage of opportunities for promoting gender equality and social inclusion, and there is a greater risk of exacerbating gender and social inequities	Output 4.3.2: A gender and social inclusion assessment of CAR's priority project pipeline conducted

2.6 Complementarity with past and existing initiatives

35. This Readiness request has been designed to build on the work done by previous GCF Readiness support (implementation undertaken and completed by UNDP and COMIFAC) and by past the World Bank-funded REDD+ Readiness, and to be complementary to other current proposed GCF Readiness support (to be implemented by IFDD; proposal now under evaluation by GCF). A number of other existing adaptation and mitigation projects (largely GEF-funded) have been identified in CAR that are not directly complementary to this Readiness request. The institutions implementing these projects are likely to be key stakeholders of this proposed Readiness request and will be engaged under Output 1.3.1.

2.6.1 UNDP-led 2016 Readiness Grant

36. The main aims of the UNDP-led 2016 Readiness support were to strengthen the capacity of the NDA and to develop a GCF Country Programme for CAR. This 2021 GWPO-led request is building on these past activities by fulfilling the remaining capacity gaps identified for the NDA in CAR's GCF Country Programme, namely, establishing a climate finance tracker and building capacity within the country for the use of the tracker. While CAR has a GCF Country Programme which lists its priorities, the NDA does not have the ability to visualize the different sources of climate finance available at global, continental, regional, and national levels that it may consider its different priorities in the GCF Country Programme to be financed by (or co-financed by, as necessary). This tracker will map out the different climate finance sources available, along with their fund-specific requirements or accessing modalities (for public sector finance), or requirements in enabling environment (for private sector finance), in order for the NDA to be able to match its priorities to appropriate funding sources. Lastly, this 2021 GWPO-led request will advance the project pipeline identified in the GCF Country Programme by contributing two high-quality Concept Notes targeting the vulnerable water sector that will be submitted to the GCF.

2.6.2 COMIFAC-led 2017 Readiness Grant

37. The Readiness grant implemented by COMIFAC in 2017 aimed primarily at mobilizing climate finance by developing technical guidelines, developing a strategy document for climate finance, and developing a repertoire of project ideas. Specifically, it developed a climate finance mobilization strategy. This 2021 GWPO-led Readiness request aims to deliver the climate finance tracker recommended in the climate finance mobilization strategy. Additionally, this Readiness request will potentially advance the COMIFAC-identified project ideas – as it commits to develop two priority project ideas into GCF Concept Notes.

2.6.3 Proposed IFDD-led 2021 Readiness Grant

38. The NDA in 2021 has submitted a GCF Readiness request with IFDD as Delivery Partner. This IFDD-lead Readiness proposal aims to develop project ideas and Concept Notes to advance the Country Programme of the CAR. This GWPO-led 2021 Readiness request will synergise with the proposed IFDD-led Readiness (if approved) to ensure that the CAR's country pipeline is significantly advanced, while avoiding overlaps. GWPO will focus particularly on Concept Notes that are relevant directly and indirectly to water resources management, where the organization can deliver significant value-add.

2.6.4 CAR REDD+ Readiness Preparation Support

39. The objective of this Readiness Preparation project is to enhance institutional arrangements for REDD+ and design a socially and environmentally sound REDD+ strategy to:

- i. Reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation;
- ii. Inform the development of a national reference emission level;
- iii. Inform the development of a monitoring system for REDD+; and
- iv. Prepare the country for Phase 2 of the REDD+ protocol (pilot implementations).

This Readiness Project is funded for a total of US\$3.8 million, with ~US\$2.7 million disbursed by the end of 2020. The proposed GWPO-led 2021 GCF Readiness Request will engage with the key focal points of the REDD+ Readiness (hosted in the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development) on integrating the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification system under development for REDD+ into a broader climate finance monitoring system to be developed for the NDA of the CAR.

2.6.5 Complementarity and added-value of this proposed 2021 GWPO-led GCF Readiness grant

40. This 2021 GWPO-led Readiness grant request will ensure complementarities with the abovementioned completed, ongoing, and future Readiness support, as summarized in Table 5.

Table 4: Complementarities and added value of proposed 2021 GWPO-led GCF Readiness grant with completed, ongoing, and future Readiness support in CAR

Grant and Delivery Partner	Main Activities	Complementarity with 2021 GWPO-led Readiness Grant
UNDP-led 2016 Readiness Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDA Guide and NDA capacity building plan developed • Stakeholder engagement framework developed • GCF Country Programme developed • Upstream entities for private sector engagement identified • Stakeholder consultations conducted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the climate finance tracker identified as a need in the GCF Country Programme • Using existing stakeholder engagement framework to engage with stakeholders (including private sector) for training • Align the climate finance tracker with the existing NDA guide and provide additional guidance material on using the tracker
COMIFAC-led 2017 Readiness Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of idea notes completed • Climate finance mobilisation strategy developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing existing water-related project ideas to generate 2 submission-ready Concept Notes • Building on the climate finance mobilisation strategy to develop a suitable climate finance

		tracker in co-operation with the NDA
REDD+ Readiness Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of institutional arrangements for REDD+ • Development of a national REDD+ strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning from the REDD+ experience of MRV in CAR • MRV system developed under the REDD+ strategy informs the development of a climate finance tracker
Proposed IFDD-led 2021 Readiness Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-day training workshop for NDA on project development and no-objection. CSO and private sector will be invited • Strengthen two Direct Access Entities • Revise GCF Country Programme • 2 Concept Notes and Project Preparation Facility requests submitted to GCF • Prepare NDA operational manual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build on the IFDD training to focus on training private sector, CSO and government stakeholders on GCF project development, including financial structuring of proposals. • Engage with the private sector on their involvement in GCF programming (in particular through the Private Sector Facility) • Share information openly to ensure that complementary and synergistic opportunities can be addressed collaboratively

2.7 Stakeholders and Beneficiaries

41. The main beneficiaries of this Readiness Request are as follows:

- **CAR NDA:** The CAR NDA will strengthen its ability to track and monitor climate finance flows through the development of a bespoke climate finance tracker. This tracker will be developed in accordance with international best practices, but be designed collaboratively with the NDA. This will ensure that the tracker is fit-for-purpose and that the NDA is capacitated to use and maintain the tracker beyond the implementation period of this Readiness request. Moreover, through the development of this tracker, the overall capacity of the NDA to monitor and report on indicators linking climate finance to mitigation and adaptation objective will be enhanced.
- **Climate finance stakeholders:** Stakeholders beyond the NDA (including potential executing entities, civil society organisations and the private sector) will be trained on climate finance. At this stage, many of these stakeholders have not yet been identified and mapped. Through this Readiness request, key climate finance programming stakeholders beyond the NDA will be mapped out in detail, to ensure that these stakeholders can be readily engaged for climate finance programming. From the private sector, three key associations – namely the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Crafts; the Interprofessional Group of the Central African Republic; and the National Union of Central African Employers – have been identified by the NDA as potential stakeholders for the proposed Readiness request. Currently, no formal co-ordination mechanisms exist with these associations and this Readiness request aims to initiate the development of such co-ordination mechanisms.
- **Concept Note beneficiaries:** Two Concept Notes will be developed from existing project ideas. The project proponents are the immediate beneficiaries, expected to be government ministries active in CARs water sector such as the Ministry of Energy Development and Hydraulic Resources, the Ministry of Water, Forests, Hunting and Fishing, the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Livestock and Animal Health. Beyond this Readiness request, when the Concept Notes are taken forward into full proposals and implemented as projects, the ultimate beneficiaries will be the populations, their livelihoods and economy, and the ecosystems in CAR – depending on the scope of the chosen project ideas for Concept Notes.
- **CAR’s platform for the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment:** This platform brings together around thirty civil society organisations focused on environmental management and human rights and the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities. This platform is involved in

various programmes (including REDD+) on environmental protection, with a strong focus on forestry management. By involving this platform, the Readiness Request will ensure that local communities and indigenous peoples rights and vulnerabilities are adequately taken into account during the implementation of this request.

- Ministry of Gender Promotion, Women's protection, Family and Children, and its stakeholders: The gender-responsive and socially inclusive approach of this Readiness request will empower the gender line ministry in CAR to engage in climate finance programming in ways that promote equality and social inclusion, and in the medium-to-longer term benefit both men and women (via enhanced gender equality).

2.8 Gender mainstreaming and indigenous peoples

42. The proposed Readiness request is not expected to result in, and will take proactive measures to avoid, exacerbating gender inequalities or infringing on the rights and well-being of indigenous peoples. GWPO is committed to promoting gender equality in all projects and programmes, and will seek to advance gender equality throughout the implementation of this proposed Readiness Request. This will be achieved across the entire implementation of the proposed Request through (1) the involvement of gender experts throughout the delivery of the below-mentioned activities, and (2) importantly, by conducting a gender analysis for this overall Readiness request at the stage of detailed work planning, to ensure that the implementation of the Readiness support takes every opportunity to make progress on the gender equality baseline of different activities of this proposed Readiness request. More obviously, this proposed Readiness request includes targeted gender considerations in specific activities and outputs in the logic framework, such as:

- the inclusion of gender indicators in the climate finance tracker (Output 1.1.1);
- training on the GCF gender and indigenous peoples policy for key climate finance stakeholders beyond the NDA (Output 1.3.1);
- a gender and social inclusion assessment (allowing for intersectionality) of CAR's project pipeline (Output 4.3.2); and
- preliminary gender assessments of the Concept Notes to be developed under Output 4.3.1.

43. While indigenous peoples are not expected to be impacted throughout the implementation of the Readiness Request, representatives of indigenous peoples will be consulted during the development of GCF Concept Notes through the platform for the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment, should they be identified as potential beneficiaries and stakeholders during the Concept Note development process.

3 LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Outcomes	Baseline ⁷	Targets	Outputs	Activities (brief description)	Deliverables ^{8,9}
Outcome 1.1 Country NDAs or focal points and the network/ systems that enable them to fulfil their roles, responsibilities and policy requirements are operational and effective	The NDA lacks the capacity to track climate finance flows in CAR.	NDA has in place a climate finance flow tracker for funds monitoring and decision-making on pipeline development and advancement; is capacitated to use it; and has a sustainability strategy for the tracker in place	Output 1.1.1: Climate finance tracker for the NDA established	Activity 1.1.1.a: Identify gaps (tools, institutional structures, operational modalities, information) on climate finance monitoring, tracking, and decision-making to enable NDA to operationalize its mandate for coordinating pipeline development and advancement	Deliverable 1.1.1.a.1: Gap analysis report on climate finance monitoring, tracking, and decision-making by NDA for pipeline development and advancement.
				Activity 1.1.1.b: Building on the climate finance mobilisation strategy for CAR (developed by 2017 COMIFAC), conduct a detailed stocktaking of all major sources of climate finance available to CAR to: a) create a typology of the types finance to be tracked; and b) acquire data with which to populate the climate finance tracker.	Deliverable 1.1.1.b.1: Stocktake report on climate finance potentially available to CAR, along with recommended typology of types of finance to be tracked and compilation of data to upload to tracker.
				Activity 1.1.1.c: Identify appropriate tracking metrics: develop indicators for tracking the success of accessing and implementing climate finance (including sex-disaggregated data), develop suitable Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Standards and a monitoring plan	Deliverable 1.1.1.c.1: Detailed design document for climate finance tracker, including monitoring plan, MRV standards and a list of appropriate tracking metrics and indicators.

⁷ Please briefly elaborate on current baselines on which the proposed activities can be built on, processes that are in place that the current Readiness proposal can strengthen, or any gaps that the proposed activities would fill in. If more space is needed, please elaborate this in Section 4.

⁸ Please include tangible and specific deliverables for each activity proposed, Please note that during implementation all deliverables should be included within the implementation reports for GCF consideration.

⁹ Kindly note that all deliverables will be produced in French, as one of the two official languages of CAR. Deliverables to be provided to the GCF will be translated into English.

Outcomes	Baseline ⁷	Targets	Outputs	Activities (brief description)	Deliverables ^{8,9}
				Activity 1.1.1.d: Based on Activities 1.1.1.a – c, and in collaboration with the NDA and other key stakeholders, ¹⁰ develop a fit-for-purpose climate finance tracking tool.	Deliverable 1.1.1.d.1: Climate finance tracker tool, including User Guide
				Activity 1.1.1.e: Develop training materials, and train NDA on the use of the climate finance tracker for monitoring climate finance and decision-support on pipeline development. During the hands-on training, with the NDA, co-develop an operational plan for the climate finance tracker, along with actions, timelines, and responsibilities.	Deliverable 1.1.1.e.1: Training materials on the use and maintenance of the climate finance tracker Deliverable 1.1.1.e.2: Climate finance tracker operational plan Deliverable 1.1.1.e.3: Pre – and post training surveys on 3 trainings
				Activity 1.1.1.f: Prepare a sustainability plan for the climate finance tracker, including a sustainable financing strategy that identifies sources of funding for maintaining tracker beyond this Readiness request	Deliverable 1.1.1.f.1: Sustainability strategy for the climate finance tracker
Outcome 1.3 Relevant country stakeholders (which may include executing entities, civil society organizations and private sector) have established adequate capacity, systems and networks to	NDA and other GCF programming stakeholders (including the private sector) have limited knowledge and capacity on GCF Project Development	Key GCF programming stakeholders (including government institutions, civil society and the private sector) have strengthened capacity on the procedures and protocols of the GCF; private sector engagement action		Activity 1.3.1.a: In collaboration with the NDA, map out key GCF programming stakeholders in CAR (project proponents, Accredited Entities (AEs), pipeline Direct Access Entities (DAEs), executing entities, civil society and private sector), and assess needs for strengthening understanding of GCF programming for identified stakeholders	Deliverable 1.3.1.a.1: CAR GCF programming stakeholder map and report on stakeholder understanding of GCF programming and relevant roles: needs & recommendations

¹⁰ These stakeholders will include international, national and regional agencies active in climate finance programming, as identified in the climate finance mobilization strategy.

Outcomes	Baseline ⁷	Targets	Outputs	Activities (brief description)	Deliverables ^{8, 9}
support the planning, programming and implementation of GCF-funded activities		plan has been developed and the coordination agreements among stakeholders for its operationalization have been put in place	Output 1.3.1: Stakeholders trained on GCF protocols, ¹¹ procedures and on financially structuring GCF Project Proposals	Activity 1.3.1.b: Develop training materials to introduce the GCF, its funding windows, protocols and procedures for engagement, and to strengthen stakeholders' understanding of GCF project requirements, and stakeholder roles in the project development and implementation process	Deliverable 1.3.1.b: Training materials on GCF programming and project development
				Activity 1.3.1.c: Hold 3 training workshops ¹² on GCF project development for relevant stakeholders – one each for the private sector; civil society; and government institutions	Deliverable 1.3.1.c: Three training workshop reports, with pre – and – post workshop capacity surveys
				Activity 1.3.1.d: Develop a private sector engagement action plan with key stakeholders trained under Activity 1.3.1.c	Deliverable 1.3.1.d: GCF private sector engagement action plan for CAR, clarifying, inter alia, the goal for private sector engagement in GCF projects, specific actions needed to reach that goal and the means of implementation of the action plan.

¹¹ Including on GCF Gender Policy and GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy. GCF programming stakeholders engaged in the training will include women's groups and indigenous peoples groups.

¹² Workshops may be multi-day or single day workshops, depending on availability and suitability. Aimed at a minimum of 10 people to be trained per workshop.

Outcomes	Baseline ⁷	Targets	Outputs	Activities (brief description)	Deliverables ^{8,9}
				Activity 1.3.1.e: Draft co-ordination agreements and Terms of Reference for future private sector engagements under the plan developed in Activity 1.3.1.d.	Deliverable 1.3.1.e.1: Co-ordination agreements between key stakeholders on implementing the private sector engagement action plan. Deliverable 1.3.1.e.2: Terms of Reference outlining responsibilities of key stakeholders for co-ordinating private sector engagement in climate finance
				Activity 1.3.1.f: Validate the private sector engagement action plan with key stakeholders and endorse co-ordination agreements	Deliverable 1.3.1.f.1: Validation workshop report Deliverable 1.3.1.f.2: Validated private sector engagement action plan Deliverable 1.3.1.f.2: Endorsed co-ordination agreements
Outcome 4.3 An increase in the number of quality project concept notes developed and submitted that target SIDS, LDCs and African states	6 adaptation project ideas identified in the 2018 Country Programme, but none have been taken forward for GCF Financing, and project ideas in	2 water-sector project ideas have been developed into GCF Concept Notes and submitted to the GCF by the NDA; and a gender and social inclusion assessment	Output 4.3.1: 2 Gender-responsive and socially-inclusive GCF Concept Notes for suitable adaptation projects with a water focus submitted to the GCF	Activity 4.3.1.a.: With the involvement of the NDA and other stakeholders, ¹³ conduct an assessment on the current state of Concept Note and Funding Proposal submission in CAR and identify key gaps and challenges.	Deliverable 4.3.1.a.1: Report on key factors limiting the advancement of project ideas to submitted Concept Notes and Funding Proposals

¹³ This includes women's groups and indigenous peoples groups. Project ideas will be assessed for the potential positive and negative impact to indigenous peoples and on for gender dimensions. In the event that indigenous peoples are likely to be stakeholders or beneficiaries in the relevant proposed projects, representatives will be engaged as an integral group during the concept note development process. Women's groups will be engaged intentionally as a targeted stakeholder group.

Outcomes	Baseline ⁷	Targets	Outputs	Activities (brief description)	Deliverables ^{8,9}
	the CAR priority project pipeline have not been evaluated for gender-responsiveness or social inclusion	of CAR's priority project pipeline has been conducted		<p>Activity 4.3.1.b: With the involvement of the NDA and other stakeholders, and informed by analysis in Deliverable 4.3.1.a.1, undertake a stakeholder-informed multi-criteria analysis to select 2 prioritised project ideas to be developed into GCF Concept Notes. Identify and engage Accredited Entities to support the Concept Note submission and project development.</p>	<p>Deliverable 4.3.1.b.1: Results from a stakeholder-informed multi-criteria analysis of potential project ideas to prioritize 2 project ideas on adaptation with a water focus</p> <p>Deliverable 4.3.1.b.2: 2 project idea notes for engagement with AEs, to be developed in the relevant AEs template</p> <p>Deliverable 4.3.1.b.3: Agreements signed with AEs for the development of 2 GCF Concept Notes</p>
				<p>Activity 4.3.1.c: Conduct project Concept Note development inception¹⁴ workshops (including participation of potential Accredited Entities) to initiate the Concept Note development process for 2 Concept Notes by engaging key project development stakeholders.</p>	<p>Deliverable 4.3.1.c.1: 2 project inception workshop reports</p>
				<p>Activity 4.3.1.d: Draft 2 Concept Notes, in close collaboration with the NDA, selected Accredited Entity and other key stakeholders identified during the inception workshops</p>	<p>Deliverable 4.3.1.d.1: 2 Draft Concept Notes</p>

¹⁴ Typically, Concept Note development in a particular country will require two workshops: an inception workshop, where the project idea is presented and early input is received from country stakeholders, and a validation workshop, where a draft Concept Note is shared with key stakeholders for comment and feedback discussed in a workshop setting. The main objectives of the Inception Workshop are to: i) link the project developers with major country stakeholders and potential sources of information; ii) engage stakeholders and allow for participatory design; and iii) promote country ownership of the Concept Notes.

Outcomes	Baseline ⁷	Targets	Outputs	Activities (brief description)	Deliverables ^{8,9}
				Activity 4.3.1.e.: Conduct a validation workshop for each of the 2 Concept Notes, and revise Concept Notes based on feedback received	Deliverable 4.3.1.e.1: 2 validation workshop reports Deliverable 4.3.1.e.2: 2 Concept Notes finalized, validated, and submitted to GCF
			Output 4.3.2: A gender and social inclusion assessment of CAR's priority project pipeline conducted	Activity 4.3.2.a: Based on the GCF's gender policy, environmental and social policy and indigenous peoples policy, develop a gender and social inclusion assessment framework for project ideas in the CAR country pipeline ¹⁵	Deliverable 4.3.2.a.1: Gender and social inclusion assessment framework for adaptation and mitigation projects in CAR
				Activity 4.3.2.b: In close collaboration with the NDA, undertake a gender and social inclusion assessment of the CAR priority project pipeline, as described in the GCF Country Programme, draft National Adaptation Plan, as well as other climate finance projects that may be identified under Activity 1.1.1.b, using the assessment framework developed under Activity 4.3.2.a	Deliverable 4.3.2.b.1: Gender and social inclusion assessment report for CAR priority project pipeline

¹⁵ Main GCF programming stakeholders consulted in this assessment will be women's groups and indigenous peoples groups engaged with in Activity 1.3.1.c.

4 THEORY OF CHANGE

44. **Goal:** The goal of the proposed Readiness request is to strengthen the capacity of the NDA and other key stakeholders in CAR on climate finance programming while also advancing the country pipeline through the development of high-quality concept notes and pre-feasibility studies

Goal Statement: IF the NDA has a climate finance tracker to oversee finance flows, and key stakeholders (including civil society, executing entities and the private sector) have been trained on GCF Protocols and Procedures, while gaining first-hand experience through the development of GCF Concept Notes, **THEN** the country will be able to increase the rate at which it effectively accesses and implements climate finance **BECAUSE** the NDA in CAR can effectively oversee and manage climate finance flows and other stakeholders can increase their capacity on developing climate finance projects.

The proposed GWPO-led 2021 Readiness request will fill key gaps and overcome barriers to accessing climate finance that were identified in CAR through the delivery of 4 interlinked outputs. This process is described for each barrier below:

4.1 Limited capacity to track climate finance flows

45. The NDA has expressed the need for a climate finance tracker within the CAR GCF Country Programme. This Readiness request will develop such a tracker (Output 1.1.1) in close co-operation with the NDA and major stakeholders, to ensure that the tracker that is developed is country-owned and responsive to local needs. During the development of this tool, the NDA's capacity on Monitoring, Reporting and Verification will be strengthened, and suitable indicators for tracking will be co-developed. A sustainability plan, including a plan for sustainable financing, will be developed to ensure that the tracker remains in operation beyond the lifetime of Readiness activities. This output is expected to strengthen the NDA's capacity for monitoring and managing the flows of climate finance into CAR, improving the NDA's ability to play the role of primary co-ordinating body on climate mitigation and adaptation finance in the country.

4.2 Country-level stakeholders have limited knowledge of the GCF

46. Key country stakeholders (including potential executing entities, civil society organisations and the private sector) currently have limited knowledge and capacity on how to engage the GCF. As a result, these stakeholders are currently challenging to include in project development processes. This is particularly true for the private sector, for which clear engagement mechanisms have yet to be identified. This Readiness request will strengthen the knowledge and capacity of all stakeholders on the GCF by providing customised trainings on the GCF (Output 1.3.1)- including on how to financially structure GCF Projects for the various stakeholders. Further, during the trainings that will be conducted, methods for engagement with the private sector in particular will be explored and a Private Sector Engagement Action Plan for the GCF will be developed. This Action Plan will outline the key steps to incorporating the private sector in climate finance activities in the CAR.

4.3 Priority project ideas are not being advanced into Concept Notes and full funding proposals for the GCF

47. CAR has currently not had a country-level project taken forward to the GCF. This is despite the significant vulnerability to climate change that affect the country's water sector in particular. This Readiness request will advance CAR's pipeline by developing at least 2 high-quality water related Concept Notes that will be submitted to the GCF. While GWPO is not a GCF AE, the organisation – through its network – aims to provide long-term support to countries and wishes to continue to support AEs and country stakeholders in further Funding Proposal development beyond the completion of this 2021 GWPO-led Readiness Grant.
48. Suitable AEs for the Concept Notes will be identified for each of the two project ideas, to ensure that an entity exists that will take forward the developed Concept Notes to Funding Proposal stage. While CAR's identified potential DAEs are unlikely to be able to submit these Concept Notes by the time of completion of this Readiness support (due to their timeline for accreditation to GCF), representatives from DAEs will be invited to observe the process to provide hands-on experience on Concept Note development. Concept Notes will be matched with suitable Accredited Entities (most likely international or regional AEs) through a consultative process that will consider multiple variables – including AE competency, experience in the country, suitability for the proposed Concept Note theme and others.

4.4 CAR's priority project pipeline has not been adequately screened for gender-responsiveness and social inclusion

49. This Readiness request will ensure that the CAR country pipeline is adequately assessed for gender and social inclusion criteria (including indigenous peoples rights) and create a framework for assessing future project ideas to ensure that these critical considerations are taken into account at the ideation stage of climate finance proposals. In so doing, the Readiness request aims to ensure that opportunities for achieving positive gender and social inclusion externalities are optimized in the design of climate finance projects, and that potentially adverse impacts on gender, vulnerable local communities and indigenous peoples are identified and avoided or mitigated as early as possible in the project cycle.

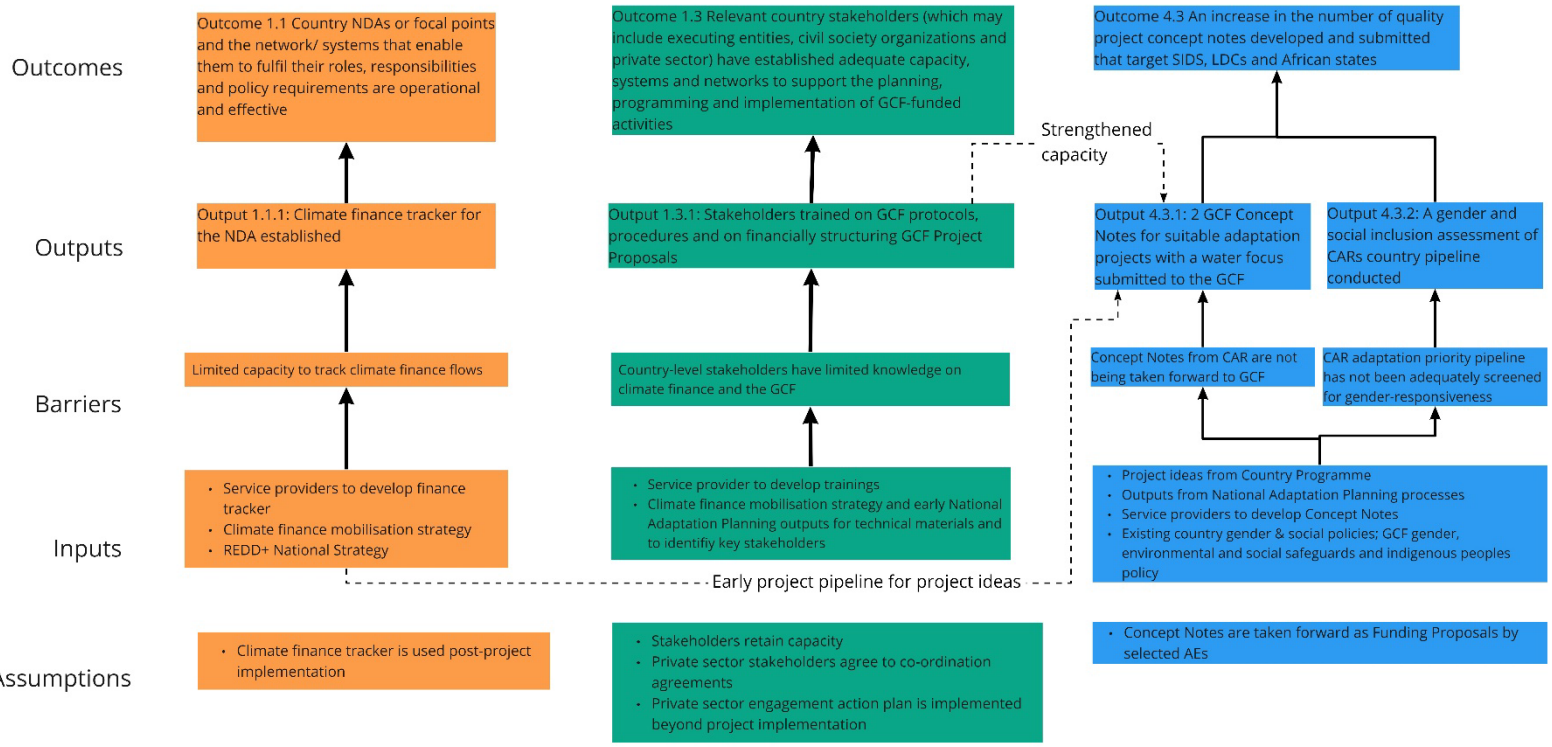
4.5 Risks

50. A number of risks to the implementation of this Readiness grant have been identified and these are elaborated in detail in the relevant risk table under Section 6.3. These risks primarily concern other critical stakeholders in the Readiness Grant implementation process – such as being able to identify a suitable Accredited Entity to take Concept Notes forward to GCF submission. COVID-19 restrictions have also been identified as a potential risk, which can be mitigated through now-standard remote working protocols. One of the major operational risks – delayed implementation of Readiness Grant activities – will be mitigated by GWPOs use of existing staff (both GWPO and existing staff in the GWP network). These expert staff will be able to initiate project activities directly after contract signing for a rapid start-up phase for grant implementation.

GCF READINESS & PREPARATORY SUPPORT

Goal
The goal of the proposed Readiness request is to strengthen the capacity of the NDA and other key stakeholders in CAR on climate finance programming while also advancing the country pipeline through the development of high-quality concept notes and pre-feasibility studies

Goal Statement
Goal Statement: IF the NDA has a climate finance tracker to oversee finance flows, and key stakeholders (including civil society, executing entities and the private sector) have been trained on GCF Protocols and Procedures, while gaining first-hand experience through the development of GCF Concept Notes, THEN the country will be able to increase the rate at which it effectively accesses and implements climate finance BECAUSE the NDA in CAR can effectively oversee and manage climate finance flows and other stakeholders can increase their capacity on developing climate finance projects.



5 BUDGET, PROCUREMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND DISBURSEMENT PLAN

5.1 Budget plan

Please complete the Budget Plan in Excel using the template available in the [Library](#) page of the GCF website.

5.2 Procurement plan

Please complete the Procurement Plan in Excel using the template available in the [Library](#) page of the GCF website. For goods, services, and consultancies to be procured, please list the items, descriptions in relation to the activities in section 2, estimated cost, procurement method, relevant threshold, and the estimated dates. Please include the procurement plan for at least the first tranche of disbursement requested below and provide a full procurement plan for the entire duration of the implementation period if available at this stage.

5.3 Implementation Plan

Please complete the Implementation Plan in Excel using the template available in the [Library](#) page of the GCF website.

5.4 Disbursement schedule

Please specify the proposed schedule for requesting disbursements from the GCF. For periodicity, specify whether it's quarterly, bi-annually or annually only.

Please choose one option among the two below and delete the one that does not apply to you. Please fill in information under brackets:

Readiness Proposal that falls within a Framework Agreement with the GCF

Disbursements will be made in accordance to *[Clause xx] "Disbursement of Grants"* and *[Clause xx] "Use of Grant Proceeds by the Delivery Partner"* of the Framework Readiness and Preparatory Support Grant Agreement entered into between GCF and *[Delivery partner name]* on *Click or tap to enter a date*.

Readiness Proposal that requires a bilateral Grant Agreement

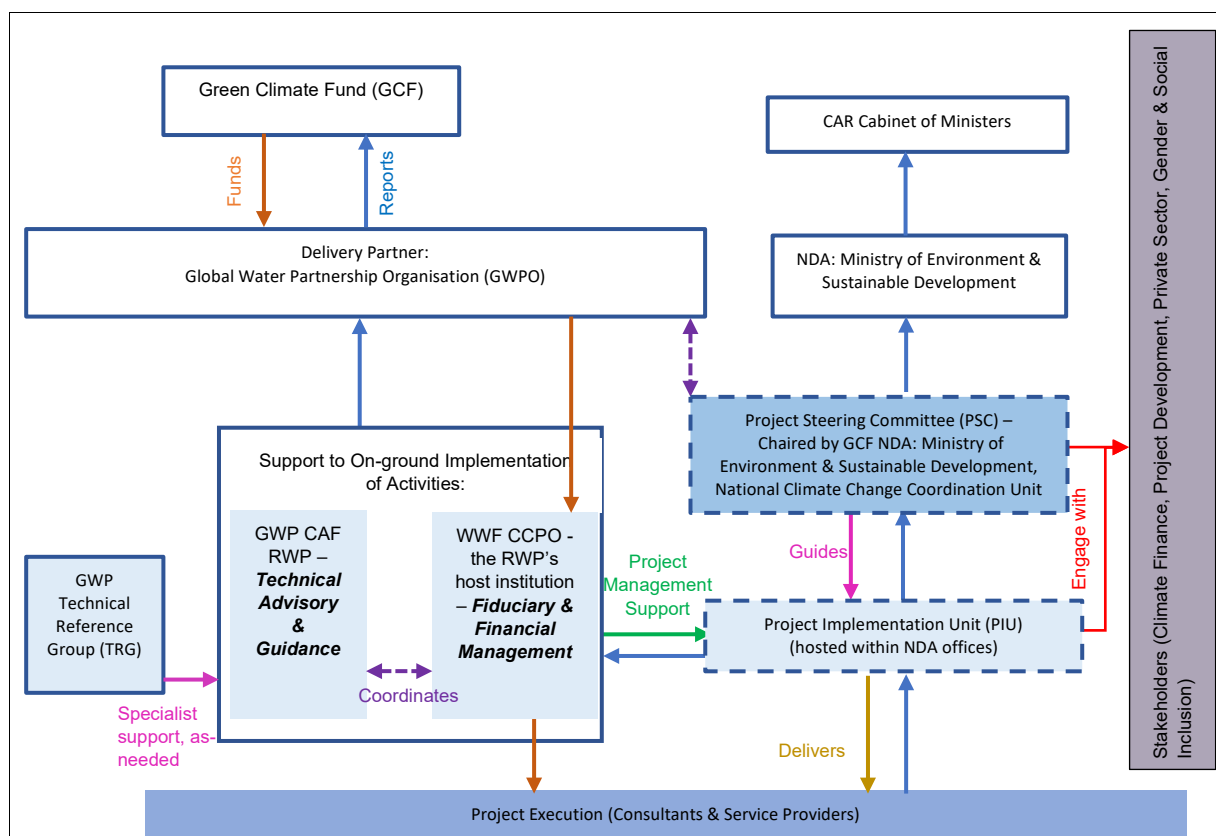
- Please include an indicative disbursement table showing the expected amounts to be requested and keep to multiples of USD 5,000.
- The first disbursement *amounting* USD 340,000 will be transferred upon approval of the readiness request and effectiveness of the Grant Agreement;
- The second disbursement *amounting* USD 80,000 will be transferred upon submission of an interim progress report [and audited financial report]¹⁶, in form and substance acceptable to the Fund, [including an audited expenditure statement]; and
- The third disbursement *amounting* USD 23,130 (the remainder) will be made upon submission of a completion report and financial report, in form and substance acceptable to the Fund, including an audited expenditure statement.

¹⁶ For second disbursement, audited financial report and audited expenditure statement are only required for readiness and preparatory support proposals expected to last over 12 months.

6 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

6.1 Implementation arrangements

Please describe how implementation arrangements will be made and how funds will be managed by the NDA and/or the Delivery Partner.



6.1 National Designated Authority (NDA)

51. As the apex body representing CAR in all activities relating to the GCF, the NDA – the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development – is both the primary beneficiary as well as the primary functionary of all proposed project activities in CAR, as it hosts the Project Implementation Unit (PIU), described below. The NDA will also convene and chair the Project Steering Committee (PSC), described below, and provide the PSC with guidance and oversight.

6.2 Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO), GWP Central Africa Regional Water Partnership (GWP CAF RWP), and the RWP's Host Institution – the WWF Cameroon Country Programme Office (WWF CCPO)

6.2.1 Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO)

52. The Global Water Partnership (GWP) is a multi-stakeholder action network of 3000+ partner organisations in over 180 countries dedicated to working towards equitable and efficient management of water resources for a sustainable and climate-resilient world. GWP's Global Secretariat is the Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO), an intergovernmental organisation based in Stockholm, Sweden. GWP operates at regional and country levels via its 13 Regional Water Partnerships (RWPs). GWPO maintains full oversight of both technical and financial aspects of its RWPs' on-ground work programme via GWPO's dedicated Senior Network Specialist for each RWP.

6.2.2 GWP Central Africa Regional Water Partnership (RWP)

53. The GWP Central Africa RWP (GWP CAF RWP) is based in Yaounde, Cameroon. GWPO has two formal relationship lines with GWP CAF RWP: (1) GWP CAF RWP is accredited to GWPO, having passed GWPO's Accreditation Check for RWPs, and (2) Being an accredited RWP, it receives seed funding on an annual basis from GWPO for the implementation of the RWP's three-year work programme and corresponding detailed annual work plans, which are approved by GWPO.

54. GWP CAF RWP is legally separate from GWPO; GWP CAF RWP does not have its own legal identity, and takes on the legal identity of its host institution, the World Wide Fund for Nature – Cameroon Country Programme Office (WWF CCPO) in Yaounde. This arrangement is governed by a Host Institution Agreement signed by GWPO, GWP CAF RWP, and WWF CCPO, and included in the submission of this proposal.

6.2.3 World Wide Fund for Nature – Cameroon Country Programme Office (WWF CCPO) – GWP CAF RWP's Host Institution

55. The WWF Cameroon Country Programme shares the same legal entity as the World Wildlife Fund, Inc (WWF), a GCF Accredited Entity. WWF CCPO hosts GWP CAF RWP. This means that: (1) WWF CCPO lends its legal identity to GWP CAF RWP, and (2) WWF CCPO provides fiduciary and financial management services to GWP CAF RWP for the implementation of the RWP's three-year work programme and corresponding one-year detailed work plans. Prior to being approved as the Host Institution, the policies and procedures of WWF CCPO were assessed by GWPO as being equivalent to, if not more stringent than, GWPO's own; this specifically applies to the WWF CCPO's procurement policies and procedures. As stated above, the relationship of GWPO-GWP CAF RWP-WWF CCPO is governed by a Host Institution Agreement signed by all three.

56. GWPO will employ this regular network arrangement of GWPO-RWP-Host Institution for implementation of this readiness support.

6.2.4 Role of GWPO: Overall Technical & Financial Oversight & Accountability as Delivery Partner

- As Delivery Partner, GWPO will enter into a Bilateral Grant Agreement with the GCF or its fiduciary agent.
- GWPO will receive funds for this readiness project from the GCF and will be accountable to the GCF for the overall implementation of the project: carrying out fiduciary and financial management of the readiness funds, procurement and contractual services, and M&E and reporting of activities under this proposal in compliance with GWPO's policies and procedures and with the Bilateral Grant Agreement to be entered into with the GCF or its fiduciary agent.
- GWPO will implement on-ground project activities through GWP CAF RWP and its host institution WWF CCPO. The two institutions have local presence in CAR via GWP CAR Country Water Partnership (GWP CAR CWP) and WWF CAR country office respectively.
- As Delivery Partner, GWPO will maintain full oversight of both technical and financial aspects of on-ground project implementation undertaken by GWP CAF RWP and WWF CCPO respectively via GWPO's dedicated Senior Network Specialist for the GWP CAF RWP. The Senior Network Specialist is based in Stockholm and works closely with GWP CAF RWP in Yaounde in the supervision of the preparation and implementation of the RWP's three-year annual work programme and corresponding one-year detailed work plans, including via periodic travel to the RWP. To note, the Senior Network Specialist is a member of the Steering Committee (or governing board) of the GWP CAF RWP – representing and providing strategic guidance and operational oversight to the RWP on behalf of GWPO.
- Ultimately, as the Delivery Partner for this Readiness, GWPO is accountable to GCF for the overall delivery and financial management of this project. To fulfill its Delivery Partner duties, GWPO will engage its technical specialists, M&E specialists, finance specialists, and administrative assistants. In terms of technical specialists, GWPO will engage three staff members on part-time basis (Head of Climate Resilience, Senior Water & Climate Resilience Specialist, and Senior Gender & Inclusion Specialist) to provide high quality technical backstopping to the PMU, as required. Other GWP experts will also be mobilized as and when necessary.

6.2.5 Role of GWP CAF RWP: Technical Advisory & Guidance for On-Ground Implementation (no funds pass-through)

- Once approved, this GCF Readiness project will become part of the GWP CAF RWP's work programme.

- Just as it does for its regular work programme, GWP CAF RWP will be responsible for the substantive implementation of on-ground activities for this readiness project (project management, developing TORs and detailed workplans, assessing quality of goods and services to be procured, technical delivery of all activities including liaising with NDA and country stakeholders, monitoring project activity delivery and risks and preparing progress reports, among others).
- The RWP will provide technical guidance for the project; it will not receive GCF funding in a pass-through arrangement from GWPO. The RWP will therefore work in close coordination with its host institution WWF CCPO, which will receive and manage the funds for the activities that the RWP is supervising.

6.2.6 Role of WWF CCPO (GWP CAF RWP's Host Institution): Fiduciary & Financial Management for On-Ground Implementation

- WWF CCPO, as the RWP's host institution, will receive project activity funds passed down from GWPO.
- WWF CCPO will provide all fiduciary and financial services to the GWP CAF RWP for on-ground implementation of project activities, as for the rest of the RWP's work programme. WWF CCPO will perform the administrative, financial management, and other roles to procure, pay, and expend GCF grant funding. For this readiness project, WWF CCPO will undertake all procurements. For this, WWF CCPO will use WWF's procurement guidelines, as specified by the Host Institution Agreement between GWPO, GWP CAF RWP, and WWF CCPO. To note: WWF CCPO shares the same legal entity as the World Wildlife Fund, Inc (WWF), a GCF Accredited Entity, and follows WWF's financial management policies and procedures.
- WWF CCPO will report to GWPO on a quarterly basis for the financial and administrative management of funds transferred for the readiness project (which, once approved, will be considered part of the GWP CAF's overall work programme) to ensure compliance with GWPO's Financial Guidelines.
- GWPO will enter a contractual agreement with WWF CCPO specifically to pass on the responsibilities of the Bilateral Grant Agreement to be entered into with GCF or its fiduciary agent.
- WWF CCPO will open a separate bank account to receive GCF Readiness grant funds from GWPO.
- GWPO will disburse GCF Readiness grant funds to WWF CCPO on quarterly basis, based on the agreed work plan.

6.3 Project Implementation Unit (PIU)

57. A PIU will be physically hosted within the NDA, the National Climate Coordination Unit within the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of CAR to execute in-country activities. The PIU will be responsible for day-to-day implementation of tasks and management of consultants' delivery. The PIU will consist of one National Project Coordinator (local consultant, full time hire for 18 months), and one Gender Expert (local consultant, part-time). Details for all long-term consultant TORs are provided in Section 6.2.
58. The National Project Coordinator will be the focal point that manages the day-to-day implementation of on-ground activities. The National Project Coordinator reports to the Regional Coordinator for GWP Central Africa, who is delegated responsibility by GWPO for the substantive implementation of on-ground activities. The National Project Coordinator works in close coordination with the NDA. During his/her full-time engagement over 18 months, the consultant's time allocation will be split, with 15% of time allocated to project management and reporting and 85% of time allocated to providing direct project support.
59. The PIU will be guided by the Project Steering Committee (PSC), described below. The PIU will receive oversight on substantive project management and delivery of activities from GWP CAF RWP, and direct support on finance and administration from GWP CAF RWP's host institution WWF CCPO, as described in the above sub-section. All procurements for the project will be undertaken by WWF CCPO using WWF's procurement guidelines, as specified by the Host Institution Agreement between GWPO, GWP CAF RWP, and WWF CCPO. As noted in the above sub-section, as per the Host Institution Agreement, WWF CCPO is responsible for reporting to GWPO for the financial and administrative management of funds transferred for the GCF Readiness project activities implemented by the PIU (which are considered part of the GWP CAF's overall work programme) to ensure compliance with GWPO's Financial Guidelines.
60. The PIU will be in charge of providing monthly project status updates to the PSC and to GWPO. The PIU will be in charge of completing quarterly narrative progress reports, with oversight from GWP CAF RWP; WWF CCPO will prepare quarterly financial progress reports. The National Project Coordinator will send the combined package to the NDA for information, and to the PSC and to GWPO to review and approve. GWPO will submit implementation progress reports to the GCF every six months, or otherwise as specified by the Bilateral Grant Agreement to be entered into with the GCF or its fiduciary agent.

6.4 Project Steering Committee (PSC)

61. This PSC will be co-convened by CAR's NDA and the Delivery Partner GWPO, representing the NDA and Delivery Partner's joint initiative to ensure that the execution of project activities responds to country needs and priorities, and is also in accordance with international best practice. The role of the PSC will be to provide overarching governance for the project, provide strategic and programmatic guidance to the PIU, validate the project workplan and monitor the implementation of the work plan, and review and endorse project deliverables.
62. The PSC will comprise of an NDA representative, a GWPO representative, a GWP CAR CWP representative, and other stakeholders and representatives from relevant ministries and departments. It is expected that these representatives will include the GCF Focal Point, the Executive Secretary of the GWP CAR CWP and the Executive Assistant from the NDA, among others.
63. The PSC will ensure that the project takes a gender-mainstreamed approach; it will do so by requiring the PIU to undertake a gender analysis during the development of the project's detailed workplan and allocating supporting resources and budget to ensure that the project activity implementation, monitoring, and reporting takes a gender-mainstreamed approach. As informed by the gender analysis, the PSC will direct the project to take advantage of every opportunity to take gender-mainstreamed approaches.

6.5 GWP Technical Reference Group (TRG)

64. GWP's Technical Reference Group (TRG) currently consisting of 15 multi-disciplinary international and African technical experts (in economic development, environment, water, climate change, gender, climate finance, project finance, among others) provides demand-driven technical advisory services to GWP's Africa Water Investment Programme. These leading technical experts in their field will be made available to provide specialist support on an as-needed consultancy basis to the PIU for this Readiness project, via the GWP CAF RWP, as part of GWP CAF RWP's technical support to the PIU. This TRG will supplement any gaps in specialist capacity or knowledge that may arise throughout the implementation of the proposed Readiness activities, that are not already covered by the PIU consultants and GWPO's, or GWP CAF RWP's technical support to this project.

6.6 Stakeholders to be engaged and consulted with in the delivery of this Readiness request

65. As described in Section 2, Subsection 8 of this proposal, the main stakeholders who will be engaged and consulted in the delivery of this Readiness request are listed, but not limited, to the following.
 - Climate finance stakeholders:
 - Stakeholders beyond the NDA - including potential executing entities, civil society organisations and the private sector. From the private sector, three key associations – namely the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Crafts; the Interprofessional Group of the Central African Republic; and the National Union of Central African Employers – have been identified by the NDA as potential stakeholders for the proposed Readiness request.
 - Main activities to be engaged in: Activities leading to Outputs 1.3.1 and 4.3.1
 - Concept Note development stakeholders:
 - Government ministries active in CARs water sector such as the Ministry of Energy Development and Hydraulic Resources, the Ministry of Water, Forests, Hunting and Fishing, the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Livestock and Animal Health. Importantly also civil society, NGOs, women's groups, Private Sector entities specifically linked to selected 2 project ideas
 - Main activities to be engaged in: Activities leading to Outputs 1.3.1 and 4.3.1
 - CAR's platform for the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment:
 - This platform brings together around thirty civil society organisations focused on environmental management and human rights and the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, and is involved in various programmes (including REDD+) on environmental protection, with a strong focus on forestry management.
 - Main activity to be engaged in: Activities leading to Output 1.1.1, 1.3.1 and 4.3.1. By involving this platform, the Readiness Request will ensure that local communities and indigenous peoples rights and vulnerabilities are adequately taken into account during the implementation of this request.
 - Ministry of Gender Promotion, Women's protection, Family and Children, and its stakeholders:
 - This Ministry has the responsibility of working for gender mainstreaming through focal points in the different sectoral ministries, implementing the law on parity; the national policy for the promotion of gender equity and equality 2nd generation; and the national strategy to combat gender-based violence, child marriage and genital mutilation in CAR.
 - Main activity to be engaged in: Activities leading to Output 1.3.1, 4.3.1, and 4.3.2.

6.2 Implementation and execution roles and responsibilities

Please briefly describe how the activities will be implemented and outputs delivered by project staff and consultants.

66. Local implementation will be led by the National Project Coordinator (NPC), based at the PIU. The PIU will also have a part-time Gender & Social Inclusion Expert to undertake a gender analysis of the overall Readiness support workplan and to mainstream gender considerations into detailed activity plans.
67. Under the leadership of the NPC, the PIU will implement the project and deliver outputs per its implementation plan and detailed workplan. The PIU will be provided direct oversight on project execution by the GWP CAF RWP through the Regional Coordinator for GWP Central Africa. The Regional Coordinator for GWP Central Africa will provide remote, high-level oversight and designate suitable regional secretariat staff for support as is deemed necessary. WWF CCPO, GWP CAF RWP's host institution, will receive readiness funds passed on by GWPO and will handle the fiduciary and financial aspects of activity implementation for the PIU.
68. GWPO will mobilise several members throughout the global GWP network on a part-time basis (Project Development Specialist and Regional Co-ordinator GWP Central Africa) to provide high quality, specialized Technical Advisory to the PIU as required to develop specific outputs targeted in this Readiness request (Terms of Reference (TORs), in Section 6.2.2; also see budget plan).
69. GWPO recognizes the importance of diversity and inclusivity in the implementation of GCF Readiness activities. All procurement of consultants will be gender equitable and socially inclusive. GWPO technical support and technical backstopping will seek to promote equal opportunities and fairness in the implementation of activities.
70. Outlined below are the basic TORs for the personnel executing and overseeing the project. The TORs are presented in three different sub-sections. Sub-section 6.2.1 outlines the TORs for PIU consultants. These are long-term and short-term consultants with specific technical expertise that will be engaged throughout the delivery of Readiness activities. Sub-section 6.2.2 outlines TORs for GWP Technical Advisory services. Important to note that GWP Technical Advisory services contribute directly to execution of activities; they are separate from the supervision duties that are undertaken by GWPO as Delivery Partner which are covered by the Delivery Partner fee. Under GWP Technical Advisory, GWP will use technical experts within its global network to fill key roles in the delivery of specific outputs. These may be GWP staff or technical experts that have pre-existing agreements with GWPO as members of GWP's Technical Reference Group. In so doing, GWPO will greatly reduce the time overhead required for contracting on specific outputs. Lastly, sub-section 6.2.3 outlines the TORs for GWPO staff fulfilling the typical oversight duties of the Delivery Partner. No level of effort is shown for these roles and these TORs are presented solely to indicate the qualifications and competencies of lead responsible staff. The table below gives a brief outline of the various roles and indicated levels of effort for each. Outline TORs for all professional services to be procured have also been presented in Section 6.2.4. Detailed TORs will be drafted during Readiness request implementation by GWPO and the PIU.

PIU Consultants (TORs outlined in sub-section 6.2.1)			
Position	Main role/s	Local/International	Level of Effort (Days)
National Project Coordinator	Lead implementation of all outputs	Local	Full-Time (330 days)
Gender & Social Inclusion Expert	Provide cross-cutting gender & social inclusion support to all outputs Conduct a gender assessment of CARs country pipeline	Local	65
GWP Technical Advisory Positions (TORs outlined in sub-section 6.2.2)			
Position	Main role/s	Local/International	Level of Effort (Days)
Programme Development Specialist	Lead the development of Concept Notes	International	18

Regional Coordinator for GWP Central Africa	Supports the delivery of all outputs; Supports the consultants in accessing the relevant stakeholders in CAR and in the region; Supports the development of training material and provides regional experience on workshop development; Guides the selection of project ideas for development into Concept Notes Leads on external communications on project progress and activities	Regional	40
Gender Specialist	Leads the gender assessment of the CAR country pipeline and guides the local Gender & Social Inclusion Expert	International	20
Delivery Partner Roles (TORs outlined in sub-section 6.2.3)			
Position	Main role/s	Local/International	
Head of Climate Resilience	Overall technical backstopping	International	N/A
Senior Water & Climate Specialist	Lead oversight and coordination of GWP's GCF Readiness activities (note: this position will be a separate individual from the Senior Climate Resilience Specialist indicated above)	International	N/A
Senior Gender & Social Inclusion Specialist	Oversight on gender mainstreaming in project activities	International	N/A
Senior Network Specialist	Oversight on delivery of Readiness activities via oversight on GWP CAF RWP quarterly activity and financial reporting to GWPO as well as annual GWPO financial audits of GWP CAR RWP (as per GWPO internal procedures)	International	N/A
Short-Term Consultancies & Professional Services			
Position	Main role/s	Local/International	Level of Effort (Days)
Professional Services	Development of climate finance tracker (Output 1.1.1)	TBD	TBD
Professional Services	Development of training materials and conducting training of stakeholders (Output 1.3.1)	TBD	TBD
Professional Services	Development of GCF Concept Notes (Output 4.3.1)	TBD	TBD
Professional Services	Translation services (Output 4.3.2: Deliverables 4.3.2.a.1 and 4.3.2.b.1)	TBD	TBD

6.2.1: TORs for PIU Consultants**National Project Coordinator (NPC) (Local Consultant) – Full time****Scope of Work:**

- Lead PIU to develop detailed workplan
- Manage all day-to-day activities of the GCF Readiness project, coordinating among other long and short-term consultants in the PIU
- Mobilize and engage stakeholders throughout project activities
- Coordinate among national line ministries and non-government entities (private sector, academia and research institutions, civil society) and other regional and international organizations in the country as required for delivery of the workplan
- Synergize with other agencies, and collaboratively leverage work to avoid duplication and maximize overall value-for-money
- Work with GWP Central Africa RWP Secretariat to facilitate procurement and fiduciary management
- Develop required reporting materials (narrative, financial) on project activities
- Develop communication and advocacy material

Qualifications:

- At least 7-years of project management experience (consultants, events, multi-stakeholder platforms), with ability to coordinate and manage multiple tasks
- MSc degree in related discipline, i.e. development, economics, social political or environmental sciences, climate sciences, forestry, natural resource management, sustainable development or relate field
- An understanding of cross-sectoral nature of climate resilience (adaptation and mitigation aspects), with economic, social, environmental, and gender dimensions
- An understanding of the institutional and policy environment around climate change policy and programming in CAR
- Demonstrated teamwork skills and ability to work independently
- Excellent analytical and writing skills
- Demonstrated attention to detail
- Track record of proactive risk monitoring and management
- Experience working with government and regional and international development agencies
- Fluency in French required, English highly desirable (speaking, writing, and reading)

Gender & Social Inclusion Expert (Local Consultant) – Estimated effort 65 days**Scope of Work:**

- Conduct gender analysis of detailed GCF Readiness workplan and ensure that the Readiness project activities, budget, and results monitoring, and reporting takes a gender-mainstreamed and socially inclusive approach
- Provide gender and social inclusion expert input to the development of trainings
- Provide expert input into the development of TORs for service providers to ensure adequate gender expertise
- Conduct the gender assessment on CAR's country pipeline, alongside the GWP Gender Specialist

Qualifications:

- At least 10 years of experience in taking gender-mainstreamed and gender-transformative approaches to project management and development
- MSc degree in Gender Studies, Social Inclusion, Development Studies, or related
- Demonstrated understanding of the state of gender equality/in-equality in development and climate change issues in CAR, in institutional contexts as well as in practice
- Demonstrated understanding of gendered-dimensions of climate impacts via water resources and water-related disasters in CAR
- Demonstrated ability to coordinate and manage multiple tasks
- Excellent analytical and writing skills
- Experience working with government and international development agencies
- Fluency in French and competency in English required (speaking, writing, and reading)

6.2.2: TORs for GWPO Technical Support roles

The below TORs refer to GWPO staff that will provide direct technical support to the proposed Readiness activities. This support will be separate from the standard oversight and backstopping functions which will be provided by the relevant staff members named under 6.2.2. above, focusing on contributing to activity execution and generation of deliverables. These personnel may be substituted by relevant GWP Technical Reference Group members with at least the indicated level of qualifications.

Programme Development Specialist– Estimated effort: 18 days

Scope of Work:

- Leads development of GCF Concept Notes (Output 4.3.1)
- Leads consultants developing pre-feasibility studies

Qualifications:

- Professional experience in the field of the assignment
- More than 5 years of climate change related project management experience
- MSc degree in Environmental Science and Technology
- Experience on working with GCF projects
- Coordination of functions and activities, including consultant teams
- Experience working with government and regional and international development agencies
- Fluency in English (speaking, writing and reading).

Regional Co-ordinator for GWP Central Africa – Estimated effort: 40 days

Scope of Work:

- Supports the delivery of all outputs
- Supports the consultants in accessing the relevant stakeholders in CAR and in the region
- Supports the development of training material and provides regional experience on workshop development
- Guides the selection of project ideas for development into Concept Notes
- Mobilises, where required, additional experts from GWP Central Africa to support the delivery of the proposed activities

Qualifications:

- Professional experience in the field of the assignment
- More than 10 years of experience in capacity strengthening for developing countries
- Relevant Masters' degree
- Experience on working on donor-driven projects
- Coordination of functions and activities, including consultant teams
- Experience working with government and regional and international development agencies
- Fluency in English and French (speaking, writing and reading).

Gender Specialist – Estimated effort: 20 days

Scope of Work:

- Lead the gender assessment of CARs country pipeline

Qualifications:

- At least 10 years of experience in taking gender-mainstreamed and gender-transformative approaches to project management and development
- MSc degree in Gender Studies, Social Inclusion, Development Studies, or related
- Demonstrated understanding of the state of gender equality/in-equality in development and climate change issues
- Demonstrated ability to coordinate and manage multiple tasks
- Excellent analytical and writing skills
- Experience working with government and international development agencies

6.2.3: TORs for Project Staff from Delivery Partner

The below TORs are for project staff that will provide quality assurance and technical backstopping and their time will be covered under the Delivery Partner fee.

Head of Climate Resilience

Scope of Work:

- Guides engagement with NDA, PSC on behalf of GWPO
- Contributes technical and strategic recommendations for decisions on project design

Qualifications:

- Over 15 years of experience in designing investment strategy, policy, programmes and projects in the context of sustainable, climate-resilient development
- Demonstrated track record of project management and implementation
- Demonstrated track record in designing and implementing national water strategies, climate change adaptation strategies, needs-based capacity development strategies
- Master's degree in Engineering, Economics, Business Administration, or Public Policy
- Experience working with national government and international development agencies
- Fluency in English (speaking, writing, and reading)

Senior Water & Climate Specialist

Scope of Work:

- Technical inputs into drafting TORs for consultants and hiring consultants
- Technical support to the overall project
- Technical quality assurance of reports to be submitted to the GCF
- Mobilize GWPO reference group for technical backstopping
- Reviews concept notes and PPF from a technical perspective
- Responsible for monitoring project and reporting to GCF

Qualifications:

- Over 10 years of climate change related project development and management experience
- MSc degree in Development Economics, Climate Resilience, Environmental Engineering, Environmental Science and Technology, or related
- Experience on working with GCF projects
- Coordination of events and analytical work, including conducted by consultant teams
- Experience working with government and international development agencies
- Fluency in English (speaking, writing, and reading)

Senior Gender & Social Inclusion Specialist

Scope of Work:

- Technical inputs into drafting TORs for consultants and hiring consultants from gender perspective
- Undertakes rapid gender analysis of detailed workplan and recommends actions for the 2021 Readiness to mainstream gender, and where possible, take gender transformative approaches
- Provides gender-related technical support to the overall project, working closely with local gender expert on project
- Technical quality assurance, from gender perspective, of reports to be submitted to the GCF
- Mobilizes GWPO reference group for gender-related technical backstopping

Qualifications:

- Over 10 years of experience in adopting gender-mainstreamed and gender transformative approaches in project development and management
- MSc degree in Gender Studies, Social Inclusion, or related
- Experience on working with GCF projects
- Coordination of functions and activities, including consultant teams
- Experience working with government and international development agencies
- Fluency in English (speaking, writing, and reading)

Senior Network Specialist

Scope of Work:

- Represent GWPO in Regional Steering Committee, which provides oversight on GWP CAF RWP delivery of this GCF Readiness request
- Support development of partnerships and alliances at regional and country levels, including specifically for effective delivery of this Readiness request and sustainability of results

- Support GWP CAF RWP in effective administration, and GWP CCPO on effective Host Institution performance
- Support GWP CAF RWP in implementing GWP work programme, of which this Readiness will be a part – including oversight of budget against work plans and budget forecasts
- Facilitate learning within team during GCF Readiness implementation

Qualifications:

- Over 10 years of experience in management of development cooperation programmes related to water resources management and climate resilience
- MSc degree in engineering, political science, economics, related
- Demonstrated experience in client interaction and technical service provision
- Coordination of functions and activities, including consultant teams
- Experience working with government and international development agencies
- Fluency in English (speaking, writing, and reading)

6.2.4 Framework TORs for companies/firms to be procured for professional services

Below are outline framework TORs for the professional services to be procured under this Readiness Request. Kindly note that these TORs will be expanded on during the implementation of the Readiness Request after project inception.

Monitoring and Evaluation Consultancy**Objective:**

This TOR seeks to employ a suitable firm to design, develop and implement a climate finance tracking tool for the National Designated Authority (NDA) of CAR, as outlined in Output 1.1.1.

Scope:

The scope of the proposed works will include:

- i. Conducting an assessment of the climate finance landscape in CAR;
- ii. Assessing the existing capacity of the NDA to oversee climate finance flows in the country;
- iii. Identifying suitable gender-responsive and socially inclusive indicators that will be used to track success;
- iv. Designing suitable Monitoring, Reporting and Verification Standards and a monitoring plan for the NDA;
- v. Based on the above, and in association with the NDA, assess the use-case of the tracker and select an appropriate technical solution;
- vi. Design and develop the tracker based on the above;
- vii. Train the NDA on monitoring and evaluation using the tracker tool; and
- viii. Support the NDA in implementing and testing the developed tracker tool.

The firm will be supported by a local gender and social inclusion specialist that will particularly support the development of gender-responsive indicators.

Qualifications:**Team lead:**

- At least 10 years' experience in designing and implementing Monitoring & Evaluation for development or climate change projects
- Advanced degree in climate change, policy development, project management or other (Master's degree preferred)
- Fluency in English and French (speaking, writing, and reading)
- Experience in climate finance highly desirable

Development support

- At least 5 years' experience in designing and developing tracking tools on multiple platforms (spreadsheet or web-based);
- Advanced degree in computer science, software development, data analysis or similar;

Climate Finance Training Consultancy**Objective:**

This TOR seeks to employ a suitable firm to develop and deliver a training (in French) on climate finance to key stakeholders¹⁷ in CAR.

Scope:

The scope of the proposed works will include:

- i. Supported by the National Project Co-ordinator, identify capacity gaps amongst key stakeholders (other than the NDA) on climate finance in the CAR;
- ii. Based on the above, develop training materials for enhancing technical and institutional capacity on climate finance;
- iii. Deliver the trainings in-person in a workshop setting to key identified stakeholders; and
- iv. Conduct pre – and post-training surveys.

Qualifications:

- At least 10 years' experience in development finance and delivering trainings in developing country contexts;
- Advanced degree in international policy, environmental management, climate policy or similar (Masters degree required)
- Proven expertise on climate finance and particularly the GCF;
- Fluency in French and English

Concept Note Development Consultancy

Objective:

This TOR seeks to employ a suitable consultancy firm to develop two GCF Concept Notes on climate-resilient and low-emissions water resources management in the CAR.

Scope:

The scope of the proposed works will include:

- i. Providing input on the proposed TORs (to be developed by the National Project Co-ordinator and Programme Development Specialist) for selecting national/local consultants that will support the collection of relevant data and information for the two Concept Notes;
- ii. Identifying two climate-resilient project ideas from CARs water sector and confirming these with key stakeholders (including the NDA) using a stakeholder-informed multi-criteria analysis;
- iii. Developing two submission-ready GCF Concept Notes for the identified ideas above; and
- iv. Attending inception and validation workshops for the proposed project ideas.

Qualifications:

- At least 7 years' experience in climate finance and project development for vertical funds such as the GEF, AF and GCF;
- Advanced degree in climate change, environmental management, development finance, economics or similar (Masters' degree required);
- Fluency in French and English

Translation services

Objective:

This TOR seeks to employ a suitable service provider to provide translation services for the development of a gender and social inclusion assessment of CAR's priority project pipeline (Deliverables 4.3.2.a.1 and 4.3.2.b.1)

Scope:

¹⁷ These key stakeholders will be identified during project implementation under Activity 1.3.1.a

The scope of the proposed works will be limited to the provision of translation services for a gender and social inclusion assessment report of CAR's priority project pipeline (Deliverables 4.3.2.a.1 and 4.3.2.b.1).

Qualifications:

The service provider will be a professional translator or translation firm, with experience in translating technical documents in the field of gender, social inclusion and/or climate change from English to French and French to English.

6.3 Risks and mitigation measures

Please include a set of identified risks and mitigation actions for each. Please utilize the risk table below that identifies the probability of a given risk occurring and the entity that will manage the risk. Please refer to Part III Section 6.3 of the Readiness Guidebook for further information on how to complete this section.

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
Operational	Delayed fund disbursements to project activities hinder implementation progress	Low	High	Use GWP Technical Advisory staff to expedite project startup and inception	GWPO
Operational	Delay in implementation by government and other stakeholders	Medium	High	Collaborative engagement with stakeholders to secure cooperation and commitment	GWP CAR CWP, PIU, GWP CAF RWP, GWPO
Technical & Operational	Low levels of participation and engagement of stakeholders	Medium	High	GWP CAR CWP, GWP CAF RWP, and & CAR NDA will utilize its existing relationships with mandated institutions and partner organizations to ensure cross-collaboration with external agencies, and will clearly communicate information about processes, events, workshops to specific stakeholders via relevant channels	GWP CAR CWP, PIU, GWP CAF RWP, GWPO

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
				In the case that some identified potential DAEs do not wish to receive training to enhance their capacity (Activity 1.2.1.c), funds will be re-allocated to increase support to interested DAEs	
Technical & Operational	Externally contracted consultants fail to deliver against agreed outputs	Low	Medium	During the procurement process, clear deliverables and timelines will be determined, and WWF CCPO's robust procurement processes followed to contract the highest quality consultants with a track record of delivering on similar types of projects	WWF CCPO, GWP CAF RWP
Technical & Operational	Lack of capacity to take a gender-mainstreamed approach across project interventions	High	High	A gender expert will be contracted to support the PIU and provide on-the-ground gender backstopping in all deliverables. Additional technical advisory to PIU will be provided by Central Africa Regional Gender & Inclusion Specialist, and gender expertise is included in the Delivery Partner team overseeing and supporting this project's implementation	PIU, GWP CAF RWP, GWPO

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
Operational	COVID-19 challenges prevent face-to-face workshops prioritized by NDA as part of the project activities (as socio-economic context, connectivity availability and access in CAR prevents effective online engagement in large participatory gatherings like zoom), and also prevent international travel	High	High	COVID-19 risk is external to the project. While the project is designed to take the first best option (face-to-face engagements; travel), it acknowledges that high uncertainty around the COVID-19 situation requires acceptance of less-preferred options if required: consultations individually by skype; group consultations by email; in person gatherings with participants restricted to only key stakeholders to allow social-distancing protocol; in any of these less-ideal options, unspent budget remains a risk	PIU, GWP CAR CWP, GWP CAF RWP, GWPO
Financial	Foreign exchange losses or price changes result in under-delivery in outputs	High	Low	All contracts to be made in USD. A contingency of 1% has been requested to account for potential fluctuations in prices or exchange rates	GWPO, WWF CCPO
Operational	Suitable AEs are not identified to take projects forward	Medium	Medium	GWPO will use its extensive network to engage regional DAEs and international AEs in the likely case that no suitable national DAE is	GWPO

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
				available to take submit Concept Notes	
Financial	Incidences of corruption, money laundering, terrorist financing, or prohibited practices threaten project delivery and risk harmful social outcomes	Medium	Medium	<p>GWPO's and WWF International's procurement policies will be applied to the project (for procuring consultancy services and everything else respectively) to ensure that all expenditure (including unscheduled expenditure) is in line with internal procedures and international best-practice.</p> <p>GWPO Anti-Fraud/Corruption Policy will be applied to project operations, to prevent offences such as, but not limited to, deception, bribery, forgery, extortion, theft, conspiracy, embezzlement, misappropriation, false representation, concealment of material facts, collusion, favoritism including nepotism. GWP's Anti-Fraud policy outlines whistleblower protection.</p> <p>The project implementation kickoff will include introduction to and training of</p>	GWPO, WWF CCPO

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
				<p>personnel engaged in this project from PIU, NDA, GWP Central Africa RWP, and GWPO to these policies and practices to enable them to identify, assess, monitor, and mitigate any risk of money laundering, terrorist financing, or prohibited practices. The PSC will be made available these policies and procedures, to enable it to provide adequate governance to the project. All relevant parties will be made familiar with GWPO's whistleblower protection policy, outlined below.</p> <p>"An employee (or consultant) of GWPO or an RWP/CWP who has made a report of suspicious conduct and who subsequently believes he or she has been subjected to retaliation of any kind is directed to immediately report it to the GWPO Executive Secretary. Reports of retaliation will be investigated promptly in a manner intended</p>	

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
				<p>to protect confidentiality as much as practicable, consistent with a full and fair investigation. The party conducting the investigation (normally the GWPO Senior Financial Officer) will notify the employee (or consultant) of the results of the investigation. Third parties or anonymous persons are welcome to report allegations of possible misconduct in the projects/activities with supporting evidence to the GWPO Executive Secretary; the whistle blower protection would be provided by GWPO's whistleblower protection policy, under the same principle as for GWP employees or consultants."</p> <p>In contexts where risks pertaining to money laundering, terrorist financing, and prohibited practices exist, GWPO requests its bank's forensic department to perform a register check on potential</p>	

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
				<p>recipients of funds to ensure they are clear of any its in the international registers referring to corruption, money laundering, terrorist financing etc. GWPO Finance department also does its own additional due diligence, running potential fund recipients through databases such as the OFAC sanctions list, UN sanctions list, HM Treasury's Office of Financial Sanctions list, Proscribed terrorist groups and organizations list, EU list of sanctions, and World Bank sanctions list. Contracts with fund recipients include statements that declare that funds will not be used for unlawful activities. In addition, WWF CCPO practices will apply – utilizing mechanisms such as Bridget (check) - an online platform which identifies, assesses, monitors anyone involved in terrorist activities. Finally, specific</p>	

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
				to money laundering, WWF's internal policy on compliance which covers this, will apply, as will anti-money laundering policies which WWF CCPO's banking institutions in CAR are confirmed to have. WWF CCPO will require all contractors to sign and comply with WWF fraud, corruption prevention, and investigation policies.	
Operational	Readiness grant activities are subject to sanctions	Low	High	None of the foreseen Readiness grant activities are subject to UNSC restrictions on CAR. GWPO will ensure that no procurement or activities will be in violation of UNSC restrictions on the CAR	GWPO
Operational	Lack of political support of this project's activities that could result in implementation delays	Low	Medium	GWPO and GWP CA RWP will engage early with all relevant stakeholders to ensure adequate political support for critical activities.	GWPO, GWP CA RWP, PIU
Operational	The NDA's capacity to oversee multiple projects that could result in	Medium	Medium	GWPO and GWP CA RWP will support the NDA throughout the implementation of this Readiness	GWPO, GWP CA RWP, PIU

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
	implementation delays			Request and beyond. The use of a dedicated National Project Co-ordinator is aimed to specifically create sufficient capacity during the implementation of the Request, so as to not strain the NDAs capacity.	
Technical & Operational	Poor stakeholder engagement in the Concept Note activities	Medium	Low	GWPO and GWP CAF RWP will engage stakeholders in physical settings, wherever possible, and will ensure that all workshops and engagements are held in French.	GWPO, GWP CAF RWP, PIU
Operational	Poor coordination with other readiness initiatives	Low	Medium	GWPO and GWP CAF RWP is already engaging with IFDD, who will likely be implementing another GCF Readiness request. While at this stage, no other complementary Readiness activities have been identified by the NDA, activities under this Request will undertake a thorough stocktake of climate finance activities. Any complementary activities will be engaged post inception of this Readiness Request.	GWPO, GWP CA RWP, PIU

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
Operational	Procurement delays associated with hiring international and local consultants and consultancies	Medium	Medium	Wherever possible, GWPO will delegate local procurement to GWP CAF RWP, through the host institution (WWF CO). This will ensure that local procurement is conducted using local procurement expertise. Wherever possible, GWPO will seek to initiate critical procurements even before project kick-off, to ensure a rapid project start-up.	GWPO, GWP CAF RWP, PIU
Social	Indigenous Peoples, local and vulnerable communities cannot participate in Readiness activities that are relevant to them, in terms of positive and negative impacts, both intended outcomes and externalities	Low	Medium	While the proposed activities are not expected to negatively impact Indigenous Peoples, local and vulnerable communities, participation of and consideration for these groups are integrated throughout the Readiness activities (for example, in logframe: Output 1.3.1, Activity 4.3.1, Activity 4.3.2). Importantly, for Output 4.3.1, a country-driven, multi-stakeholder engaged process will ensure that the selection of priority project ideas and the development of	GWPO, GWP CAF RWP, NDA, PIU

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
				<p>GCF Concept Notes includes opportunities for meaningful participation of any communities that may be affected (positively or adversely). Specific activities (Output 1.3.1 and 4.3.2) have been included in the logic framework to ensure that all stakeholders and project staff are adequately capacitated on GCF Gender, Environmental and Social Safeguards and Indigenous Peoples policies.</p>	

6.4 Monitoring

71. A monitoring plan – based on the logical framework and budget – will be developed by the PIU during the inception phase of the proposed Readiness project, alongside development of a detailed workplan. This monitoring plan will include a responsibility matrix for personnel involved with the project. Within the PIU, the M&E function will be led by the National Project Coordinator, a long-term consultant for the duration of the project. The monitoring plan will account for scheduled quarterly monitoring that will take place and will also include guidelines for unscheduled events, emergencies or other *ad hoc* monitoring and reporting, as required. Quarterly monitoring reports from the PIU will be evaluated by GWPO staff, the NDA, the PSC and other stakeholders as required and relevant, who will use this opportunity to provide technical and strategic guidance for project implementation. In addition to feeding findings from the monitoring process into the project management, findings will also be shared outside the project with national stakeholders – via any public communications put out by the PSC, via regular website communications of the GWP Central Africa Regional Water Partnership as well as of GWPO.
72. Narrative progress update reports will be provided by the PIU to GWPO, the NDA, and PSC on a monthly basis via an agreed mechanism – allowing for immediate course-correction or learning-based enhanced implementation as opportunity allows.
73. In line with the frequency and timelines in the Bilateral Grant Agreement to be entered into with the GCF or its fiduciary agent, GWPO will submit progress and financial reports to the GCF. GWPO will prepare periodic revisions to reflect changes in quarterly and annual expense category budgets, monitor and review project expenditure reports and communicate and share with the NDA and GCF Secretariat as required. Commissioned by GWPO, annual financial audits will be conducted using an external audit firm for each calendar year.

6.5 Other Relevant Information

6.5.1 2021 Readiness Exit Strategy & Sustainability

74. This proposed Readiness request responds to the most urgent Readiness needs identified by the CAR NDA. Beyond this, it has also been designed with sustainability in mind.
75. The climate finance tracker to be produced in this project are expected to be used by the NDA in operationalizing its role in coordinating the country's engagement with the GCF and accessing GCF finance for climate investments in CAR. The NDA personnel will be trained to use these outputs effectively, and training material will be retained at the NDA to enable self-training in case of personnel turnover. Moreover, the finance tracker will be designed from the ground up to be incorporated into existing systems through close collaboration with NDA representatives. The tracker will be accompanied by a sustainability plan (Activity 1.1.1.e), including a sustainable financing plan, that will outline how this product will be maintained and mainstreamed going forward. The firm that will develop the tracker will be required to provide user-friendly documentation on the use of the tracker to ensure that it can be maintained by the NDA going forward.
76. All trainings to be undertaken will use a set of core training materials that will be retained by the NDA. The national consultants that will be delivering these trainings will retain the capacity they gained from the firms that develop the training material (via training-of-trainers), which will increase the local capacity on climate finance in the country. The proposed Readiness activities will also identify how future private sector engagement may be optimally held and provide recommendations for future action to effectively include the private sector through the development of a private sector engagement action plan (Activity 1.3.1.d) that will be accompanied by co-ordination agreements and TORs to ensure that this action plan is implemented beyond the lifetime of the Readiness Request.
77. Two GCF Concept Notes are proposed to be developed under this Readiness request. These Concept Notes will be accompanied by high-quality pre-feasibility studies, to ensure that existing information on climate change and the proposed interventions in the country are captured. This, along with the match-making with relevant international or regional AEs (should DAEs not be accredited in time), will ensure that the Concept Notes are readily taken forward to full Funding Proposals.

6.5.2 Grievance Mechanisms

78. Third parties or anonymous persons are welcome to report allegations of possible misconduct in the projects/activities with supporting evidence to the GWPO Executive Secretary. Whistle blower protection will be provided by GWPO's whistleblower protection policy, under the same principle as for GWP employees or consultants. The GWPO's whistleblower protection policy specifies that "An employee (or

consultant) of GWPO or an RWP/CWP who has made a report of suspicious conduct and who subsequently believes he or she has been subjected to retaliation of any kind is directed to immediately report it to the GWPO Executive Secretary. Reports of retaliation will be investigated promptly in a manner intended to protect confidentiality as much as practicable, consistent with a full and fair investigation. The party conducting the investigation (normally the GWPO Senior Financial Officer) will notify the employee (or consultant) of the results of the investigation.”

6.5.3 United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 2127 (2013)

79. The Central African Republic (CAR) is currently subject to United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 2127 (2013), with restrictive measures including an arms embargo, targeted travel ban and targeted assets freeze. GWPO hereby confirms that, to the best of its knowledge, all activities to be carried out under the proposed Readiness Grant will be in the form of technical assistance to the NDA and to key stakeholders involved in GCF country programming. No activities will violate sanctions measures established for the CAR by the UN Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013).

80. Specifically, and to the best of GWPO’s knowledge:

1) No activities under this Readiness Grant shall facilitate the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer of arms and related materiel of all types. No training or capacity building activities under the proposed Readiness Grant shall provide technical assistance, training or other assistance related to military activities or the provision, maintenance or use of any arms and related materiel.

2) No international travel support is expected to be provided under the proposed Readiness Grant to any current CAR citizen. Where any unforeseen international travel may need to be facilitated under the proposed Readiness Grant, GWPO will ensure that any such travel support is not granted to individuals designated by the UNSC Committee.

3) GWPO will ensure that no funds, financial assets or economic resources under this Readiness Grant will be made available to individuals or entities designated by the UNSC Committee.

81. GWPO understands that the existing sanctions measures were in place until 31 July 2021 and have been extended until 31 July 2022. In the implementation of this Readiness Request, GWPO will continually monitor UNSC resolutions to ensure that all activities within CAR are in compliance with relevant sanctions measures.

6.5.4 Selection of Delivery Partner

82. GWPO was selected as a Delivery Partner because of the Global Water Partnership’s and GWP CAF RWP’s long-standing role on climate resilience in the water sector and the amount of experience that GWP has in integrating water security and climate resilience in development planning processes and supporting countries to adapt to a new climate regime through increased investments in water security across the globe. GWP’s global-regional-and national presence, in the form of GWPO, GWP CAF RWP in Cameroon, and GWP CAR in Central African Republic have allowed the NDA and Delivery Partner GWPO to propose implementation arrangements that can allow the project to be designed and delivered with strong country ownership, and strong technical and fiduciary oversight. Furthermore, GWP facilitates a number of Project Preparation Partnerships around the world, including for 24 countries in the across Africa – comprising of Water Ministries, GCF NDAs, and GWP Country Water Partnerships, as well as national, regional, and global partners – as a platform for countries to exchange knowledge in preparing, financing, and implementing GCF water projects. GWPO and GWP CAF RWP will be leveraging both its international experience in water and climate management as well as its regional and in-country networks to ensure that the proposed project is delivered in an effective, collaborative, and inclusive manner that builds CAR’s capacity to climate-proof the country’s ongoing sustainable development. GWP’s ability to provide Technical Advisory for execution of project activities by utilizing existing staff at appropriate levels on a part-time basis will allow the project to reduce administrative overheads and to critically, to reduce project start-up time. With this arrangement, the project will be able to deliver both efficiently and economically.